CHILDREN'S PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

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Purpose: To present the structure of children's psychiatric services of the Republic of Belarus.

Materials and methods: Data of statistical reports of work of the specialists of child and adolescent mental health services of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Belarus.

Results: The child population of the Republic of Belarus was 1,852,224 persons in 2017. The primary incidence rate of mental disorders in the child population was 15,904 persons (858.6 per 100 thousand children). Overall incidence was 72,877 persons (3,934.66 per 100 thousand children). The structure of the incidence of mental disorders in children is described as follows: 78% - non-psychotic and behavioral disorders; 17% - intellectual disability; 5% - psychotic disorders, including autism spectrum disorders.

657 children (3.53 per 10 thousand children) were recognized as disabled due to mental illness for the first time in 2017. The overall disability rate was 27.7 per 10 thousand children (5,321 persons). The structure of disability has not changed significantly over the years: intellectual disability – 55%, autism – 31.8%, organic disorders – 12%, schizophrenia – 1.2%.

Children's psychiatric services are as follows. In-patient departments – 9 (345 24-hour beds). All of them are located in large cities. Day-care departments – 8 (225 beds). Children's psychotherapeutic offices – 26 (21 – in cities, 5 – in regional centers). Children's psychological offices – 34 (29 – in cities, 5 – in regional centers).

82 specialists have been working as children's ambulatory psychiatrists-narcologists.

There are around-the-clock helplines in each regional center of the Republic of Belarus.

Conclusion: The structure and staffing of children's psychiatric services of the Republic of Belarus allow to provide sufficiently effective care in assisting the child population.