

ROLE OF NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS IN CONTAINMENT OF BACTERIAL RESISTANCE THROUGH EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY IN ANTIMICROBIAL CHEMOTHERAPY

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Introduction

Scientific non-profit organization's (NPO) activity in Russia is not well studied to make any serious conclusions. Leaders and active collaborators of such organizations understand there is a need for special managerial knowledge and skills to make their work more effective. Therefore experience of successfully functioning under complex Russian conditions organizations should be studied and propagated.

IACMAC is a non-profit organization devoted to the promotion of research and education in the fields of clinical microbiology and antimicrobial chemotherapy. It was founded in 1997 though collaborative links among clinicians and microbiologists from different Russian regions were established earlier when first multi-center surveillance programs were carried out.



IACMAC is affiliated to the International Society of Chemotherapy (ISC) since 1997, Federation of the European Societies for Chemotherapy and for Infection (FESCI) since 1997 and The Federation of European Microbiological Societies (FEMS) since 2001, works in collaboration with WHO, the Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics (APUA), the European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID), the American Society for Microbiology (ASM), the European Commission, the United States Agency of International Development (USAID), US Pharmacopoeia (USP).

IACMAC organizes nation wide surveillance programs (RosNet) for monitoring of antibacterial resistance. IACMAC publishes methodical literature and provides various types of educational support for its members. The journal «Clinical Microbiology and Antimicrobial Chemotherapy» is published quarterly and is distributed free of charge among the members, medical institutions and university libraries.



Educational programs based on evidence-based medicine and social marketing concepts are quite effective tools in combating antimicrobial resistance threat. IACMAC currently includes 1,897 representatives in 33 Russian regions. For the five year period in collaboration with APUA, ESCMID, FESCI, and ISC IACMAC organized 47 conferences, 15 workshops and 6 international conferences with involvement of 63

leading world specialists and over 17.000 participants. Informational portal <http://www.antibiotic.ru> was created counting now over 10 millions hits and holds top 20 position among 1,519 medical resources in Russia.



With the support of USAID and USP 55,000 copies of two editions «A Guide on Anti-infective Chemotherapy» were published and distributed free of charge in Russia. Now, 15,000 copies of «A Guide to Infection Control in the Hospital», and official publication of International Society for Infectious Diseases (ISID) are distributed in the same matter.

Thus, IACMAC forms necessary public awareness about resistance among professionals and non-medical opinion leaders, develops national policies in the field. IACMAC is accomplishing its day-to-day activity on basis of social marketing concept, use of contemporary management principles, implementation of information technologies.

An important event of VI International IACMAC conference at 30 May 2003 was the round-table discussion on the international recommendations «Antibiotic Policy in Surgery. 2003».



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The VII International IACMAC Conference will be held in the summer of 2005 in Moscow, Russia. The Conference will be jointly organized by ESCMID.

Innovative way of development, selected by all civilized societies restricts significantly state impact on science policy implementation. Today, role of state is partly being occupied by industry and nonprofits. In contrast to state, scientific NPOs are mobile and easily managed institutions, which quickly conform to changing conditions. Powerful NPO is one of the key parts of a civil society. Scientific NPOs fit best for investigations required by the community. It is the most effective way of collaboration between science and society. Mechanisms of public science funding are much easier and less bureaucratic than state funding, which is visually demonstrated by IACMAC.

