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**CONCERN OF THE POPULATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS
ON THE PROBLEMS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
(CORONAVIRUS, INFLUENZA, TUBERCULOSIS)**

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Topicality. Currently, topical infectious diseases in Belarus are coronavirus, influenza and tuberculosis. Belarus has the highest incidence of the flu, compared with tuberculosis and coronavirus. About 10.000 patients with active tuberculosis are currently registered in TB dispensaries in Belarus. About 5.000 patients fall ill with them annually. In January 2019, about 21.000 of children and 12.000 of adults fell ill with the flu, and these numbers change every year. In addition, there are currently 6 cases of coronavirus infection in Belarus. Every year, 650.000 people die from respiratory illnesses associated with seasonal flu, 1.600.000 people die from tuberculosis, 2800 die from coronavirus.

Aim: we decided to check how many people are really worried about these infections, as well as to find out whether people's real fears are connected with real dangers. The hypothesis is that the majority will fear coronavirus, and the minority will be afraid of tuberculosis and/or the flu.

Materials and methods. We conducted a survey among students of BSMU and random people near the mall "Titan" in the city of Minsk. 94 people participated in this survey. For this experiment the bellow questions were used: 1) What is the most dangerous disease out of the three (coronavirus, influenza, tuberculosis)? 2) Is panic over coronavirus in the world justified? 3) Do you think that coronavirus is the most dangerous disease in our country at the moment? 4) Do you think coronavirus is more dangerous than tuberculosis? 5) Do you know about the ways of getting infected with tuberculosis?

Results. What is the most dangerous disease out of the three (coronavirus, influenza, tuberculosis)?

Students of BSMU: 67% answered "Tuberculosis", 20.2% - "The flu", 12.8% - "Coronavirus".

Random people: 54% answered "Tuberculosis", 14.5% - "The flu", 31.5% - "Coronavirus".

Is panic over coronavirus in the world justified?

Students of BSMU: 52.1% answered "No", 34.1% - "Difficult to answer", 13.8% - "Yes".

Random people: 78% answered "No", 9.7% - "Difficult to answer", 12.3% - "Yes".

Do you think that coronavirus is the most dangerous disease in our country at the moment?

Students of BSMU: 90.4% answered "No", 9.6% - "Yes".

Random people: 81% answered "No", 19% - "Yes".

Do you think coronavirus is more dangerous than tuberculosis?

Students of BSMU: 80.9% answered "No, I do not think so", 19.1% - "Yes, I think so".

Random people: 73.7% answered "No, I do not think so", 26.3% - "Yes, I think so".

Do you know about the ways of getting infected with tuberculosis?

Students of BSMU: 90.4% answered "Yes, I do", 9.6% - "No, I do not".

Random people: 48% answered "Yes, I do", 52% - "No, I do not".

Discussion. Our survey shows, that a large number of people are right to think that tuberculosis is the most dangerous disease which requires a long-term treatment. Influenza is the most common disease in Belarus. However, people mostly do not consider it to be the most dangerous disease. Speaking of Minsk, relying on our survey, it can be concluded that most of the population do not consider coronavirus to be the most dangerous disease in our country, and the panic due to coronavirus is considered unjustified (some people find it difficult to answer this question).