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Fund "Nauka" Project № 20018 Resume – Competition-Based Session 2020:

"Current trends and professional stress in pharmaceutical services" **Project leader:** Assoc. prof. Anna Hristova Todorova, MPharm, MD, PhD

The **aim** of this project is to study the modern scope of activity of the pharmaceutical profession and related occupational stress in pharmacists practicing in pharmacies.

To achieve this goal will be analyzed:

- 1. International experience in conducting and managing pharmaceutical care as an accent of good pharmaceutical practice.
- 2. Public attitudes and expectations of pharmacists as the most accessible health professionals.
- 3. The specifics of the organization of the professional environment from the point of view of pharmacists.
- 4. The level of occupational stress in pharmacists practicing in pharmacies and the factors that affect them.

Materials and methods: The study will be conducted in pharmacies in the city of Varna. Two anonymous surveys among two focus groups will be used – clients to pharmacies and practicing pharmacists. The assessment of burnout among pharmacists will be carried out using a validated instrument – Maslah Burnout Inventory. Results will be processed using sociological and statistical methods.

Expected results:

- 1. Internationally, pharmaceutical care is integrated into health systems as an essential element of health care.
- 2. Expectations are high for pharmacists as the most accessible medical professionals.
- 3. Pharmacists are charged with a large administrative activity that shifts the focus from patient care to administration.
- 4. There is a lack of time and opportunity for personal involvement of the pharmacists with the patient, tension is created during tendance.
- 5. The high workload is a prerequisite for high stress levels among practicing pharmacists.
- 6. The development of recommendations and strategies for dealing with stress, based on the identified factors, will contribute to the optimization of pharmaceutical care.