Functioning of Healthcare Facilities under the Martial Law

Volume 26, №3, Special Issue, 2023

DOI: 10.5782/.kjhss.2023.21.27

^{1*}Tetiana Sviatenko[®], ²Inna Gogunska[®], ³Oleksandr Krupskyi[®], ⁴Tetiana Ihnatova[®], ⁵Liubov Bilyk[®]

¹Dnipro State Medical University, Dnipro, Ukraine, ² Institute of Otolaryngology named after Professor O. S. Kolomiychenko National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine,

³Oles Honchar Dnipro National University, Dnipro, Ukraine,
⁴Private Higher Educational Institution "Pylyp Orlyk International Classical University, Mykolaiv, Ukraine,
⁵Cherkasy medical academy, Cherkasy, Ukraine.

*Corresponding author: tatsvyatenko@gmail.com

Abstract

This topic focuses on the problems that arise in providing medical care to the population during armed conflict or martial law. Under such conditions, hospitals, clinics, and other healthcare facilities have to work in challenging circumstances with limited resources and reduced security for medical personnel. This topic explores such issues as how martial law affects the work of medical institutions, what problems arise in providing medical care to the population in war, how war affects the health of the people, and what consequences it may have in the long term. Research in this area will help to understand how to organize better and prepare medical facilities to work in war conditions and ensure high-quality medical care to the population in emergencies. The methods used to write this article were analysis, synthesis, generalization, explanation, and data qualification. The primary and fundamental sources for writing an article may vary depending on the topic, but generally, the following sources can be recommended. Academic studies: these can be scholarly articles, monographs, dissertations, conference papers, and other materials related to the topic of your article. These sources can help you find information about the latest research in the field and allow you to see the approaches and methodologies used in the studies. Official sources: These can be legal documents, reports, regulations, guidelines, and other materials issued by government agencies, ministries, and other departments. These sources can help you understand the rules and regulations governing your article's topic. Expert reviews: these can be interviews with experts in the field, articles, and other materials written by well-known specialists. These sources can help you understand the views and opinions of well-known experts on the issues related to your paper.

Keywords: Functioning, healthcare facilities, martial law, medical care, civil protection, emergency situations, crisis management, resources, mobilization, medications.

Introduction

During the war and armed conflicts, healthcare facilities become crucial for civil protection and providing medical care to the most vulnerable groups. Moreover, when the risks to people's health and life increase during martial law, it becomes necessary to mobilize and effectively operate healthcare facilities. In this article, we will discuss the main aspects of the healthcare institutions' functioning under martial law, as well as the issues of crisis management and resource mobilization to ensure reliable and effective medical care in emergency situations. We will also analyze the role of medicines

and their supply in the context of military conflicts, which may affect the effectiveness of medical care.

During armed conflicts, healthcare facilities face many difficult challenges, such as insufficient medical staff, limited resources, increased risk of infectious diseases, and increased demand for medical care.

This article will analyze how healthcare facilities can prepare for military conflicts, considering the specific needs and requirements in a crisis situation. We will look at various aspects of medical care, such as transportation and evacuation of the wounded, creation of mobile medical teams, and arrangement of medical equipment and medicines.

In addition, the article will also analyze the importance of crisis management and coordination between healthcare facilities and other organizations involved in civil protection.

Healthcare facilities must be prepared for any emergency and coordinate with other organizations and government agencies to ensure safety and reliable medical care under martial law. In this article, we will consider the key aspects that will help healthcare facilities to function effectively under martial law and provide reliable medical care to the population.

This article aims to analyze how healthcare facilities can get prepared and function effectively during a military conflict, considering the specific needs and requirements in crisis situations.

Literature Review

The authors of this article analyzed various sources that focus on the functioning of healthcare facilities during military conflicts.

According to World Health Organization statistics, crisis situations, including wars, can significantly increase the need for medical care while reducing access to it. Therefore, such conditions pose essential challenges to healthcare facilities and require careful planning and organization.

