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SOURCE

Meditsinsky Rabotnik, No 14 (826), 1949.

RURAL FIGHT AGAINST CANCER SHOWS PROGRESS

L. Tsetmarovskiy Valki, Khar'kov Cblast

Medical personnel and farm community inhabitants have been waging a successful fight against cancer. Good progress against this disease has been reported by workers in Valki Rayon, Khar'kov Oblast. In this area the mass examination of women is going into its second year. Sosnovskiv, chiefi.surgeon of the Rayon Hospital, urges that this mass examination to continued throughout the oblast in 1949. He also suggests that many benefits can result from training middle medical personnel to recognize cancer symptoms and give simple treatment. At present, gynecologists and obstetricians from 23 regions are exthering at Valki for an intensive 2-veck course on cancer therapy and prophylaxis.

There is good cooperation between the urban specialists and doctors, and the rural obstetrical and gynecological stations. The former make frequent trips into the country to act as consultants in difficult cases.

The chief difficulty lies in the preparation of rural populations for mass examinations. Nost of the small industries and southouse employ women almost exclusively and they generally cooperate in these programs. Mass examinations of kolkhoz personnel is somewhat more difficult because they are generally more reticent to report for examinations and are unwilling to discuss the subject.

Authorities are endeavoring to avoid resorting to official action to force people to submit to examinations. Several other methods, primarily propagands literature, are being circulated and some good results have been obtained. For example, at Zamis' village the local obstetrician examines the women in their own homes and at the times most convenient for them. Thus, without causing any trouble, she examined 115 women, of whom 22 showed

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ewidence of possible cancer and were sent to a specialist for further observation.

In 1948 a plan in which all women above 35 were required to register. was put into effect. Cards were made out on those who showed pathologic changes. These cards have served to yield considerable data on the disease rate among women. In April, 673 women were examined; three were found to have cancer in the initial stages. In May, 1,346 women were examined and again three cases of initial-stage cancer were discovered. The records for September show that out of 562 women examined, two had cancer. In October, 768 women were examined and one case of cancer was determined. At the same time, women were checked for other disorders. This method proved successful in 1948 and is going to be repeated this year.

The results of methods employed in the Valki area have been so satisfactory, that the Khar kov Institute of Oncology has decided to use this system throughout the oblast.

- BND -