MULTI-CENTER MICROBIOLOGICAL TRIALS BASED ON NON-PROFIT MEMBERSHIP FRAMEWORK

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Abstract

Antimicrobial resistance monitoring conducted by the Interregional Association for Clinical Microbiology and Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (IACMAC) in Russia since 1997 with active support of theirs members (1,897 members from 33 regions) has following advantages in comparison with similar activities of private or state research organizations.

The level of members-researchers motivation is significantly higher than simply interested motives. Information flow during study based on stable contacts among between members and leadership of organization, established as result of joint scientific and educational actions and internet-portal www.antibiotic.ru functioning; Trustworthiness and authority of data acquired is strengthen by IACMAC public recognition, evidence-based and social marketing principles basement. IACMAC dependence on separate pharmaceutical industry sponsors is minimal, but the level of collaboration and mutual confidence with international societies like APUA, ISC, ESCMID, FESCI is uppermost.

Introduction and Purpose

The search of most appropriate form of organization for providing monitoring of antibiotic resistance in huge area like Russia was a big problem for leading professionals during recent years.

Antibacterial resistance data in Russia are disembodied, they are often obtained with methodological deviations what makes them unreliable. Government organizations do not place high emphasis on in-depth study of antibiotic resistance in Russia because of inadequate financial resources. There are three main types of organizations: governmental, private (for-profit) and non-profit (NPO).

The main purpose of this study is to choose the optimal organization structure, which will produce the most trust-worthy results, and will encourage the voluntary participation of a majority of professionals.

Methods

An analysis of civil and tax legislation of Russia and USA, publications regarding economy of science and UNESCO statistic data regarding structure of science financing was conducted. The activities of leading organizations in clinical microbiology, antimicrobial therapy, and prudent use of antibiotic were also studied.

Results

Non-profit social organizations are one of the primary components of civil society in USA. Competition in social services is maintained on base of NPOs. Association of scholars and professionals as non-profits are examples of self-organization in scientific society. Non-profits do not depend on government; have easy-understanding management, transparent activity, and public responsibility. Scientists, pharmaceutical industry and government in USA support NPO activity in various ways. In Russia appropriate law basis already exists for the formation of NPOs. Format of professional's collaboration in NPO activities varies from spending time for conference participation, internet-site visiting, to research projects participation as volunteers or partial paid staff. Despite the short term of existing appropriate conditions, successful stories of NPO's activity demonstrate their advantages over private and governmental organizations acting in this area.

MAKMAX IACMAC

IACMAC, working since 1997, is an example of successful activity. RosNet - is one of the main fields of activity of . It is the national network for monitoring of antibiotic resistance of both community-acquired and nosocomial infections in Russia. In fact, the first multicenter microbiological studies that laid the foundation for collaboration of the clinical microbiologists in different regions of Russia were performed long before the organization of IACMAC.

The list of conducted and on-going multicentrer microbiological studies includes:

EQA 2002 - In 2002 IACMAC continued EQA IACMAC program

Armid-2000 - Antibiotic resistance in urinary tract pathogens in children

ARGON - investigation of the antimicrobial resistance in *N.gonorrhoeae*

CRoChA ("Baby") - study of the nasopharyngeal carriage of the *S.pneumoniae* and *H.influenzae* in healthy children attending day care centers

EQA 1998 - WHO/CDC/IACMAC External Quality Assurance Program

NPRS - Nosocomial Gram-negative pathogens Prevalence and Resistance Survey in intensive care units (ICUs)

PeGAS - antibiotic resistance surveillance of the main pathogens causing upper respiratory tract infections (*S.pneumoniae, H.influenzae, S.pyogenes*)

StEnt - study of the antibiotic resistance in gram-positive bacteria: *S.aureus* and *Enterococcus spp.*

UTIAP - antimicrobial susceptibility study of the uncomplicated acute urinary tract infection pathogens

ARIMB - Multicentre prospective epidemiologic research of antibiotic resistance in urinary tract infection pathogens in pregnancy.

RESORT - multicenter prospective microbiological study of antibiotic Resistance of bacterial nosocomial pathogens in the Departments of Reanimation and Intensive Care Unit in Russia.

Conclusions

Non-profit organization based on wide net of affiliated societies in Russia is most optimal structure for realization of multicenter microbiological trials and for dissemination contemporary evident-based knowledge and quality control standards among doctors.