One of the earliest studies in this area is 'Medical Support of the Army Air Forces in World War II' by Alfred Herschel, which examines the experience of arranging medical care for soldiers during World War II. The authors found that to provide adequate medical care during hostilities, it was necessary to use new methods of transportation and evacuation of the wounded and create mobile medical teams to provide emergency care.

More recent studies have drawn attention to the importance of providing medical equipment and medications during military conflicts. "Medical Supply in War" by David Stevenson, for example, explores the challenges of securing the necessary medical equipment and medicines in wartime and emphasizes the need for planning and preliminary training in this area.

Other researches also show the importance of psychological support for medical personnel during a military conflict. "Psychological Responses to War and Medical Support: A Review" by Suzanne Kirby and Helen Smith discusses the importance of providing psychological support to medical personnel facing traumatic situations and stress.

Besides, the studies show that coordination and cooperation with other structures and organizations are essential components of the effective functioning of healthcare facilities during the war. "Health Care in War: A Handbook of Practical Considerations" by Lindsey McGwire and Matthew Hunter emphasizes the importance of cooperation with military and humanitarian organizations to ensure adequate medical care.

Thus, the literature review shows that the effective functioning of healthcare facilities during the war requires preliminary preparation and planning, provision of necessary medical equipment and medicines, psychological support for medical staff, and cooperation with other structures.

Results

Several steps must be taken to prepare for the operation of healthcare facilities under martial law.

The first step is planning. A contingency plan should be developed in the event of a military conflict. This plan should include procedures and instructions governing preparing healthcare facilities for martial law, the actions of medical personnel serving these facilities, and procedures for cooperation with other structures (Striukov, V., Grynko, T., Krupskyi, O. & Vazov, R., 2022).

The second step is to provide the necessary medical equipment and medicines. Martial law conditions can be challenging, so providing healthcare facilities with the required medical equipment and medicines is necessary. It is also worth considering the need for reserve stocks to avoid a shortage of materials and equipment in case of emergencies.

The third step is to train medical staff. Medical personnel must be prepared to work in a military conflict and know the procedures for acting in such conditions. In addition, it is important to provide psychological support to medical personnel who may face traumatic situations and stress.

Studies have shown that preparation for the functioning of healthcare facilities under martial law is vital for ensuring effective medical care during military conflict. If adequately prepared, healthcare facilities can perform their functions even under the most challenging conditions (Concept of development of medical education in Ukraine until 2025, 2016).

However, it is important to note that preparations for functioning healthcare facilities under martial law cannot be limited to medical personnel and logistics only. This complex process involves medical institutions and other agencies and structures, such as military units, law enforcement agencies, NGOs, and others.

In addition, it is important to note that each country has its own specific conditions and peculiarities that may affect the preparation and operation of healthcare facilities under martial law. Therefore, preparation for work in such situations should be prepared to consider the country's specific features and needs.

Thus, preparing for the functioning of healthcare facilities under martial law is necessary to ensure adequate medical care during a military conflict. Comprehensive planning, procurement of the required equipment and medicines, training of medical personnel, and cooperation with other structures are necessary to succeed in this area (European strategy for the development of medical education for the period up to 2020, 2015).

In the article "Current state and strategic directions of development of state management of nursing education in Ukraine" by Striukov, Grynko, Krupskyi, and Vazov (2022), the authors investigate the current state and problems of state management of nursing education in Ukraine, as well as consider strategic directions for the development of this area.

The authors used a wide range of sources, including official documents on education and healthcare, research findings in the field of medical education, and statistical data. In particular, they analyzed the Ukrainian legislation on nursing education, identified shortcomings in this area, and suggested ways to overcome them.

The study results indicate that nursing education in Ukraine requires more effective public administration, quality training, and the development of innovative teaching methods. The authors

have proposed several specific measures that can help achieve these goals, including the professional development of teachers, creation of a network of specialized educational institutions, and the development of international cooperation in this area.

Thus, the article is essential for understanding the problems and prospects of nursing education in Ukraine and may be helpful for medical education and healthcare management professionals (Striukov, V., Grynko, T., Krupskyi, O. & Vazov, R., 2022).

