

## ENGLISH VERSION: TRAINING DENTISTS FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF EDUCATIONAL SPACE OF THE XXI<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY\*

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*The XXI<sup>st</sup> century medicine brings a significant increase of research intensity, accelerating the pace of life and transfer of the latest scientific information. Scientific integration leads to a relative infinity of scientific knowledge on a particular issue. Medical education transforms from a multi-year process into a lifetime one. Certifications and accreditation of educational programs receive the increasing prevalence. In this context, the following problem arises: what educational training should do in order to ensure the effectiveness (quality) of medical education for medical students in the information abundance of scientific knowledge today. From the moment the Department of Internal Medicine No3 with Phthisiology became the support department in internal medicine for dental faculties of higher state educational institutions of Ukraine of III-IV accreditation levels, this issue has been a priority for the teaching staff.*

**Keywords:** dentist, internal medicine, profiling, syllabus, problem-oriented training.

### Introduction

*"Treating a patient, a doctor helps nature; similarly a tutor must help a student to contest with difficulties of cognition of that or other subject; not to teach, but only to help to study"*  
K.D. Ushynskiy [6].

How we, teachers and internists, can help the future dentist? "Internal medicine" is the mother of all medical disciplines. Even in English-language literature its name is "Medicine". In terms of the volume of information, it exceeds all other disciplines. Mastering of this subject by students, especially by dentists, presents certain difficulties, for it is not the profile one. How to be in this case? As a result, we took the principle of profiling for basis of improvement of quality of training dentists in internal diseases.

### Presentation of basic material

20 years ago the program and curricula in internal diseases at the stomatological faculty was little different from one at the medical faculty. From the moment our department became the support department in internal medicine for dental faculties of higher state educational institutions of Ukraine, considerable work has been conducted on approaching the content and technology of studies to the world analogues. This work was conducted at such directions: 1) creation of the new program and curricula; 2) publishing new textbooks and manuals; 3) uses of new information technologies; 4) classroom work by the principles of problem-oriented studies; 5) introduction of innovative technology in organization of students' independent work. The foreground task was the maximal approaching of teaching internal diseases to the real needs of future dentists. This is provided in the new program, developed by the department with the participation of heads of relevant departments of medical universities of Ukraine. This is embodied in the first edition and improved in the second edition of the textbook in propaedeutics to internal medicine and internal medicine for dentists that were created collectively with heads of support departments and departments of therapeutic dentistry of Ukrainian Medical Stomatological Academy and O.O. Bogomolets National Medical University [1, 5].

In the program of 2015, every theme (every illness) is considered in terms of the discussion of features and tac-

tics of dentist. Material for the study of these features is given at every division of textbook "Internal Diseases for Dentists", created by the collective of heads of profile departments edited by Prof. M. Rasin [1, 3]. It must prevent numerous errors of dentists during work with patients, who have internal pathology that sometimes threatens their health and even life. It also creates additional motivation for the study of discipline, since student sees that this knowledge is really essential.

The study of internal diseases must integrate presentation of information in connection between diseases of oral cavity and entire organism, it will provide development of medical thinking, skills of diagnostics, treatment in the conditions of dental office. There is still a question as to such wide introduction of profiling: will it not lead to substantial reduction of students' awareness of internal diseases and worsening of knowledge from in the subject? Taking into account this fact, the department organizes classroom work with a special program – syllabus. In accordance with the program of internal diseases for dentists, the brief sketch of themes, key basic questions and tasks of different level has been composed. During independent work a student must answer every question in syllabus in a written form. The syllabus has been used by the department for over ten years. It is looked through by the academic staff annually; it is constantly renovated and reprinted in accordance with new requirements.

Profiling of studies found its way not only in the correction of the program. The department has changed the manner of practical and seminar sessions. The basic method is problem-oriented studies. This pedagogical strategy envisages the study of material as a solution of problems or situational tasks by the small group of students through the discussion that is directed by a teacher. The role of a teacher consists in raising and curation of active discussion of the problem. Such form of studies allows to extrapolate medical information on vital situations. Thus, the theory is transformed into the first practical experience of dental students [2,4].

Other modern problem is the decline or even absence of interest in students to the subject and the process of studies. In this context, the newest technologies and possibilities of the use of Internet are of great help. At the department there is free access to the Internet. It allows to use the enormous volume of illustrative material in relation to internal diseases in stomatological practice.

\* To cite this English version: I.P. Kaidashev, M.S. Rasin, L.H. Selyhova, O.A. Borzykh, N.I. Dihtiar, N.D. Herasymenko, H.V. Nevoit. Training dentists from the viewpoint of educational space of the XXI<sup>st</sup> century. // *Problemy ekologii ta medytsyny*. - 2015. - Vol 19, № 5-6. - P. 24–25.

Looking into the future, and taking into account the tendencies of globalization and necessity of international recognition of Ukrainian education, we consider it important to plug in a process of teaching the basic concepts of internal diseases to students not only in Ukrainian but also in English. The abovementioned aspect will open to them future access for understanding of medical information from the English-language resources and can help to be integrated in world medicine. The professorial staff of the department has published textbooks in propedeutics to internal diseases by English. Currently, the issue of including English fragments into the syllabus becomes relevant again.

### Conclusions

The XX1st century expanded the limits of possibilities for educational space both from the position of informing and technical positions. This feature predetermines the necessity of changes in the processes of teaching the subject. We consider that offered educational strategies will approach the level of organization, maintenance and methodology of training students of stomatological faculties to the requirements of world quality level. Further work in direction of integration of base disciplines and maintenance of the program of internal diseases to the necessities of dentist still remains necessary.

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