THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION «BELARUSIAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION»: THE MAIN DIRECTIONS OF ACTIVITY

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On December 3rd and 4th, 2009 in Minsk there was held the 3rd Congress of psychiatrists of Belarus «Psychiatry and modern society» which was organized on the initiative of non-governmental organization «Belarusian psychiatric association» (the BPA).

In the resolution approved by the Congress participants there was indicated the necessity of the development and approval of the National program of the reformation of the mental health; of the amend to the law of the Republic of Belarus «On psychiatric aid» and representing them to the National Assembly; of the further development of international cooperation and participation in the scientific and educational projects in the field of mental health care; of the providing of strict control of the maintenance of the standards of professional ethics by the Ethical committee of the BPA.

On the results of the Congress at the elective meeting the following structure of the Association board was approved: the Board of the BPA (the Chairman of the Board - Prof. S.A. Igumnov, the Secretary General – Prof. O.A. Skugarevsky); the Ethical committee (the Chairman - Prof. V.A. Domoratsky).

Among the main tasks of the BPA set by the Congress organizers were the following: to develop the common conceptual approaches and organizational activities in the field of psychiatry; to establish the interdepartmental and international cooperation; to give the urge to conduction of scientific research in the field of psychiatry on the modern methodical level.

THE BELARUSIAN REPUBLICAN SCIENTIFIC AND PRACTICAL CENTER OF MENTAL HEALTH: THE MAIN DIRECTIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT

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THE REPUBLICAN SCIENTIFIC AND PRACTICAL CENTER OF MENTAL HEALTH (ABBR. RSPC MH) WAS FOUNDED ON 4 FEBRUARY, 2009 IN MINSK, THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS.

THE MAIN DIRECTIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RSPC MH ARE AS FOLLOWING:

1. The study of the actual problems of the psychiatry of elderly age as well as Alzheimer disease and other neurodegenerative disorders, epidemiological researches in the Republic of Belarus, working out clinical and psychological tools for the assessment of cognitive functions; implementation of psychiatric approaches peculiar to elderly age into general medicine;

2. Developing of innovative methods of diagnostics and treatment of mental and behavioral disorders in extreme situations;

3. The study of the problem of the due diagnostics and therapy of affective disorders including epidemiological research in the Republic of Belarus, working out of the national standards of diagnostics and treatment of depressions and other affective disorders, implementation of the methods of diagnostics of "hidden depression" into general medical practice;

4. The study of actual problems of child and adolescent psychiatry: epidemiological researches in the Republic of Belarus, introducing of the tools for psychological assessment of cognitive functions in Early childhood; elaborating of the correction and prophylactic programs aimed at prevention of behavioral deviations, alcohol and drug dependence, "non-chemical" addictions such as gambling and "technological addictions" among adolescents;

5. IDENTIFICATION OF PSYCHOLOGICAL, SOCIAL-DEMOGRAPHIC AND OTHER FACTORS INFLUENCING THE INDICES OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE PATIENTS SUFFERED FROM MENTAL DISORDERS AS WELL AS CHRONIC SOMATIC DISEASES;

6. DEVELOPING OF INNOVATIVE METHODS OF DIAGNOSTICS AND PREVENTION OF SUICIDAL AND PARASUICIDAL BEHAVIOR;

7. The participation in organizing of interdisciplinary interaction in setting up of the national system of the early identification of the children requiring social and medical-psychological protection of the State;

8. DEVELOPING OF THE SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS ON CLINICAL APPROBATION OF THE MODERN PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGICAL MEDICATIONS ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH STANDARDS;

9. The participation in the expertise and clinical approbation of the psychotherapeutic technologies introduced in Belarus;

10. WORKING OUT AND PUBLISHING OF SCIENTIFIC ARTICLES, INSTRUCTIONS, MANUALS AND MONOGRAPHS ON THE TOPIC OF THE RESEARCH;

11. THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS.

THE REPUBLICAN SCIENTIFIC AND PRACTICAL CENTER OF MENTAL HEALTH (ABBREVIATION: RSPC MH) IS SITUATED IN 152, DOLGINOVSKY TRACT, MINSK 220053, THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS ON THE BASIS OF THE REPUBLICAN CLINICAL PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL (ABBR. RCPH), WELL KNOWN WITH ITS PROFOUND CLINICAL TRADITIONS (IT WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1919). THE RSPC MH CONSISTS OF RESEARCH LABORATORIES AND RESEARCH GROUPS INCLUDED INTO 2 DEPARTMENTS: THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND CLINICAL PSYCHIATRY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ADDICTION PROBLEMS EMPLOYING MORE THAN 30 RESEARCH WORKERS. BEING THE MAIN COORDINATING CENTER IN THE AREA OF MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS, THE CENTER HAS BEEN DEVELOPING VARIOUS SCIENTIFIC CONTACTS WITH PROFILE RESEARCH CENTERS AND CHAIRS IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS, RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND OTHER CIS COUNTRIES. WE HOPE TO ESTABLISH FRUITFUL SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION WITH LEADING SCIENTIFIC SCHOOLS AND CLINICS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, THE USA, JAPAN AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Education at University/Medical School Level:

Field	from (year)	to (year)	Place	Qualification
Pediatrics	1984	1990	Minsk, Minsk State Medical Institute	MD
General Psychiatry, post- graduate medical practice (internship)	1990	1991	Minsk, Minsk State Medical Institute	General Psychiatrist
General Psychiatry, post- graduate research practice	1992	1994	Minsk, Minsk State Medical Institute	Ph.D.
Radiobiology and General Psychiatry, post-graduate medical practice (doctoranture)	1996	1999	Moscow, Russian Federation, Serbski Research Centre of Social and Forensic Psychiatry and Federal Research Centre "Institute of Biophysics"	Doctor of Medical Sciences

Details of Medical License, Certification, etc	1990, Diploma TB-I, №016221 1991, Certification № 026 1995, Diploma KT 004051 2000, Diploma ДН 00703
Examinations for Speciality(ies) (Speciality,	
year):	1991, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (Moscow) 1991, General Psychiatry (Minsk) 1995, Psychotherapy (Minsk) 1996, Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy (SPetersburg) 1998, Psychopharmacology (Moscow) 2001, Adolescent Addiction Problems (Minsk) 2007, №0350025, Clinical Psychology (SPetersburg)
Post Graduate Positions: Belarus	1990-1991, resident, Minsk State Medical Institute, Minsk,
	1991-1995, psychiatrist, Republican Health Centre for Radiation Medicine, Minsk, Belarus
	1995-2000, Assistant Professor, Psychotherapy & Medical Psychology Department of Belarusian State Medical Academy for Postgraduate Education, Minsk, Belarus

	2000-2001, Associate Professor, Psychotherapy & Medical Psychology Department of Belarusian State Medical Academy for Postgraduate Education, Minsk, Belarus
	2002-2004, Professor, Psychology Department, Belarusian State Pedagogical University, Minsk, Belarus
	2004-2005, Head of Laboratory, Research Institute of Medical Expertise, Minsk, Belarus
	2005-2009, Head of Department, Professor, Belarusian State Medical University, Minsk, Belarus
Current Position (from date):	13.03, 2009 - present time, Director, Scientific Institution (SI) "Republican Scientific and Practical Center for Mental Health", Minsk, Belarus
Experience in Clinical trials (Institutes,	
indication, from-to):	Alzheimer's Disease or Vascular Dementia, both Associated with Neuropsychiatric Symptoms, phase III, 2007-2009
GCP training:	2007, Republican centre of expertise and testing in public health, Minsk, Belarus

Publications (last three medical publications):

- 1. Igumnov S., Drozdovitch V. The psychological development, mental and behavioral disorders among children in Belarus exposed *in utero* following the Chernobyl accident. J. Eur Psychiatry. 2000, 15:244–253.
- 2. Igumnov S., Drozdovitch V. Antenatal Exposure: Neuropsychiatric Aspects. Moskow, RADECON, 2002.-208 p. (In Russian with English abstract).
- 3. Kondrashenko V., Igumnov S. Deviant Behavior in Adolescents.-Minsk, 2004. -367 p.
- 4. Breastfeeding and child cognitive development: new evidence from large randomized trial / M.S.Kramer et al. / Arch Gen Psychiatry. 2008 May; 65(5): 578-84.