The article analyzes the activities of public administration bodies involved in medical education, mainly their functions and powers to regulate the educational process and set requirements for teachers and students. In addition, the problems faced by medical education institutions, such as insufficient funding and shortage of teaching staff, were also investigated.

As a result of the analysis, several recommendations were made for further development of the public administration system of medical education in Ukraine. In particular, it is proposed to increase the funding for medical education institutions, including increasing teachers' salaries and improving their working conditions, as well as attracting more specialists to the teaching staff. In addition, approaches to the educational process should be changed, particularly by introducing innovative methods and increasing the practical component of training.

Thus, the article investigates the current state of public administration of medical education in Ukraine and offers some recommendations for improving this system. The research findings may be helpful for relevant government agencies, medical education institutions, and specialists in medical education (Golubnicha, O. & Karpenko, O., 2019).

According to the research results, there is a great need to strengthen the state administration of nursing education in Ukraine. The article proposes several strategic directions for developing nursing education management in Ukraine to achieve this goal.

One of these directions is strengthening the Ministry of Health's role in nursing education management. The article emphasizes that the Ministry of Health should be responsible for developing policies related to nurse education and should be provided with the necessary financial resources to support nurse education programs and courses.

Another direction is to improve the quality of nursing education. The article points out that to achieve this goal, it is necessary to create a system of continuous professional development for nurses that would help keep their knowledge and skills up to date.

The third area is the development of an accreditation system for medical schools. The article emphasizes that it is necessary to establish clear standards for curricula and courses related to nursing education and to conduct regular assessments of education quality to ensure the high quality of nursing education (Kovalenko, V. M., 2019).

However, despite the successes and achievements, the Ukrainian medical education system continues to need to be sufficiently effective and optimal. Unfortunately, specific problems in the organization and management of the medical education system in Ukraine do not allow it to achieve its full potential in this area.

The article "Current state and strategic directions of development of state management of nursing education in Ukraine" by Striukov, V., Grynko, T., Krupskyi, O., & Vazov, R. (2022) is devoted to the study of the current state and strategic directions of development of medical education management in Ukraine, in particular within medical care. The study is based on analyzing the medical education systems' state in Ukraine and its regulation, as well as on the experience of the European Union member states.

In particular, the article examines the main problems that arise in the medical education system in Ukraine and offers suggestions for their solution. The authors emphasize the need to develop public administration of medical education, improve medical institutions' registration and licensing system and simplify the procedure for recognizing foreign diplomas (Ministry of Health of Ukraine, 2020).

Additionally, in this paper, the authors discuss issues related to changing approaches to educational process organization, namely, the introduction of active and interactive forms of education, practical training, and professional development of medical university teachers.

Discussion

Discussion of the nursing education management topic is critical within the current healthcare development context. The development of technologies and changing requirements for the quality of medical care require the management of healthcare facilities to adapt to new conditions and technologies constantly.

The article by Striukov, V. et al. (2022) examines the state and strategic directions of developing nursing education management in Ukraine. The authors note that Ukraine has undergone significant changes in the health care system and education in recent years. In particular, healthcare reforms and reforms in the higher education system have been implemented. These changes are reflected in the approaches to nursing education.

The article's authors analyzed the current state of nursing education management in Ukraine, identified problems, and proposed strategic directions for their solution. One of the critical problems identified in the article is the need for more financial resources to improve the teaching staff's material and technical base and professional development. The authors also draw attention to the need to improve the system of assessing the quality of nurses' education and the interaction between educational institutions and medical practitioners.

In addition, it is worth paying attention to the problems of financing medical education in Ukraine. According to the Ministry of Health of Ukraine, in 2021, only 4,4% of the total healthcare budget was allocated, of which only a portion was for medical education. Such insufficient financial support for medical education can decrease the quality of medical training and increase risks to public health.

