Primary health care reform in Ukraine: priorities and perspectives

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Ukraine

- Population:
  42.7 million (2016),
  52 million (1992)
- GDP-131.8 bn $
- Territory of **603 700 square km**
  (The area of the occupied territories
  of Crimea and Donbas is 47 000 square km)

(Sources: Statistical data of State Statistics Service of Ukraine, 2016; http://joinfo.ua/politic/1073839_InoSMI-sravnili-okkupirovannie-territorii-Ukraini.html)

Health situation in Ukraine

- Total fertility rate per a woman: **1,5**
- Average life expectancy at birth: **71**
- The number of medical facilities: **180 thousands**
- Incidence of tuberculosis (per 100,000 people) – **94**
- Prevalence of HIV, total (% of population ages 15-49) – **1,2**

(Sources: World Development Indicators, http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.DYN.TFRT.IN/countries, Statistical data of State Statistics Service of Ukraine, 2014)

The leading causes of death:

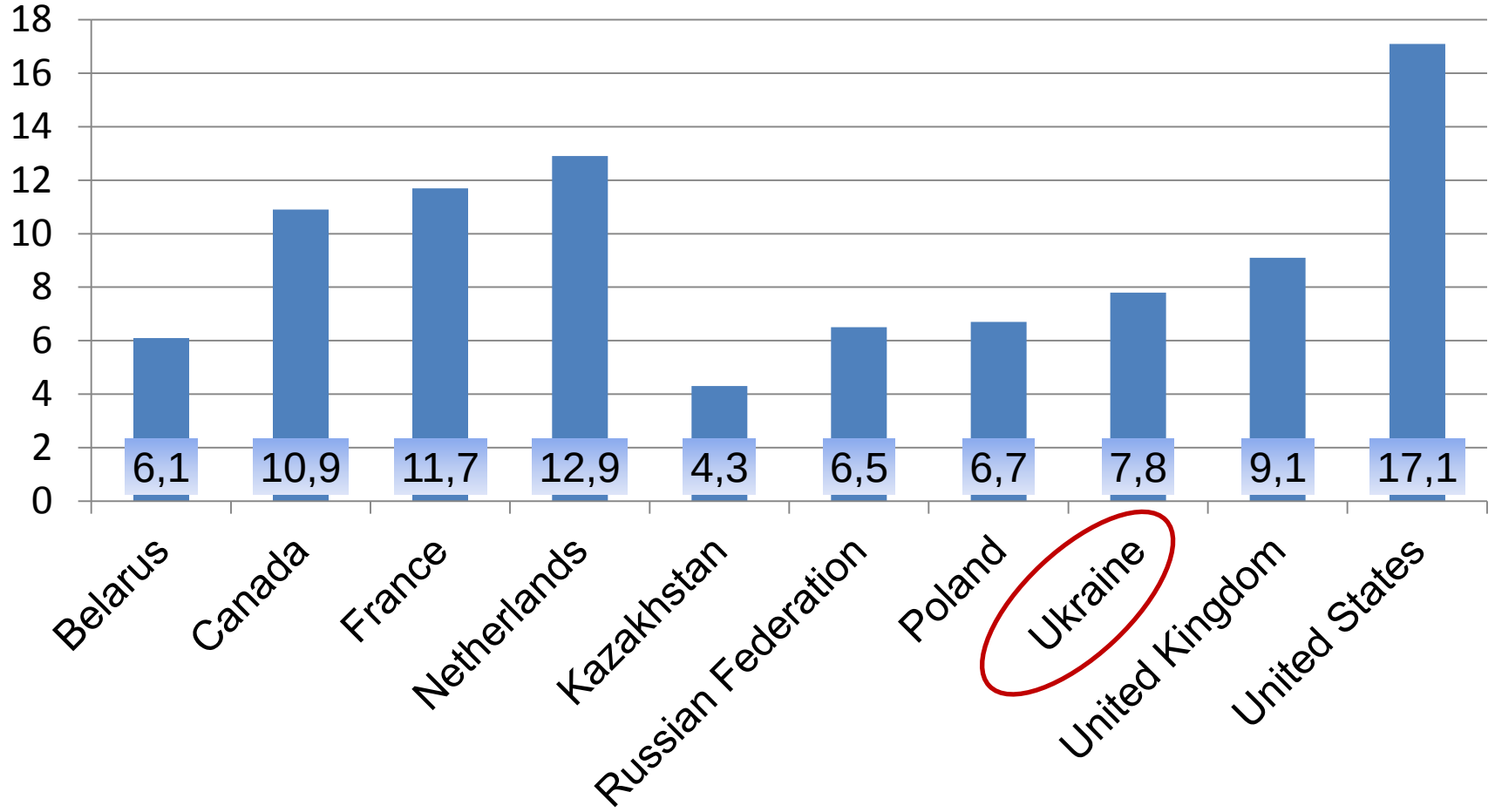
- ✓ Ischemic heart disease (48%)
- ✓ Stroke (17.1%)
- ✓ HIV/AIDS (3%)
- ✓ Cirrhosis of the liver (2.5%)
- ✓ Colon and rectum cancers (1.8%)
- ✓ Self-harm(1.3%)

