

THE ROLE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES IN THE QUALITY ASSURANCE OF MEDICAL CARE PROVIDED TO CHILDREN IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

S. Morgoci

*REPEMOL - Project "Regionalization of Pediatric Emergency Services
in the Republic of Moldova"*

E-mail: smorgoci@cpss.ro

Development priorities of the health system in the Republic of Moldova are subordinate to the general objective of improving the population's health status and quality of country life in the coming years. A healthy population is a long-term investment in the well-being of the nation. The health system in the Republic of Moldova passed several stages of institutional restructuring, beginning with the implementation of the decentralization of primary health care, restructuring of hospitals and public health services, etc., and ending with the development of specialized institutions of tertiary-level performance.

Ensuring the right of citizens to quality medical services remains to be a priority in the work of all public medical institutions of the Republic of Moldova. The quality of rendered services depends largely on the professional competence of the medical staff but also on the level of endowment with medical equipment.

Quality assurance of medical services provided to children in emergency situations has a major importance in the health care system driven by necessity for immediate intervention in order to allow more chances at survival.

Pediatric Emergency and Intensive Care services were the target of a string of reforms in recent years. Thus, by order of the Minister of health no. 43 in 22.01.2013, regarding the creation of the emergency departments at hospitals in level II and III were covered by the standards of operation of the ED. At the same time, by order of the Minister of health no. 1215 in 29.10.2013 has been regionalized pediatric emergency and intensive care services, through the creation of the 3 health zones to the North, South and Center. In the frame of the Regionalization of pediatric emergency and intensive care project (REPEMOL) funded by the Government of the Swiss Confederation emergency departments and intensive care units in 4 hospitals in level II and III (Department of Pediatrics of the Balti Municipal Hospital, Municipal children Clinical Hospital "V. Ignatenco", Institute of Mother and Child and Cahul Rayon Hospital) have been fully equipped with medical equipment from the best performing (color doppler ultrasound and laboratory equipment) up to the most basic (stretchers and medical furniture).

Pediatric Advances Life Support standards foresee that most of the resuscitation maneuver requires the presence of medical equipment; their absence leads to the impossibility of providing quality health services to children in emergency situations and endangers their lives.

During the year 2013 under the four medical institutions mentioned above a total number of 65 948 children aged 0-18 years requested emergency medical services in Emergency departments. All these children have received emergency medical care, ranging from laboratory examinations until the maneuvers of resuscitation and emergency interventions. For effective management of medical devices in the beneficiary medical institutions of the project biomedical engineering workshops were organized, endowed with tools and instruments for testing and maintenance of medical devices. The responsibility of the WS is the day-to-day maintenance, reparation of medical devices in order to ensure their proper functioning.

In the presence of the health technologies, medical institutions can provide a complete service; this will increase the safety of the patients and last but not least, will assure the quality of medical care.