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Fund "Nauka" Project № 22005 Resume – Competition-Based Session 2022: "Surveillance and control of healthcare-associated infections – contemporary challenges and opportunities for health promotion" Project leader: Prof. Tsonko Paunov Paunov, MD, PhD

The surveillance and control of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) are among the most priority activities in healthcare related to the prevention of infectious pathology. Modern health care efforts are aimed at limiting the occurrence and spread of HAIs and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) by creating a patient-safe environment. By "patient safety" is meant the absence of unnecessary or probable harm to the patient associated with health care.

The aim of the project is to study the system for surveillance and control of HAIs in the University Multiprofile Hospital for Active Treatment (UMHAT) "St. Marina" for a tenyear period (2011-2021) and to create an integrated health promotion model for the management of HAIs in the modern hospital environment.

The tasks of the research are:

- 1. To study and analyze the incidence of HAIs in UMHAT "St. Marina" for a ten-year period (2011-2021);
- 2. To study and compare the relative share of patients who used antibiotics and the incidence of HAIs in the UMHAT "St. Marina" for the 2011-2021 period;
- 3. To study and analyze the etiological and clinical structure (localization) of HAIs in UMHAT "St. Marina" for the 2011-2021 period;
- 4. To study and analyze the activity related to disinfection, disinsection and deratization in the UMHAT "St. Marina" for the 2011-2021 period;
- 5. To study and analyze epidemic outbreaks that have occurred in UMHAT "St. Marina" for the 2011-2021 period;
- 6. To study the organization of prevention, surveillance and control of HAIs in UMHAT "St. Marina".

Materials: Quarterly forms with the registered HAIS, protocols of conducted internal microbiological control, diaries of carried out disinfection, disinsection and deratization measures, programs of the hospital facility.

Research methods: theoretical, documentary, statistical and epidemiological.

Expected results:

- 1. To outline trends related to the level of HAIs in order to adequately manage the processes of control and surveillance of HAIs at the hospital level.
- 2. To confirm the need to develop adequate targeted programs in hospital treatment facilities (HTPs) regarding the organization of activities for the surveillance, prevention and control of HAIs, including annual training of all staff on the problems represented in the HAIs control standard.
- 3. To prove the role and need of the infection control team (ICT) for the management of HAIs in the HTPs, as well as the need to work together with all units and levels in the hospital structure to achieve effective surveillance and control, to improve quality of patient and staff life.