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## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

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### **EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION OF POLIO IN UKRAINE AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES**

Polio – an acute viral disease characterized by affection of the nervous system (mainly gray matter of the spinal cord) and the development of inflammation in the intestinal mucosa and oropharynx.

The virus is so stable that it stays alive in foods especially vegetables and milk, sewage and faeces for months.

The first signs of polio are: fever, headache and diarrhea. Polio is expressed in flaccid paralysis, decreased muscle tone in the lower extremities. Complications can cause deadly breathing problems.

Mild forms of polio without CNS involvement, are left unnoticed. Due to the vaccination program the disease runs in easy inapparent and abortive forms. Paralytic forms occur only in unvaccinated people.

There is an epidemic situation of polio in the world according to the WHO.

Over the past 4 years the Ministry of Health of Ukraine for final Commission assessment of cases of acute flaccid paralysis cases found four vaccine-associated poliomyelitis (2012 – 2, 2013 – 0, 2014 – 1, 2015 – 1). Since the beginning of 2015 as of July 15 in the world registered only 33 cases of polio in endemic countries with the disease: Pakistan – and Afghanistan 28 – 5. For the same period last year there were 122 cases.

Ukraine in June 2002 has been certified as part of the European Region as polio-free country. This status was achieved through vaccination coverage against polio over 95% of the population. But today, Ukraine – the only European country that recently was listed Independent Monitoring Office of the Global Initiative to combat polio in the list of 13 «red» countries that are at high risk of polio outbreaks. The reason – low coverage of children's contingents planned immunization against polio that was in 2009 – 80.6%, 2010 – 57.3%, 2011 – 54.3%, 2012 – 73.7 %, 2013 – 72.0%, in 2014 – 44.7%, for 7 months of 2015 – 17.4%.

As on 08.25.2015, the country had detected 90 cases of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP), the incidence rate per 100,000 children under 15 years is 1.34.

Of the total registered AFP identified 27 (30%) of «hot cases» of children who have no preventive vaccinations according to the immunization schedule.

During the monitoring, circulation and other enteroviruses polio- in humans and in the environment in the first half of 2015 patients with AFP were found 7 polioviruses, of which 2 strains belong to the type 1 and 5 strains – the type 2.

In Ukraine launched unscheduled vaccination against polio, which will be held in three rounds. What insists the Ministry of Health of Ukraine?

In the first two rounds of vaccinations should make all children from two months to six years, and in the third round – from two months to ten years. Thus, unscheduled vaccination should cover all children born in the period 2005-2015 years. Whether they had received vaccinations for polio or not.

The first promise to make kids vaccinated with inactivated vaccine IPV, and the second and third – live OPV vaccine at intervals of not more than two weeks. Management believes that the Ministry of Health, which actively promotes unscheduled vaccination two weeks – term, it is sufficient to have children vypratsyuvavsya immunity.

It is known that no cure for polio. The treatment is only symptomatic.

For prevention it is recommended to wash products and wash hands before meal. It is also desirable to avoid swimming in dirty water, because water can be accidentally swallowed.

The best prevention of poliomyelitis are routine vaccination and revaccination of children according the national vaccination schedule. Patients with suspected polio have to be isolated immediately, disinfection is conducted in the premises, the persons who had a contact with patient are to be surveyed and immunized with oral polio vaccine (OPV).

Faced with the problem in Ukraine nowadays, humanity needs to understand what a polio means.

Therefore, you can prevent this problem by vaccination against this terrible disease. Due to low vaccination coverage against polio in 2015, preventive and anti-epidemic measures for polio require strengthening.

Poliomyelitis – is a very big problem, but it must be fought.

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