Burden of disease:

- ✓ Cardiovascular diseases and diabetes
- ✓ Cancers
- ✓ Other NCDs
- ✓ Neuro-psychiatric conditions
- ✓ Unintentional injuries
- ✓ HIV, TB, malaria
- ✓ Musculoskeletal diseases
- ✓ Chronic respiratory diseases
- ✓ Suicide, homicide and conflict
- ✓ Maternal, neonatal, nutritional
- ✓ Acute respiratory infection

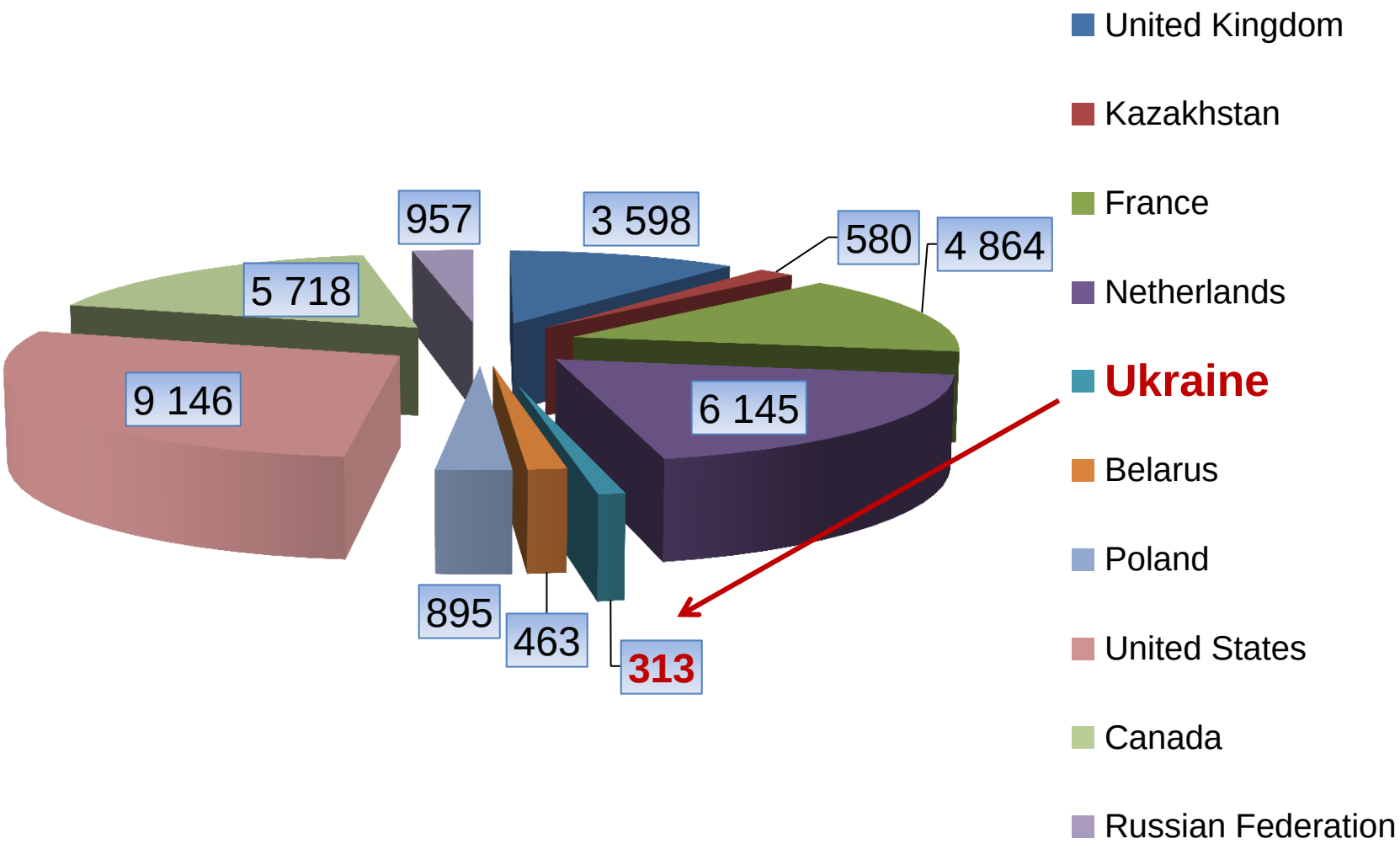
Country statistics and global health estimates by WHO and UN partners
Global Health Observatory (http://who.int/gho/mortality_burden_disease/en/)
Last updated:January,2015

