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# 100 YEARS ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTHCARE WITH THE COURSE OF ECONOMICS AND HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT OF THE FIRST ST. PETERSBURG STATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY NAMED AFTER ACADEMICIAN I.P. PAVLOV

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The First Saint Petersburg State Medical University named after Academician I.P. Pavlov. L'va Tolstogo 6–8, Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, 197022

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**ABSTRACT.** The article presents information about the establishment in 1923 and the development of the Department of Public Health and Healthcare for 100 years. The heads of the department are listed in chronological order, information about their contribution to the formation of the teaching and scientific activities of the department is presented. The main directions of scientific research at different stages of the department development are highlighted. An important indicator of the activities of the scientific and teaching staff of the department has always been the amount of successfully defended candidate and doctoral thesis on the most pressing problems of the organization of public health and healthcare. The problems of teaching the discipline “Public health and healthcare” at a medical university are highlighted separately. In the section of the article devoted to scientific research, the authors dwell in more detail on the main directions of the science of public health and healthcare organization: planning and organization of outpatient and inpatient medical care for the population, research and scientific justification of optimal forms and ways of organizing both urban and rural healthcare. At all times, attention of the scientific staff of the department has been focused on the problems of demography, the peculiarities of the morbidity of the urban population; new forms of organization of medical care. In the XXI century, the staff of the department paid special attention to the issues of expertise and quality management of medical care. At present time significant attention is paid to the implementation of research results in the area of practical healthcare, the main aspects of international cooperation of the department; postgraduate training of doctors, residents, masters in accordance with provided by the department health organization programs. The article notes that significant achievements of the department became possible thanks to the highly qualified scientific and teaching staff activities for the entire previous period.

**KEY WORDS:** Department of Public Health and Public Health; University; 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

# 100 ЛЕТ КАФЕДРЕ ОБЩЕСТВЕННОГО ЗДОРОВЬЯ И ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ С КУРСОМ ЭКОНОМИКИ И УПРАВЛЕНИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЕМ ПЕРВОГО САНКТ-ПЕТЕРБУРГСКОГО ГОСУДАРСТВЕННОГО МЕДИЦИНСКОГО УНИВЕРСИТЕТА ИМЕНИ АКАДЕМИКА И.П. ПАВЛОВА

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**РЕЗЮМЕ.** В статье отражена информация о создании в 1923 году и развитии кафедры общественного здоровья и здравоохранения за 100 лет. В хронологическом порядке перечислены заведующие кафедры, указан их вклад в становление педагогической и научной деятельности. Выделены основные направления научных исследований на разных этапах развития. Важным показателем работы научно-педагогического коллектива кафедры всегда было число успешно защищенных кандидатских и докторских диссертаций по самым актуальным проблемам организации здравоохранения и общественного здоровья. Отдельно выделены проблемы преподавания дисциплины «Общественное здоровье и здравоохранение» в медицинском вузе. В разделе статьи, посвященном научным исследованиям, более подробно авторы останавливаются на магистральных направлениях науки об общественном здоровье и организации здравоохранения: планирование и организация амбулаторной и стационарной медицинской помощи населению, исследование и научное обоснование оптимальных форм и путей организации как городского, так и сельского здравоохранения. Во все времена в центре внимания научных сотрудников кафедры были проблемы демографии, особенности заболеваемости населения городов, новые формы организации медицинской помощи. Особое внимание в XXI веке сотрудники кафедры стали уделять вопросам экспертизы и управления качеством медицинской помощи. Большое внимание уделяется вопросам внедрения результатов научных исследований в практическое здравоохранение, основным аспектам международного сотрудничества кафедры; послевузовской подготовке врачей, ординаторов, магистров по программам организации здравоохранения. В статье отмечается, что существенные достижения кафедры стали возможными благодаря высококвалифицированному научно-преподавательскому составу за весь предыдущий период.

**КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА:** кафедра общественного здоровья и здравоохранения; университет; 100-летие.