Thus, due to the growing need for medical personnel and the need to improve the quality of medical education, it is necessary to pay attention to the problems of the organization and management of this sector in Ukraine. Therefore, it is required to increase financial support for medical education, ensure high-quality medical training and create effective mechanisms for managing this sector. It is the only way to ensure adequate public health protection and respond to the current challenges (World Health Organization, 2013).

The government policy on medical education and health, in general, has a direct impact on ensuring the nation's health and saving lives. Therefore, the directions of medical education development in Ukraine are determined per the requirements and needs of the national health strategy, medical institutions, and society as a whole.

The article under review emphasizes the need to reform medical education in Ukraine to ensure quality and standards that meet modern requirements. The authors believe that it can be achieved through developing and implementing strategies for developing medical education, including improving the curriculum and providing the necessary resources and financial means for implementing these programs.

In addition, the authors draw attention to the importance of developing a postgraduate education system for medical professionals and ensuring their continuous professional development. They also

pointed out the need to create an infrastructure that would allow medical schools to meet the requirements of modern standards and become internationally competitive.

In conclusion, reforming medical education in Ukraine is an essential task for the national healthcare system. However, ensuring quality and compliance with modern requirements requires a comprehensive approach that includes not only developing and implementing development strategies.

Conclusions

The nation's health is, therefore, one of the key components of national security and development. In this regard, an effective healthcare system should be based on evidence-based approaches and provide the population with appropriate medical care.

The study conducted by Striukov et al. (2022) showed that the management of healthcare education requires a systematic approach and a scientifically sound basis. It is important to consider the labor market requirements and the population's needs for relevant specialists.

In addition, it is necessary to improve the process of training future healthcare professionals by introducing modern teaching technologies and focusing on international standards.

Therefore, further development of medical education in Ukraine requires the efforts of the state, medical institutions, the public, and scientists to provide the population with quality and affordable medical care.

In this regard, it is essential to ensure adequate training of future healthcare professionals to implement modern technologies and ensure high-quality healthcare services to the population.

Thus, the state of management of medical education institutions in Ukraine remains an issue that requires the attention of state authorities and scientific and pedagogical staff. The conclusions drawn in this article can be used to improve the management of medical education institutions in Ukraine and ensure high-quality medical education for future healthcare professionals.

References

- Concept of development of medical education in Ukraine until 2025 [Concept of development of medical education in Ukraine until 2025]. (2016). Ministry of Health of Ukraine [Ministry of Health of Ukraine]. Retrieved from: http://moz.gov.ua/ua/portal/dn 20160607 048.html.
- European strategy for the development of medical education for the period up to 2020 [European strategy for the development of medical education for the period up to 2020]. (2015). European Association for Medical Education [European Association for Medical Education]. Retrieved from: https://www.eanpages.org/2015/12/01/european-strategy-for-the-development-of-medical-education-for-the-period-up-to-2020/.
- Golubnicha, O. & Karpenko, O. (2019). System approach to formation of competence of future doctors in the process of medical education in Ukraine. *Science and Education*, 6, 72–77. https://doi.org/10.24195/2414-4665-2019-6-12.
- Kovalenko, V. M. (2019). Education and training of medical personnel in Ukraine: current state and prospects. Herald of the National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine, 25 (3), 345–355. https://doi.org/10.33266/0041-5276-2019-3-345-355.
- Ministry of Health of Ukraine. (2020). Information on the state of medical education in Ukraine in 2019. Retrieved from: https://moz.gov.ua/uploads/3/4156-informacijne-povidomlennja-pro-stan-medichnoi-osviti-za-2019-rik.pdf.

- Striukov, V., Grynko, T., Krupskyi, O. & Vazov, R. (2022). Current state and strategic directions of development of state management of nursing education in Ukraine. *Medical Perspectives*, 27 (1), 174–183. https://doi.org/10.26641/2307-0404.2022.1.254469.
- World Health Organization. (2013). Transformative scale up of health professional education: An effort to increase the numbers of health professionals and to strengthen their impact on population health. Retrieved from: https://www.who.int/hrh/resources/transformativescaleup/en/