Health expenditure in Ukraine vs. different countries (% of GDP)



(Sources: WHO Global Health Expenditure database, http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.XPD.TOTL.ZS/countries, 2013)

Health expenditure per capita in Ukraine vs. different countries



(Sources: WHO Global Health Expenditure database, http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.XPD.PCAP, 2013)

Problems in health care system

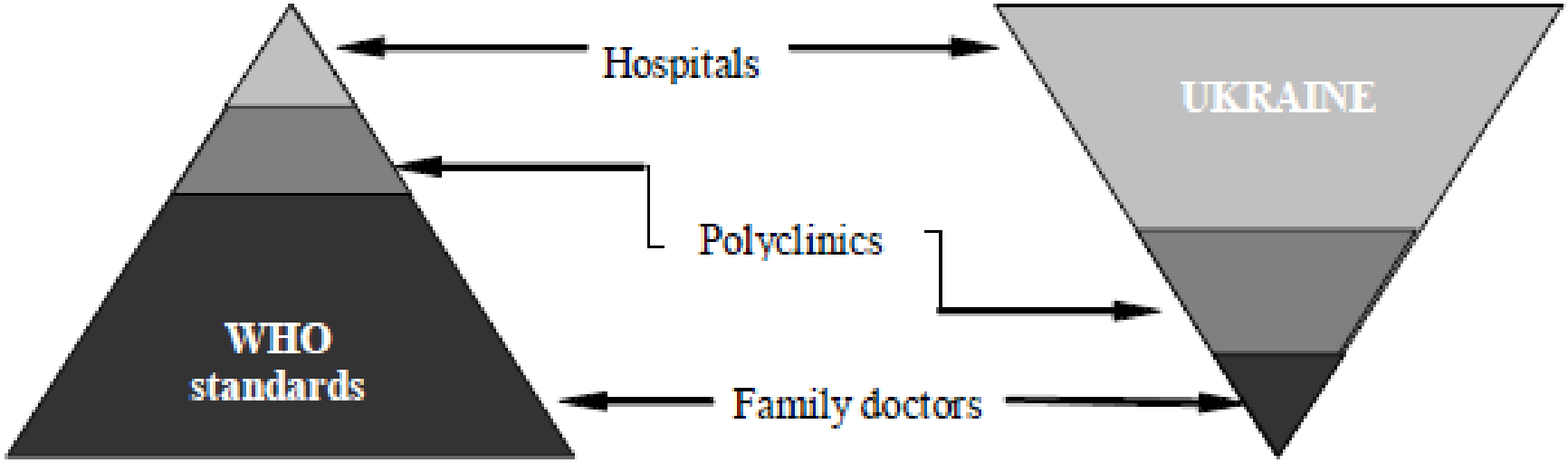
Faced by medical professionals:

