

*Nestsiarenia A.S.*

## **PALLIATIVE CARE IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS**

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**Relevance.** Palliative care improves the life quality of people with incurable progressive diseases, conditions leading to early death. The World Health Organization estimates that the need for palliative care will increase due to the non-communicable diseases boosting burden, the population aging and some infectious diseases. In Minsk, according to some researches, 15 thousand people need palliative care. However, due to the receiving hospice and palliative care awareness lack, patients often seek help just before passing away.

**Aim:** to study the palliative care development and prevalence degree in the Republic of Belarus.

**Materials and methods.** To collect data, the anonymous survey was conducted using Google Forms, the results were recorded in Google Tables. The questionnaire consisted of two blocks. The first block contained questions about respondents' knowledge of the palliative care essence and the institutions in the Republic of Belarus, providing palliative care. The second one included questions whether the respondents had any relatives or acquaintances requiring palliative care and, if there were any, the patients' satisfaction degree with the services provided.

**Results and their discussion.** 56 people participated in the study. Among the respondents, 66% (37 people) were aware of palliative care issues. 10.7% (6 people) were in need of palliative care services. Among 6 people in need, 1 person did not receive sufficient assistance due to the appropriate institution absence.

**Conclusion:** palliative care in Belarus has achieved some success as a full-fledged medical direction. This direction has to be further developed. It is necessary to promote destigmatization of hospice and palliative patients and spread knowledge about this care type, especially among the adult population.