

Children's injuries in the Republic of Belarus: morbidity and mortality

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Morbidity and mortality in childhood (0-17 years) due to "trauma, poisoning ... external causes" reflect the degree of social well-being of society. Prevention of injuries is an interdepartmental problem; the prevention of mortality also includes the efficiency and quality of medical care (MC) for the affected. The analysis of primary morbidity (PM) of children ("injury" class) for the period 2010-2016 in Belarus revealed that the PM varied from 7817.0⁰/₀₀₀₀ to 8626.2⁰/₀₀₀₀ with a slight downward trend. Such the dynamics of PM was accompanied by a significant decrease (2.4 times) of mortality (2010 - 20.2⁰/₀₀₀₀, 2016 - 8.4⁰/₀₀₀₀). Analysis of the causes of deaths (by types and circumstances of injury) showed that a significant decrease was noted with motor vehicle accidents; mechanical strangulation; with the impact of electric current and caused by fire. A significant problem remains the causes of "accidental falls", "drowning", poisoning. Lethal injuries are more likely to be domestic and out of doors. The positive dynamics of mortality was influenced by the Decree of the President No18 "On Additional Measures to Protect Children in Distressed Families" (2006), the use of child restraints in cars, the study of traffic rules in schools, the implementation of the Plan of Measures for the Prevention of Child Injuries in the Republic of Belarus for 2014-2018, prepared with the support of UNICEF (coordinator of the Ministry of Health, executors - administrative and executive institutions, etc.). It contains 5 sections devoted to organizational issues; scientific-methodical and personnel support, including training of medical personnel and issues of improving the provision of medical care (special attention is paid to emergency, emergency care for injuries, continuity, pre-hospital life support, specialized MC); prevention of child injuries; information support; formation of public opinion. This work requires methodical implementation and improvement in order to minimize injuries and their adverse consequences.