1. Low salary
2. Poor financial, technical and diagnostic support
3. Few incentives for professional development
4. Careless attitude of patients towards their health/poor health literacy

Faced by patients:

1. The lack of free quality care
2. No timely quality health care, even in case of “informal payment”
3. Inadequate qualification of medical personnel
4. Careless attitude of medical personnel towards patients

Structure of health care in Ukraine



Family physicians comprise only 7,7%
of total number of physicians.
Health care is predominantly provided by specialized physicians.

Source: Medical Statistics Center under the Ministry of Healthcare of Ukraine

Challenges of primary health care reform in Ukraine

- More care provided by specialized physicians
- Insufficient financing of primary level:

- Insufficient number of young doctors:

Healthcare reform in Ukraine: challenges and facts, http://www.ier.com.ua/files/publications/News/2013/infogr_reform_RT_Oct31_eng.pdf

Challenges of primary health care reform in Ukraine

- Inadequate number of family physicians

- Low wages

Healthcare reform in Ukraine: challenges and facts,
http://www.ier.com.ua/files/publications/News/2013/infogr_reform_RT_Oct31_eng.pdf

Main problems of medical staff provision in health care sector

Only 82.1% physician positions are filled
(73,1% family physicians)

Practicing physicians per 10,000 – 37.4
(family physicians - 3.13)

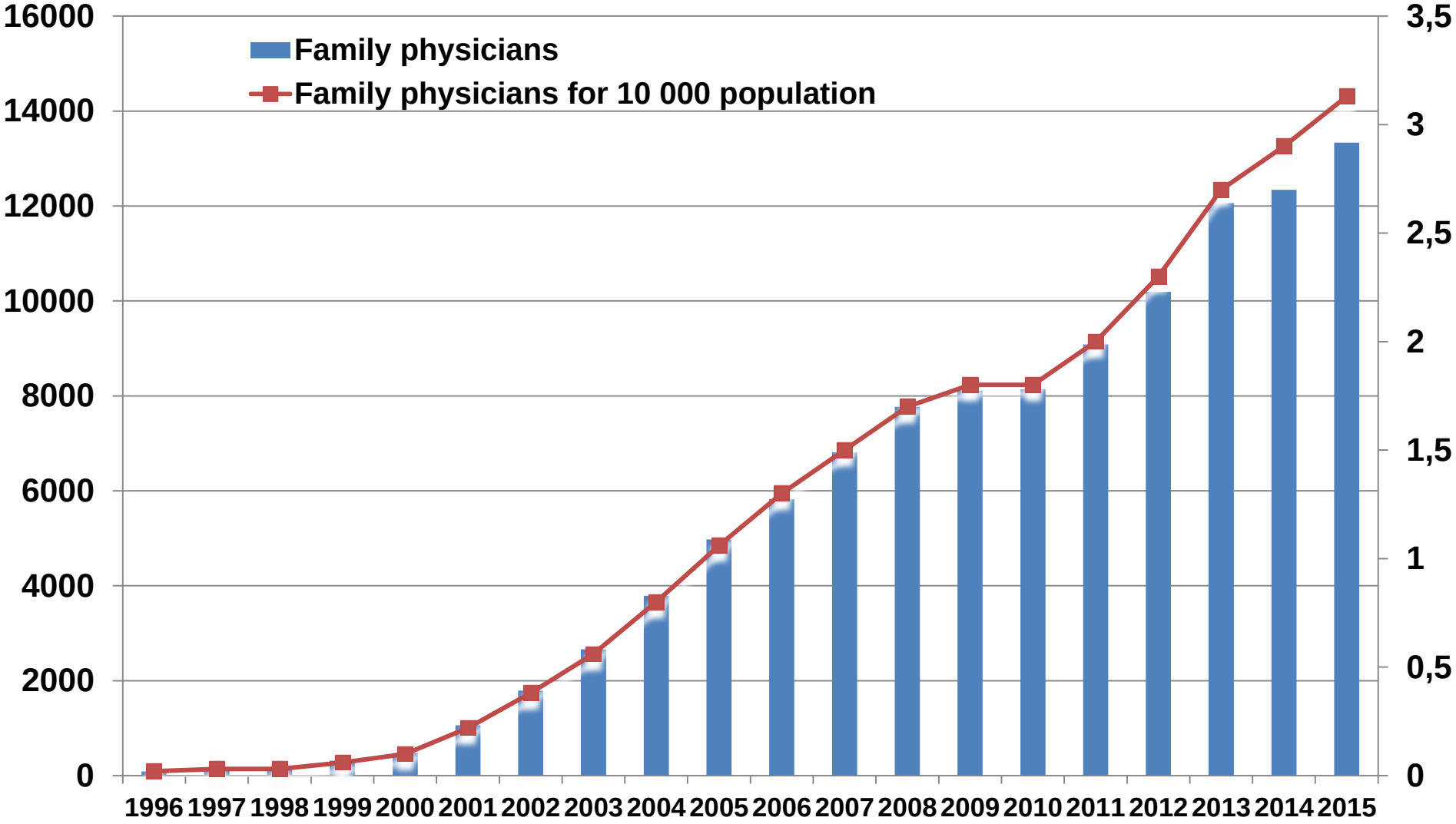
Shortage of physicians is almost 35,000 individuals (~18%)

