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**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE WORK OF STUDENT
SCIENTIFIC CIRCLES ACCORDING TO A SURVEY
OF STUDENTS OF THE KHARKIV NATIONAL MEDICAL
UNIVERSITY KHARKIV NATIONAL MEDICAL
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Student scientific circles (SSC) are a great platform for attracting students to scientific activities, an opportunity to determine for themselves a direction in which to develop further, stimulation to write scientific papers, as well as to defend their work at scientific conferences [1, c. 206]. The main task of all scientific circles is to interest the student, to show him the range of opportunities in which he can work. After all, the work of the circles does not consist only in boring reading of reports, each department is trying to add its colors and involve them in scientific activities [2, c. 43].

Purpose of the study: to analyze the effectiveness of the SSC based on a survey of students of the Kharkiv National Medical University (KhNMU), in which there is a large number of different scientific circles and limitless opportunities for scientific activities of domestic and foreign students.

As soon as a freshman crosses the threshold of our Alma Mater, the doors of all departments of basic sciences that students study for the first three years open for him. In the first year, of course, every student should attend at least one meeting of the circle at the department of anatomy. Scientific supervisors give the opportunity to dissect, make preparations for the anatomical museum, which is located in the same building. At the Department of Microbiology, exhibitions are held annually, where students present their work – their view of a particular

microorganism. Also, representatives of the scientific circle organize quests in which you can take part if there is a desire for a deeper knowledge of microbiology. Conferences are held at each department in which a student can defend his scientific work and publish it in collections of student works.

For senior SSC courses, this is an excellent opportunity to gain experience in communicating with patients, to practice their practical skills, and to analyze interesting clinical cases.

SSC meetings are held in a variety of formats. After all, the more interesting the new information will be presented, the better it will be remembered. The guys find interesting films on the topic of the circle, make their presentations, the scientific supervisor shares his experience and tells various clinical cases, analyzes clinical problems, together they conduct scientific research, on which they write further works. For example, at the Department of Neurology, a student scientific and abstract conference "Neuronews" is held annually, at which students make presentations on the latest world research achievements in neurosciences, and neurobring "Neurology as a single component of neurosciences" is held annually to encourage student team creativity, with various original contests and quizzes.

Let us highlight, in our opinion, the main tasks of the SSC: 1) to attract the student to scientific activity; 2) increase the level of theoretical and practical knowledge; 3) give the opportunity to show ingenuity, an extraordinary approach to situations; 4) develop clinical thinking; 5) inspire to write scientific papers [3, c. 93; 4, c. 232; 5, c. 118; 6, c. 148].

We conducted a survey among students of KhNMU in order to compile statistics and find out their opinion on the benefits of SSC.

130 students of KhNMU from the first to the sixth year were interviewed. Most of the respondents were first year students – 31.5%, second year students accounted for 33.1%, third – 26.9%, fourth – 6.2%, fifth – 0.8%. sixth – 1.5%,

To the question "Do you attend (did you attend) any student scientific circles at the university?" 63.1% of the respondents gave a negative answer. 20.3% answered that they had attended before, 16.6% attend student scientific circles at the moment.

To answer the question: "Why do students of KhNMU attend circles?" – 5 variants of answers were provided and students could choose two of them at once. The results showed that 36.2% of the

respondents visited SSC for a more in-depth study of the subject, 25.4% – to earn additional points, 23.8% – to write a scientific work, 14.6% – to share experience and knowledge with others, and 20.8% – just for new acquaintances with peers. 36.7% of respondents chose the answer: «I don't go to them or there was no opportunity to visit the SNK». To the question: "How often did you attend meetings of the SSC?" – 32.3% of respondents answered that they attended meetings whenever possible and only 4.6% attended every meeting.

To answer the question: "What type of training in SSC is the most interesting for you?" – 5 variants of answers were provided and students could choose several of them at once. The obtained results showed that 40.8% of students like to practice practical skills, 39.2% – like the analysis of clinical cases, 27.7% – it is interesting to communicate with patients, 15.4% – prefer to watch videos on the topic under study and only 5.4 % of the circle members like to give their reports on the topic of the circle's lesson.

To the question: "Have you ever written scientific papers?" – 47.6% of all surveyed students answered negatively, 26.2% – answered positively, but at the same time they did not attend the SSC, or only visited it once. Of the written student papers, only 42.3% were published as abstracts.

To the question: "Do you continue to attend the SSC when the discipline is over?" – 2/3 of the students answered negatively, and 1/3 replied that they attend SSC even after the end of the discipline.

And the most important question: "Do you think SSC is useful for students?" – 88.4% of all respondents answered «yes» and only 11.6% – «no».

Conclusions. Based on our survey of medical students, we can conclude that student research circles play an important role in university life, despite the fact that, judging by the survey, these events are attended by a small number of students. The SSC helps to develop the clinical thinking of future doctors, replenish the knowledge base with interesting facts, gain experience from the older generation and improve practical skills. In addition, if a student is actively involved in scientific activities, then he receives additional points in the rating, which, as our survey has shown, is also a sustainable motivation for attending circles.

Our research has shown that the most common reason for visiting the SSC is the desire to study the subject in more depth and write

a scientific work. To improve the attendance of the circle meetings, it should be borne in mind that most students prefer to practice practical skills, deal with clinical cases with the teacher and communicate with patients.

The most important task for higher education is the formation of the personality of the future specialist. Proceeding from this, the teachers of the departments of higher educational institutions need to attract more students to scientific activities, more often hold meetings of the circles in an interesting and even creative format, and the students themselves should not be lazy and must definitely allocate time for active participation in the work of the circle.

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