The Department of Public Health and Healthcare with a Course of Economics and Health Management of the First St. Petersburg State Medical University named after I.P. Pavlov was opened in 1923 and then called the Department of Social Hygiene. The first head of the department was Prof. Alexander F. Nikitin, a student of the outstanding hygienist G.V. Khlopin.

From 1928 for 11 years the department was headed by Grigory Isaakovich Dembo, a well-known figure in the field of public medicine in pre-revolutionary times, participant of the Pirogov congresses, and editor of the «Physician's Newspaper». The staff of the department at that time was very small — one professor and two assistants: B.S. Segal and M.S. Belkin.

A significant role in the activities of the department during its formation was played by Evgeny Vasilievich Polyakov. Thus, already in 1923, E.V. Polyakov, being a student, created in the Institute the first in the country student scientific society (SSS) in a medical university.

In 1939–1940s the department was headed by Boris Samoilovich Segal.

The Great Patriotic War caused a reorganization of the whole work of the department. All assistants left for the Soviet army. During this period the department was headed by Ilya Davidovich Strashun, a full member of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, Doctor of Medical Sciences, Professor, a well-known scientist

in the field of national history of medicine, social hygiene and health care organization.

In the harsh conditions of the siege of Leningrad, he gave all lectures and conducted practical classes with students by his own.

The education program included the study of some issues of military hygiene training and peculiarities of organization of work of rear health care institutions in military conditions. At the same time, I.D. Strashun was also the rector of the institute.

From 1945 to 1978 the department was headed by a prominent health care manager, Honored Scientist of the RSFSR, Doctor of Medical Sciences, Professor Solomon Yakovlevich Freidlin (Fig. 1). During these years, the system of teaching of social hygiene and health care organization was completely reformed, the emphasis was placed on the training of doctors — health care managers.

Under the guidance of Prof. S.Y. Freidlin, 7 doctoral dissertations and more than 50 candidate dissertations on topical issues of health care organization were performed and defended at the department. S.Y. Freidlin published the “Course of lectures on social hygiene and health care organization”, a number of monographs (“Organization of work of in-patient department of city hospital”, “City outpatient clinic”, “Follow up monitoring of population”, “Prevention of traumatism and organization of traumatological care”, etc.), which became table books for the majority of health care managers of the country.

From 1978 to 1993, the Department was headed by a major scientist in the field of social medicine, theory and practice of health care management, Honored Scientist of Russia, Doctor of Medical Sciences, Prof. Vladimir Alexeevich Minyaev (Fig. 2), who had extensive experience in the management of practical health care. For 23 years, Prof. V.A. Minyaev was the rector of the 1st Leningrad Medical Institute. His the most famous works are on the organization of health care in a large city, on the economics of health care, and on hospital organization.

Under the guidance of Professor V.A. Minyaev, 5 doctoral and 25 candidate dissertations were performed and defended.

From 1993 to the present time the department has been headed by Prof. Nikolay Ivanovich Vishnyakov, the student of Prof. V.A. Minyaev,



Fig. 1. Solomon Y. Freidlin

Рис. 1. Соломон Яковлевич Фрейдлин



Fig. 2. Vladimir A. Minyaev

Рис. 2. Владимир Алексеевич Миняев



Fig. 3. Nikolay I. Vishnyakov

Рис. 3. Николай Иванович Вишняков

Honored Worker of Science of the Russian Federation (Fig. 3). He continues the traditions of the department in the field of improvement of the educational process and scientific research. Under the guidance of N.I. Vishnyakov 28 doctoral and 106 candidate dissertations were defended.

Special attention **in teaching** the organization of health care is given to the economics of health care, study of the results of introduction of a new economic mechanism in urban health care, as well as the study of the organization of urban health care in the conditions of health insurance, the prospects for the use of insurance medicine and legal basis of domestic health care.

Various types of academic work (mastering lecture material, independent training, solving situational tasks, preparing assignments on sanitary and hygienic education of the population, performance and discussion of term papers, business and role-playing games) contribute to mastering the culture of thinking, development in written and oral speech, logically correct design of research results.