Physicians of retirement age - 24.3%

Brain drain among young physicians is extremely high and officially unidentified yet

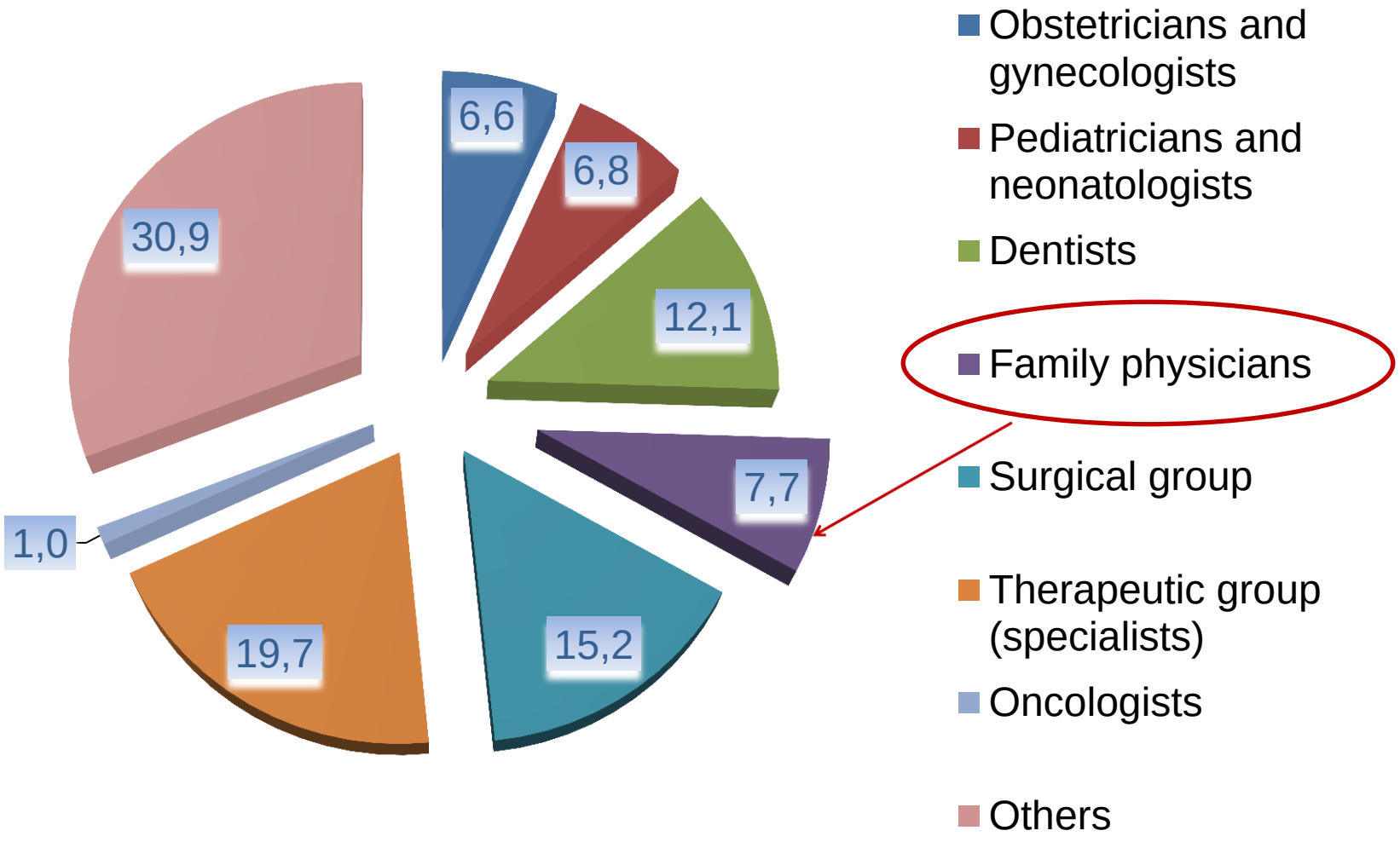
(Sources: Operational information of Ministry of Health of Ukraine, 2014)

