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MARITIME MEDICINE IN UKRAINE: THE PRESENT-DAY STATE AND SOME LINES OF ITS REFORMING

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Examined the role of the Ukrainian Research Institute of Transport Medicine in the structure of marine medicine in Ukraine. A scheme for reform of maritime medicine in Ukraine based on scientific research experts from the Institute of Transport Medicine.

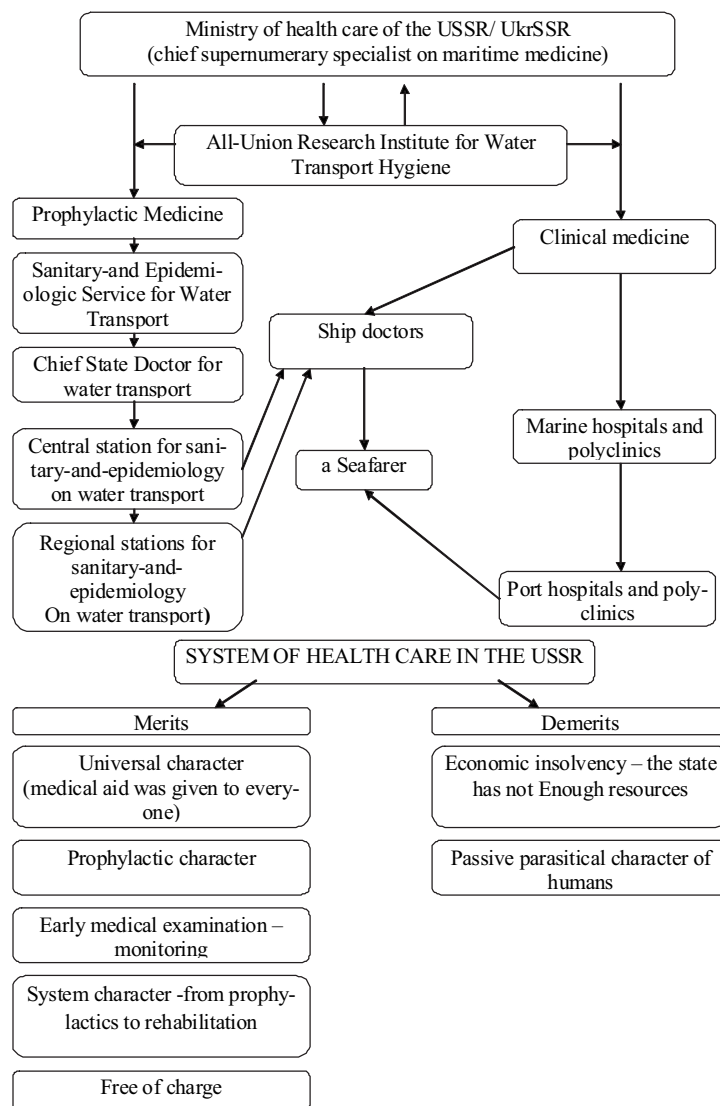
Keywords: marine medicine, health of seafarers, medical selection

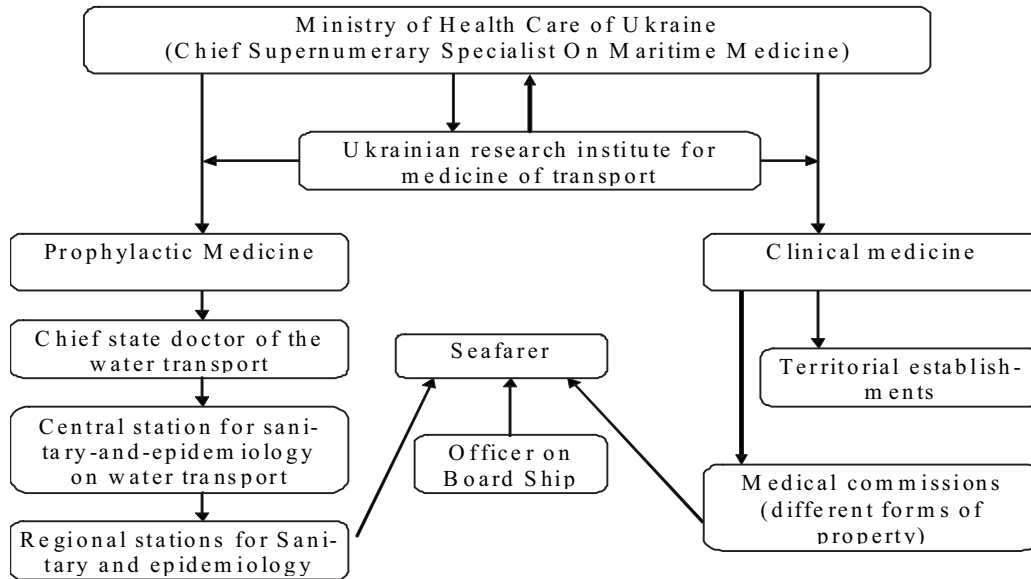
System of health care is always based and depends on the state system and the latter determines the tasks of medicine and sources of its financing.

