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REVIEW

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Macedonian Scientific and Professional Terminology "Social and Preventive Medicine - Public Health"

Author: Professor Doncho Donev, MD, PhD, EASA and AMNuBiH member.
Publisher: Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Skopje. Year: 2018,
pages 710. B5 format, Hard cover. ISBN: 978-608-203-249-1.

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Medical terminology dictionary "Social and Preventive Medicine - Public Health", prepared by Prof. Dr. Doncho Donev, was published within the Macro-project "Macedonian Scientific and Professional Terminology", initiated by the first president of the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts (MASA), Academician Blaze Koneski and it started in 1968. when MASA was established. So far 113 bulletins have been published in print/hard copies, on some 12,000 pages and with about 80,000 terms. In the recent years all bulletins have been scanned for digital processing and archived as materials for upgrading and producing terminology dictionaries in specific scientific areas. Macedonian scientific and professional terminology, as a categorical system and language subject to constant change and enrichment, will enable more efficient communication in the scientific work and appropriate transfer of knowledge in the educational system. This includes the importance and specific meaning of the Project for the national science, culture and the Macedonian language in particular.

Terminology in Social and Preventive Medicine - Public Health, published in this dictionary on 710 pages and with about 1500 subsequent terms in alphabetical order, is a complex material, with broad spectrum of terms that don't strictly belong just to Social and Preventive Medicine (Public Health).

According to the established template, each term is first given in Macedonian in the title, and in some cases an alternative or its (possible) translation into Macedonian if it is of foreign origin. Then comes it's brief definition and further explanation and comments about the

meaning and practice in Macedonian which may be shorter or more extensive, depending on the complexity and the semantic scope of the term. Finally comes the overview of the equivalents of the given Macedonian term in the four official world languages: Russian (ru), English (en), French (fr) and German (de).

It should be pointed out that any summary about the contents would be incomplete and insufficient since Social Medicine is a "bridge" between clinical medicine (medical practice) and medicine in general, on the one hand, and society, sociology and all other sciences, which study the social dimensions of diseases and health, on the other hand. The beauty of Social Medicine is in its multidisciplinary, its wide spectrum of interest and field of action in terms of promotion of health and all factors affecting it, which may endanger it and lead to disorder and disease, as well as various aspects of development, education, human rights and freedoms, personal security and peace, science and scientific communication in biomedicine, the lifestyle and quality of the human life in general.

Most of the terms covered are from the narrow areas and sub-disciplines of Social Medicine: health system organization and management of health care, health promotion and health education, health economics and health insurance, health statistics and informatics, health and social legislation, health and social protection of specific population groups, determinants of health and the most important environmental (physical, biological and social) factors that act on physical and mental health, measuring and assessing the health status of the population, planning and programming the development of health care, emergency health care and disaster relief, health policy and intersectoral collaboration of the health sector with other social sectors for protection and promotion of health, creating favorable living and working conditions and preserving the workplace conditions and the environment in general, promoting the educational and cultural level of the population, improving housing, transport, economic standards and living conditions in general, as well as the history and philosophy of medicine.

Also, the terms from other basic Public Health sciences are included: epidemiology, hygiene and health ecology, occupational medicine and occupational pathology, and other activities more closely related to public health and primary care.

Some of the terms covered, with a social-medical approach for the meaning explanation, are in the narrower domain of clinical and other disciplines and subdisciplines in medicine, biomedicine and related fields (internal medicine and clinical propedeutics, pediatrics and neonatology, infectology, gynecology and obstetrics, immunology, oncology, genetics, dentistry and pharmacy, special education and rehabilitation, biology, etc.), but also terms from social and other sciences (sociology, psychology, social anthropology, law, philosophy, demography, ethics, behavioral sciences and others).

Some of the terms refer to international cooperation in the field of health and health care, international health regulation and UN conventions and other international treaties, strategies and policies of WHO and other international organizations, as well as public health practice and positive experiences in other countries in Europe and

the world that can be accepted, adapted and applied in the R.N. Macedonia.

With a socio-medical approach and health context in tackling the complex phenomena of the disease and the determinants of health, there are also included some other public health issues and challenges in the most general sense of relatedness to health as a state of physical, mental and social wellbeing as defined in the Statute of the WHO, adopted at its founding on 7.04.1948.

Terminology is a dynamic and lively, practically endless matter that constantly requires renewal and supplementation. The idea that "the beauty has no limits and perfection is unreachable, as is the horizon, but when we tend to perfection we are broadening our horizons" entirely fits to the activities and products in the field of terminology. Any constructive remarks and suggestions are welcomed in this regard, for upgrading and improving the quality of the publication in its subsequent editions. The book with definitions and comments of the terms in Macedonian might be useful, first of all, for public health and other health professionals, as well as for students at all levels and other experts within and beyond the health system. The book might be helpful in any country in Europe and broader having the lists with equivalents of terms in RUS, EN, FR and GER, for easy to find the term someone is interested in and to catch the meaning by translation of the scanned text with definition and comments from Macedonian into English (or any other language) by use of the "Google Translate" tool.

The new series of Macro-project "Macedonian Scientific and Professional Terminology" will continue with publication of terminological material in the form of special printed dictionaries and an electronic edition of the bulletins and terminology dictionaries in the form of a digital dictionary available on the Internet.

Copies of this publication, in addition to libraries, will also be distributed to relevant educational and scientific institutions in R.N. Macedonia, SEE countries and broader. Some of the samples will be available for purchase at the MASA Bookstore in Skopje.

Sarajevo, February 15th, 2020

Prof. Izet Masic, MD, PhD