The number of family physicians and provision for 10 000 population



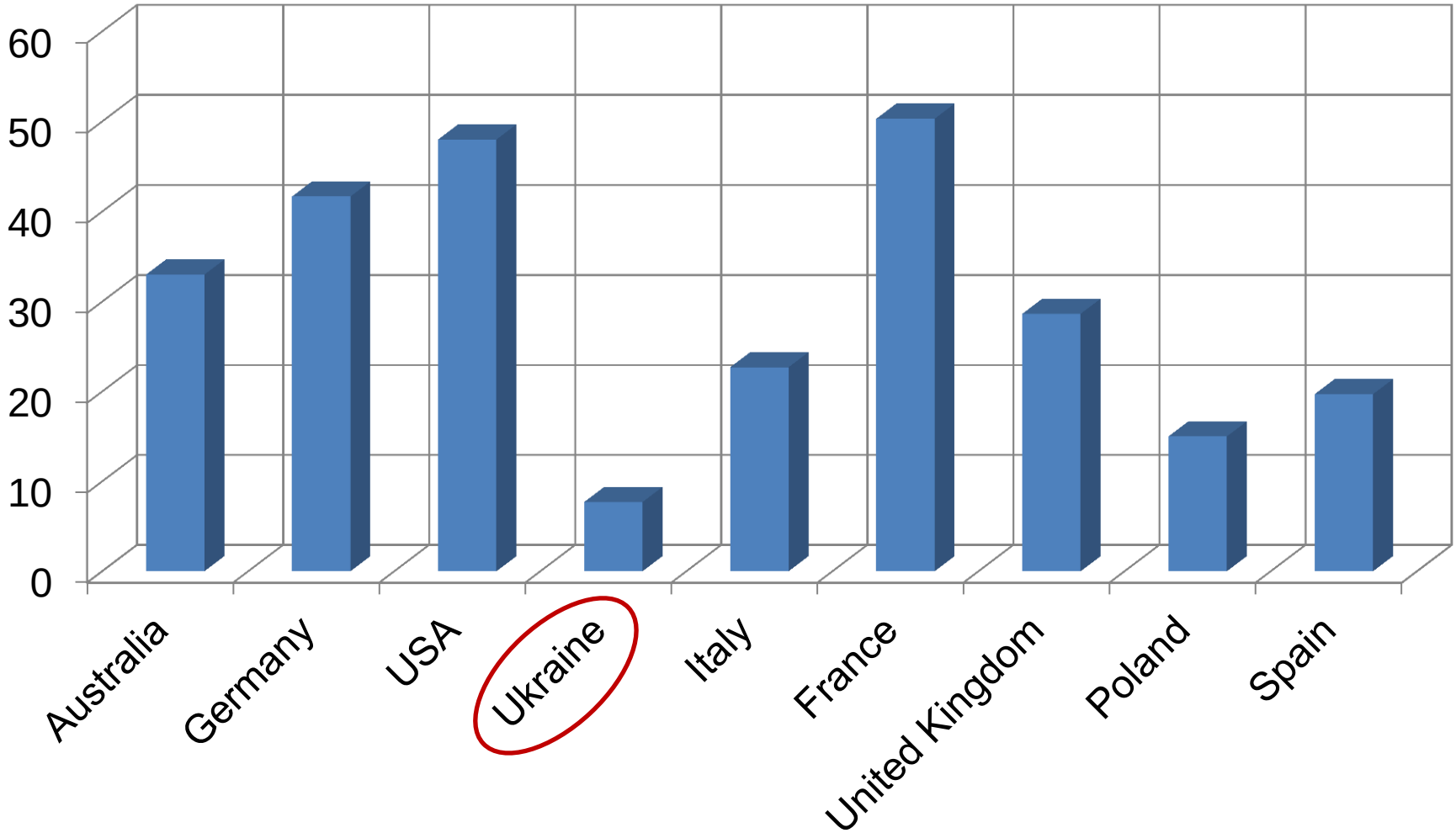
(Sources: Operational information of Ministry of Health of Ukraine, 2015)

