

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTEGRATED PLAN OF SUICIDAL BEHAVIOR PREVENTION IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS FOR 2009-2012: THE MAIN RESULTS ACHIEVED

S.A. Igumnov

Laboratory of Clinical Epidemiological Research, Republican Research and Practice Center of Mental Health, Minsk, Belarus

Objectives: The Integrated plan (IP) is an interdepartmental document in the implementation of which 25 relevant Ministries, departments, executive authorities and public organizations are involved. The coordinator and responsible executor is the Ministry of Health.

Aim: Of the IP to reduce the level of suicides among the population of the Republic of Belarus.

Methods: The main efforts are focused on the following areas: developing of normative documents regulating the rendering of aid to people in crisis situations; teaching the workers of educational, health and social institutions to identify depressions and suicidal signs at an early stage; implementation of multidisciplinary approach in rendering aid to patients in the crisis conditions; spreading information about the activity of suicide prevention services.

Results: As a result of implementation of the activities of the IP, already in 2010 it was observed that the overall number of suicides committed in Belarus reduced for 9.6% in comparison to 2009. In 2011 the rate of suicides reduced in comparison to 2010: in general population - for 12.3%, from 2478 to 2170 cases, with the relative rate lowering from 26.1 to 22.9 cases per 100.000 of population. The rates are minimal in the last 15 years.

Conclusions: The implementation of the Integrated Plan of suicidal behavior prevention in 2009-2011 allowed to stabilize the suicide situation and to reduce the rates of suicidal activity of the population.