

PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS ON IMPROVING ENVIRONMENT

A. ARINGAZINA

KAZAKHSTAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, ALMATY

The problems of influence environment on health have been very important in public health. The society is conscious of complexity of interconnected factors, which impact health, and that it is not possible to cope with them only in the framework of medical approach. Principles and strategic objectives on improving health people have been set in the well-known World Health Organization (WHO) program “Health for all in the 21 century”. It was supposed to achieve health for everybody on the basic of principles of social justice and understanding that “...health is determined by conditions of daily life and depends on what is done and which decisions are taken in all the spheres of society”.

At present actual goal is the unification of society for improving health. Cholistical approach to health promotion is reflected in many documents. Policy of Health for all concentrates on such issues as lifestyle, risk factors influencing on health and environment, reorientation of health care on the broad sections of the population; provision of political, administrative and technical support to carry these changes into life.

WHO projects such as “Healthy cities” are some of successful examples of activity in public health. Project “Healthy cities” is at the head of sanitation programs which unites its participants from political, professional and other spheres, creates favourable conditions for work in this direction at local level. “Profile of health” or the description of health state in the city is a useful tool for each participant of the network “Healthy cities”. Thanks to City Health Profiles we can quickly receive scientific evaluation of health state in the city, it stimulates interest of society to problems of health, helps to make decisions and defines goals to the future and directs activity to achieve it.

Ten cities have been involved in the WHO project “Healthy cities” in Republic of Kazakhstan also our city Almaty.

Considerable volumes of pollution gas and greenhouse gas are produced in Kazakhstan. In emission of greenhouse gas our country is a leader in Central Asia. The level of air pollution in cities as Ust-Kamenogorsk, Shymkent, Aktobe, Almaty exceeds international standards.

Worsening environment is a real threat to stable development of the country which influence on health of the population. Problem of protection and improvement of health of children is important and strategic goal of each country that is why the collaborative work in this direction is especially actual.

According to the official data, morbidity among children in Kazakhstan is increased. The morbidity among children for the last years (1998 -2003) increases by 36,1 % (by 1,4). Among teenagers the morbidity in country at the same period

also is increased by 34,9 % (by 1,3). It is necessary to note when we consider health of children from 0 to 15 years in regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Almaty is in the first place on sick rate, exceeding average republican rate by 2,5.

Taking into account these negative trends on health state, we think it is possible to promote the project “Healthy cities” by working out “Profile of health” of Almaty. This will let us settle many issues regarding influence of environment on health by method of intersectoral cooperation. Programs of public health connected with healthy environment, which put tasks in complex, must be in the epicenter of attention of Government, local authorities, various institutions and organizations and society.

Literature:

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