

SOCIAL AND EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INDEXES RESEARCH AMONG ELDERLY POPULATION IN UKRAINE DUE TO GLAUCOMA AT THE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS

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In modern conditions of global population aging, the issue of elderly people provision with medications raises seriously. Therefore, the study of medical and demographic characteristics, health state and trends of this part of population appear to be of great importance within the healthcare development prognosis forming.

Taking into account the significant prevalence of glaucoma among the elderly population of Ukraine, the purpose of our research was a comparative analysis of the morbidity and disease prevalence.

The Medical Statistics of Healthcare of Ukraine data presented in the annual reports of public health from 2009 to 2012 were used as the methodological basis of the research. During this study we used retrospective, statistical, epidemiological, systematic, comparative and graphical analysis methods.

The glaucoma morbidity dynamics among elderly population in Ukraine has undulating nature (Figure 1). Thus, there is a positive trend in the 3 years dynamics (2009-2011) towards a gradual reduction of morbidity – from 165.3 in 2009 to 158.5 in 2011 per 100 thousand people. But in 2012, the number of patients with newly diagnosed glaucoma began to increase.

The analysis of the glaucoma morbidity in different regions of Ukraine showed that higher levels of this disease are observed in the population of Kharkov and Vinnitsa regions. The lowest rates of glaucoma morbidity were observed in Transcarpathian, Ternopil and Odessa regions.

Comparing the overall glaucoma prevalence among the elderly population of Ukraine the rapid growth of the stated index should be noted (Figure 2). Thus, the number of patients with glaucoma increased from 1688.8 in 2009 to 1764.8 in 2012 per 100 thousand people. It was established that over the past four years glaucoma prevalence increased in all the regions of Ukraine, and had the highest rates in Kyiv,

Sebastopol and Chernihiv regions. The lowest prevalence rates were established in the Transcarpathian region.

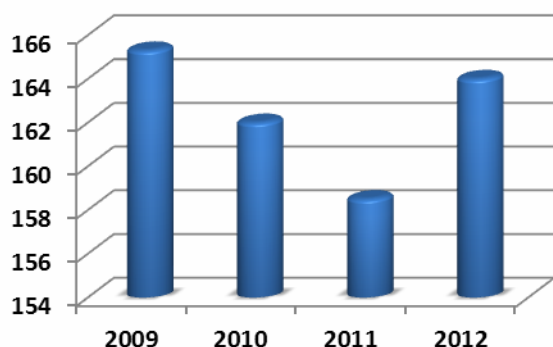


Fig. 1. Glaucoma morbidity dynamics in 2009-2012 (per 100 thousand of population)

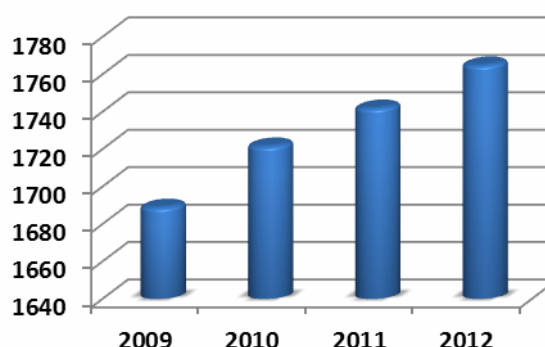


Fig. 2. Glaucoma prevalence dynamics in 2009-2012 (per 100 thousand of population)

Thus, as for the morbidity rates, it was found that during the 2009-2011 these indexes had a positive downward trend, but in 2012 took place their impressive growth by 4.5% compared to 2009, which concerns doctors and pharmacists.

The health state analysis of this part of the population demonstrates the necessity to apply an integrated approach to improve the elderly population health, the main directions of which, in our opinion, are:

- increasing the educational level about disease prevention;
- carrying out annual medical examinations for pensioners in local clinics;
- modern diagnosis methods introduction and improvement of material and technical base of medical institutions;
- health care accessibility and quality improvement;
- doctors and junior specialists in gerontology and geriatrics training;
- improvement of the health care legal and regulatory framework for elderly people;
- implementation of the measures aimed at healthy lifestyles promoting.