In order to facilitate the assimilation of material by students in preparation for these classes, the department has compiled and published in the necessary quantities methodological recommendations. For the last 10 years 14 methodical manuals have been published. The textbook, compiled and constantly corrected by staff of the department, has had 9 editions.

Student Scientific Society (SSS) actively works at the department. A great educational and auxiliary value is the annual student conferences on topical issues of health care. Many scientific student works were awarded diplomas of I and II degrees and published in the press.

**Scientific research** of the department is multifaceted and characterized by depth and relevance. In the first years of work scientific researches were characterized by hygienic orientation. The main scientific direction was a study of the role of social factors of health in urban residents. In the period of formation of normative base of public health care especially actual were the works carried out at the department on planning of outpatient care, scientific substantiation of load of doctors, middle medical staff, organization of treatment after leaving a hospital, scientific organization of work in outpatient clinics, development of norms in specialized care of rural population. In the late 1960s of the twentieth century, the department's research on the development of specialized medical care became widespread.

Much attention was paid to the study of health problems of the population of large cities, demography, mortality, morbidity with temporary loss of ability to work, disability.

Studies on the problems of planning and organization of inpatient medical care for the population are of great scientific and practical



importance. V.A. Minyaev's method of expert assessments of patients' need for hospitalization proved to be a fundamentally new approach to determining the norms of hospital care in a large city.

In subsequent years, the main efforts of the staff were directed to the research and scientific substantiation of optimal forms and ways of organization of urban health care in the conditions of its reforming.

At the turn of the XX and XXI centuries, the peculiarities of radical social and economic reforms and their impact on the demographic situation and morbidity of the Russian population were reflected in the studies aimed at developing recommendations to improve public health and organization of medical care.

Under the guidance of the department the justification and analysis of the activity of new forms of organization of medical care were developed: nursing care departments, andrological care for children, consultative and diagnostic departments and centers, center of psychosomatic medicine, surgical day clinic, new forms of activity of commissions for examination of drivers, recommendations on various aspects of the work of a general practitioner.

In the following years, the studies highlighting **economic aspects** of medical care and the peculiarities of the work of medical organizations and their subdivisions of different forms of ownership, scientific justification of these activities and the development of recommendations to optimize their work, management of a large commercial organization and medical and organizational foundations of entrepreneurial activity, substantiating marketing technologies became relevant. The works of the department reflected the issues of tariff policy as a tool to optimize various types of medical care and the organization of paid services. Special attention was paid to the issues of **expertise and quality management of medical care** in outpatient and inpatient health care, methodological foundations and technology of information support of health care management in a large city.

In total, 54 doctoral and 228 candidate dissertations were performed and defended at the department, more than 10,000 scientific works were published.

The department annually publishes the collection of scientific works "Problems of urban health care", included in the RSCI publications.

The edition publishes articles by employees of specialized departments of medical universities of the country and employees of practical health care. The 27th issue of the edition was published in 2022.

Scientific research of the department is actively implemented not only in the educational process, but also in work of practical and health care institutions in St. Petersburg and other cities of the country. In particular, the methodical recommendations "The experience of realization of intradepartmental self-financing relations of medical and preventive institutions of Leningrad in the conditions of economic experiment in public health" and the information letter "The experience of organization of obstetric-pediatric-therapeutic complexes as one of the temporary forms of organization and remuneration of labor in regional medical association in the conditions of new economic mechanism" were approved by the Ministry of Health care and recommended for implementation in all regions of the country. The teaching staff took part in the perspective planning of urban health care development. Thus, the concept of urban health care development up to 2003 was actually drawn up under the guidance of the department.

