Abstract

Problem statement: The medicines situation in Russia changed dramatically since early 90th. The number of registered medicines kept increasing with every year. According to the Federal health-surveillance structure – Roszdravnadzor – 19 pharmaceutical issues has dramatically increased: Governmental funds have been allocated and governmental initiatives have been taken. However, the question if these investments have contributed to health and longevity remains unanswered. Paradoxically in the situation of the global financial crisis the medicine prices in Russia kept growing exceeding all highest world prices making out of pocket payments of Russian citizen and state medicines expenditures unprecedentedly high. The latest update of the Russian Essential Medicines list aimed to tackle this medicine pricing disaster in the country and to regulate prices for essential medicines.

Setting: The study was conducted at the national and provincial level, primary sector.

Outcome measures: We analyzed inclusions in numbers on the lists as compared to the WHO EML 2010. We calculated numbers effective on the territory of the Republic of Tatarstan (RT) in 2009 and compared these lists with the WHO EML 2010.

Conclusions: Development of national pharmaceutical policy was urgently needed with adoption of WHO Essential Medicines Concept as the core component of health reform.

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Postscript: These results were presented at the conference Qualitatively for quality of use of medicines – QQUIM, 15-16 October 2010 and published in the Conference proceedings, which were forwarded to the international conference of the number of health and social problems.

Objective/Study question

This research aimed to identify problems with development and functioning of medicines lists in Tatarstan.

Methods

We used Microsoft Access for comparisons of databases of lists. We calculated portions (percentages) of coincidences and discrepancies. We performed quality analysis of discrepancies according to WHO Essential Medicines Concept.

Results

Comparison of positive medicines lists effective on the territory of the Republic of Tatarstan (RT) in 2009 and the WHO EML 2010.

Conclusions

Policy implications

• WHO Essential Medicines Lists have been successfully used in the health system of the Republic of Tatarsistan as a model instrument since 1999.
• The number comparison revealed discrepancies between the lists which require urgent development of national pharmaceutical policy based on the WHO Essential Medicines Concept.
• The content discrepancies are uniform through the positive lists effective in the Republic of Tatarstan with the Russian supplementary medicines list (RSM) being the most problematic and reflect the vulnerability to pharmaceutical promotion.
• Policy recommendations for the health system of the Republic of Tatarstan include revision of the Tatarstan supplementary medicines list (RSM) and the formulary list (TFL) on the basis of the WHO EML with fast-track deletion of medicines not meeting the WHO essentiality criteria, further development of selection process according to the WHO model, and introduction of state pharmaceutical control.