

THE PROBLEM OF MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

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Introduction. Multiple sclerosis is 5-11% among diseases of the nervous system. Multiple sclerosis is an autoimmune inflammatory process, which destroys the myelin sheath of nerve fibers of the central and peripheral nervous system. Demyelination in brain structures lead to disruption of the conducting and motor nerve pathways. Multiple sclerosis is characterized by a varied clinical picture: decreased visual acuity, blindness, loss of coordination, slurred speech, numbness of limbs and others. The first signs of multiple sclerosis are often ignored. That leads to serious consequences. Lifetime in multiple sclerosis depends on the physical and mental condition of the patient. Since the disease is not common, the public awareness is low. The main problem is the growth of the disease among young people age from 15 to 40 years.

Aim. To determine the level of awareness of different groups of the population on multiple sclerosis, to compile data on the disease and to inform about the importance of this problem.

Materials and methods. A small test survey of residents in Kharkiv of different age groups.

Results and discussion. We have compiled 5 questions that helped to assess the level of awareness of different groups of society about the problem of multiple sclerosis. The survey was attended by NUPh students of 1-5 courses, pharmacists and pharmacy respondents the age category from 30 to 60 years. The results of the survey showed that the majority of students from 1-3 courses (74%) had heard about the disease, but could not articulate what this disease is, the causes and symptoms. Of these, only 17% of students had a clear idea about the disease. The level of students' knowledge about this issue increased by 4-5 courses, which can be explained by specifics of the study subjects medical cycle. 65% of the interviewed men and women ages from 30 to 60 years aware of this problem even less. The most knowledgeable are pharmacists, medical representatives of pharmaceutical firms.

Conclusions. The analysis of the survey confirmed that the population is not sufficiently informed about the problem of multiple sclerosis. Knowledge about the disease is necessary to convey to the public, as Ukraine is at risk.