Scientific and pedagogical cooperation of the department with foreign institutes and universities, as well as medical and preventive institutions is multifaceted. In the post-war time the department took an active part in training of personnel for health care of such foreign countries as Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Cuba, Sudan, Yemen, China, Belgium, Jordan; active scientific cooperation with the medical academy of Gdansk (Poland), with medical academies of Dresden, Frankfurt (Germany), Plovdiv (Bulgaria) was carried out. Scientific works of the department staff have been published in specialized editions of many countries of the world. Prof. V.A. Minyaev was a WHO (World Health Organization) consultant, Prof. V.G. Koryukin was a WHO expert on the problems of economic reforms in health care.

In 1999–2001, the department participated in the implementation of the TEMPUS/TACIS program "Management in Health Care" together with the Higher School (Leiden, the Netherlands) and the University of Wales (Swansea, Great Britain). The program for clinical residents "Management in Healthcare" was developed and implemented, 10 manuals and



Fig. 4. The staff of the Department of Public Health and Healthcare with the course of Economics and Health Management of the First St. Petersburg State Medical University named after Academician I.P. Pavlov (the photo made in 2023)

Рис. 4. Коллектив кафедры общественного здоровья и здравоохранения с курсом экономики и управления здравоохранением Первого Санкт-Петербургского государственного медицинского университета им. акад. И.П. Павлова (фото сделано в 2023 году)

monographs were published, including “Economics of Healthcare”, “Quality Control of Medical Care”, “Management in Healthcare”, “Marketing in Healthcare”. Interactive training has been introduced.

The contribution of the department to practical public health care is determined not only by the above provisions, but also by constant participation of its staff in annual professional development courses. More than 500 residents of all specialties are trained annually in the related discipline “Public Health and Health Care” in the volume of 36 hours, which is included in the mandatory educational standard of a doctor.

Professional retraining cycles in the specialty “Health Care Management and Public Health” in the amount of 504 hours are held annually by 50 to 100 doctors of various specialties.

504 hours are annually completed by 50 to 100 doctors of various specialties. Also, more than 70 managers of medical organizations (per

year) undergo advanced training in the volume of 144 hours on the cycle “Topical issues of health care organization and public health”.

Very actual cycle for doctors of all clinical specialties “Organization of examination of temporary incapacity for work” — 144 hours. This cycle, held in a distance format, is attended by doctors not only from St. Petersburg, but also from other regions of Russia.

Leading specialists of medical organizations are involved in the classes.

Such volume of educational and scientific work became possible thanks to the scientific and teaching staff of the department of the previous period: Prof. N.G. Petrova and E.N. Penyugina, K.I. Shapiro. Penyugina, K.I. Shapiro, associate professors I.E. Golovchiner, O.A. Gusev, A.P. Kovaleva, L.A. Alekseeva, assistant A.A. Kozyrev and others. Nowadays the best traditions of the department are embodied by professors K.S. Klyukovkin, L.V. Ko-

chorova, I.M. Barsukova, associate professors M.A. Andreeva, M.V. Okulov, N.Y. Smirnova, V.S. Skripov, senior lecturer Candidate of Medical Sciences O.N. Klushnikov, assistant professors, Candidate of Medical Sciences P.I. Konstantinova, R.Y. Rotar, M.O. Bondarenko. Classes with students and clinical residents at training bases in hospitals, outpatient clinics and women's consultative clinics are conducted by the staff (associates) of the department Dr. Y.P. Linets, Dr. O.V. Emelyanov, Candidate of Medical Sciences O.G. Nikitina, Candidate of Medical Sciences S.I. Stozharova, with clinical residents in the Territorial Fund of Compulsory Medical Insurance (CMI) — Prof.V.V. Stozharov.

Thus, all activities (educational, scientific work, international cooperation) of the Department of Public Health and Health Care are subordinated to the main task — to train a physician-manager with high moral qualities, deeply understanding modern problems of health, health care and medicine (Fig. 4).

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Contribution of the authors.** N.I. Vishnyakov — approval of the final version of the article; K.I. Shapiro — writing and editing text, concept and design.

**Conflict of interest.** The authors declare the absence of obvious and potential conflicts of interest related to the publication of this article.

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