In the former USSR and Ukraine as its part existed budget system of health care which functioned according to either territorial or industrial principle. So existed two forms of health care organization: according to the territory a person dwells and according to the branch of industry he works. Water transport medicine was a part of industrial one and it maintained medical care of the workers of marine, river and fishing fleet and coastal infrastructure of water transport. Between ministry of health care and ministry of marine fleet existed an agreement which allowed to enlist the resources of fleet for medical supply of seafarers. As the whole system of health care, water transport medicine consisted of establishments of prophylactic and clinical medicine.

The following 20 years were filled with social and economic changes in all spheres including health care system. Under the new conditions ministry for health care took into consideration the

recommendation of the Research institute for medicine of transport, created instead of the All-Union research Institute for water





transport Hygiene, and did reorganization of medical supply for the water transport workers.

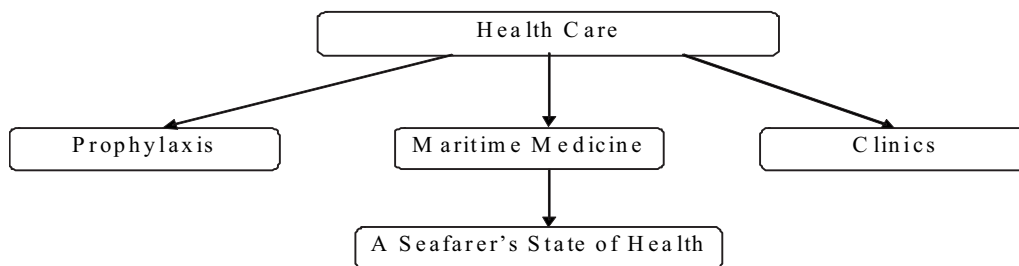
Change of economic social formation and transfer from socialist to capitalist system of production based on private property led to the necessity of re-organization of the whole system of health protection for the workers of water transport. The state is not any more economically responsible for health protection of the worker of a definite industry. The employees began to finance health protection, for example medical fitness examinations. According to IMF recommendations liquidation of industrial medicine began and all port in-patient and out-patient departments start to work according to territorial principle. The institution of ship doctors has been liquidated. Diminishing of crews twice and more promoted this process as well, besides bases for rest and shop service have been liquidated, too.

Modern state of medical supply of

water transport is presented on the scheme. The given scheme proves that the united system with a vertical of management is kept in this country.

And again the whole medical system is based on the scientific recommendations of the research institute.

Very important is a complete preserving of prophylactic direction in maritime medicine – i.e. services for epidemiology and sanitary. A number of seafarers is treated now in specialized in-patients departments that raised the treatment efficacy and reduces economical expenses. A very specific link are commissions for medical fitness and periodical examinations of seafarers. These commissions are formed in state and private medical establishments and have corresponding licenses issued by the Ministry of Health Care of Ukraine. These commissions includes medical psychologists who do obligatory psychological tests. Permission for of going to voyage is issued on



Structure of the research institute

the basis of the commission's specialists conclusions, results of laboratory and functional tests. Quality control of these commissions work is an important task the research institute is working at.

The research institute works out scientific grounds of seafarers' adaptation to the conditions of the world ocean, studies influence of ship's labour factors on a human, labour and rest regimes and improves all the stages of seafarers' medical service. It is especially important under the present day conditions of fleet development:

- intensification of seafarers' labour regimes;
- extension of psychoemotional loads;
- diminish of physical loads (hypokinesia, hypodynamia);
- growing epidemiological dangers.

Present day the volume of medical aid rendered to seafarers is changed considerably and the first medical aid is rendered by specially trained officers. The first medical aid rendering should be improved first of all by improvement of the officers medical skills training and introduction of telemedical

technologies for seafarers consultations which is the institution's once more field of activity.

