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THE BASICS OF EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICINE IN BSMU
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Actuality. Nowadays using the medical literature effectively and efficiently is a necessary skill. Many medical schools all over the world are teaching courses in evidence-based medicine (EBM) to give students the ability to distinguish high-quality publications from low-quality, to recognize flaws in the methodology of studying, and to interpret the results of scientific articles. This course is taught in BSMU as well, but only in the sixth year.

Aim: to determine whether the teaching of evidence-based medicine is optimal in the sixth year of BSMU.

Materials and methods. We worked with the websites of medical universities in different countries to define the year of teaching the course in EBM and its duration. The program course of study in EBM was studied and analyzed in 5 universities all over the world.

With the help of the Google Forms questionnaire, BSMU-students were interviewed about the course of EBM in BSMU. 85 students of the faculty of general medicine (the sixth-year and the post-graduate students) were questioned.

Results and their discussion. Nearly half of medical students found the teaching of the course of EBM as acceptable. About 70% of responders named second shift studying one of the weak points in the organization of the course. 79% of them believe that EBM should be studied in the sixth year. 45% of respondents found the fourth course appropriate for studying EBM.

Other universities have different approaches to teaching the course of EBM. Albany Medical College has a compulsory pass-fail EBM course lasting 120 hours over four years. The University of Oxford offers a postgraduate program that is normally completed between the first two years. It includes two compulsory modules: The Practice of Evidence-Based Health Care and Introduction to Study Design and Research Methods.

Conclusions. Based on our research, we have made the following conclusions:

1. The practice of evidence-based medicine is a process of lifelong, self-directed, problem-based learning. The skills medical students gain during this course are the essential part of medicine. EBM is included in the curriculum of world-known universities.

2. The BSMU students believe that the course of evidence-based medicine should be studied in the fourth or fifth year.

3. There are several problems in the organization of the course: long distance to the department, second shift studying, lack of materials for preparation. All these problems should be solved in the nearest future.