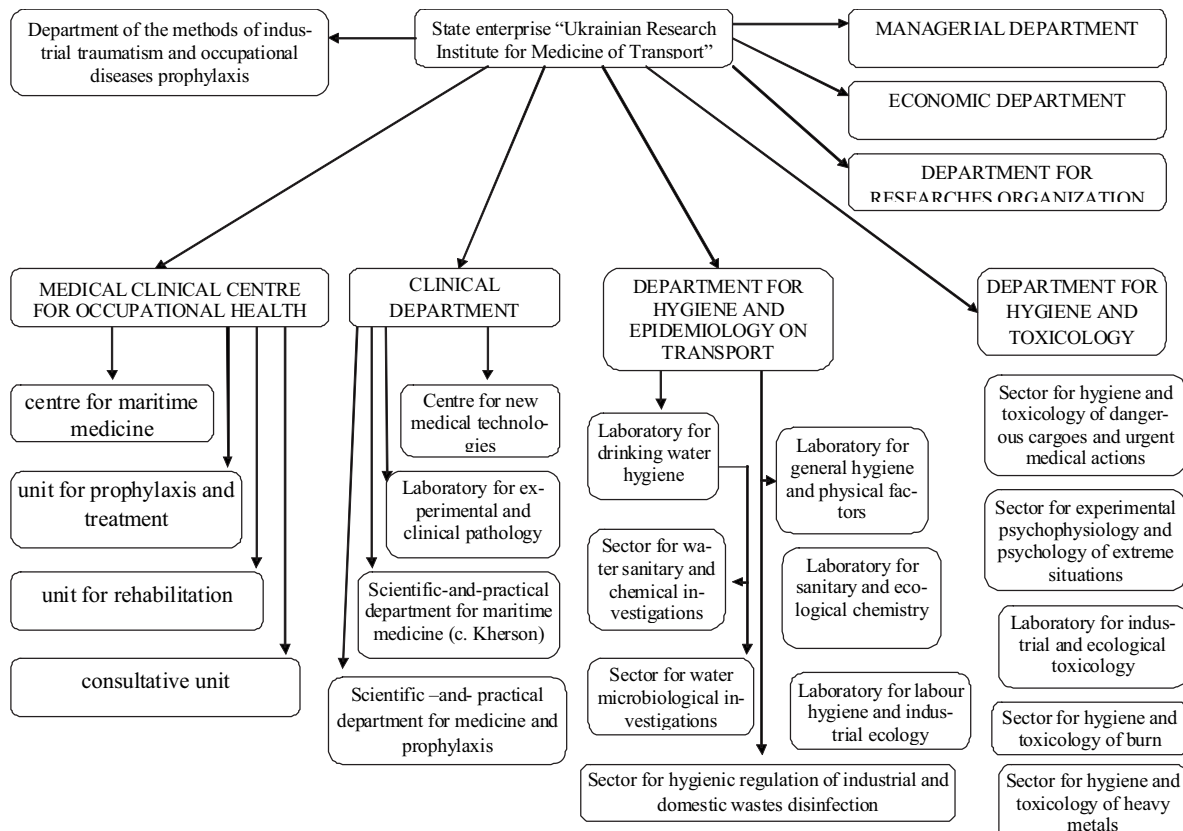
A definite prespass of a part of responsibility from the state to a seafarer himself takes part in the modern system of seafarers medical supply. So, a seafarer should occupy more active position in the control of his own health, its support and, of course,

Restoration, i.e. medical rehabilitation.

Such change of the approaches to health preservation will both diminish state budget expenses and raises motivation of a seafarer and ship-owner in seafarer's health supply. Introduction of electronic case history and further creation of a single complete data base of seafarers and lists of seafarers' medical commissions will promote this organizationally.

All this will allow to create national system of seafarers' health care which may be joined with medical systems of other states and used outside of Ukraine.

Below the scheme of the new maritime medicine is given:



Резюме

**МОРСКАЯ МЕДИЦИНА В
УКРАИНЕ: СОВРЕМЕННОЕ СОСТОЯНИЕ
И НЕКОТОРЫЕ НАПРАВЛЕНИЯ
РЕФОРМИРОВАНИЯ**

Гоженко А.И.

Рассмотрена роль Украинского НИИ медицины транспорта в структуре морской медицины Украины. Предложена схема реформирования морской медицины в Украине на основе научных разработок специалистов Института медицины транспорта.

Ключевые слова: морская медицина, здоровье моряков, медицинский отбор

Резюме

**МОРСЬКА МЕДИЦИНА В УКРАЇНІ:
СУЧАСНИЙ СТАН І ДЕЯКІ НАПРЯМКИ
РЕФОРМУВАННЯ**

Гоженко А.І.

Розглянуто роль Українського НДІ медицини транспорту в структурі морської медицини України. Запропоновано схему реформування морської медицини в Україні на основі наукових розробок фахівців Інституту медицини транспорту.

Ключові слова: морська медицина, здоров'я моряків, медичний відбір

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**SECURITY OF SEAFARERS IN THE MARITIME LABOUR
CONVENTION, 2006 ILO (MLC)**

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In the year 2010 which marks the year of seafarers, Spain has ratified the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 of the International Labour Organization. Becoming the first EU member to ratify.

This important Maritime Labour Convention, also called "super convention", was adopted by the 94th (Maritime) Session of the International Labour Conference held in Geneva in February 2006. To ratify the MLC, 2006, Spain implemented a decision of the Council of the European Union 2007, which allows member countries to ratify in the interests of the European Community and invites them to do so before December 31, 2010.

The objectives of this paper are to introduce and analyze the contents of the Convention in relation to safety and prevention of occupational accidents in the maritime environment.

To do this will be discussed in the text of the agreement in relation to Rule 4.3 - Health and safety protection and accident prevention which is designed to ensure that the working environment of seafarers on board ships promotes safety and health at work.

From this analysis conclusions that will ratify the importance of this agreement to ensure decent working conditions for seafarers.

Keywords: Occupational accidents, occupational safety, accident prevention, seafarers, international convention.