Medical staff structure in Ukraine



(Sources: Operational information of Ministry of Health of Ukraine, 2014)

Percentage of family physicians in different countries



http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Healthcare_personnel_statistics_-_physicians,
http://www.aihw.gov.au/workforce/medical/how-many-medical-practitioners/

Medical education in Ukraine

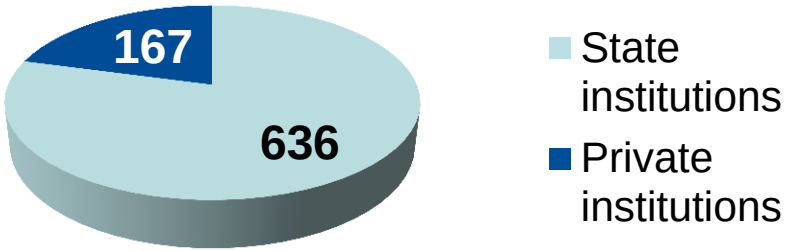
Ukrainian higher education is ranked 41st in world ranking.

Expenditure on higher education – in top 10.

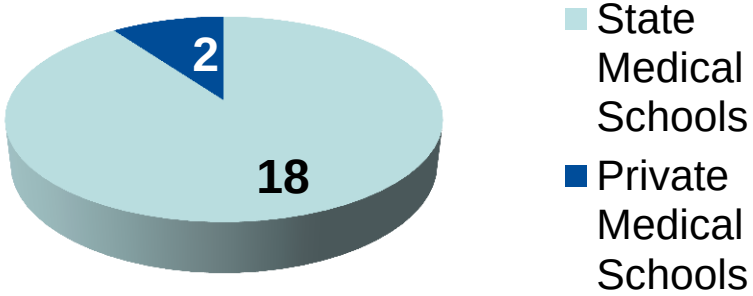
(Source: Universities 21 Ranking of National Higher Education Systems 2015)

U21 Ranking 2015		
Rank	Country	Score
1	United states of America	100.0
2	Switzerland	87.1
3	Denmark	85.3
4	Finland	85.2
5	Sweden	84.7
41	Ukraine	43.8

Educational institutions



Medical Schools



5 Main directions of health care reform in Ukraine

1. System of branch financing
2. Public health
3. Deregulation of pharmaceutical sphere
4. Primary health care
5. Government procurement

(Sources: Data of Ministry of Health of Ukraine, 2016)

Primary health care reform in Ukraine

Requirements of the reforms implementation start:

- Grating the autonomy for family medicine clinics
- Willingness to co-invest in renovation / construction of infrastructure
- Willingness to create favorable conditions to attract good physicians

In 2016:

- ✓ **Development and approval of necessary regulations**
- ✓ **Selection, training and physicians certification**
- ✓ **"New local infrastructure", co-invest in renovation / construction**
- ✓ **Development of new educational programs for under and post-graduate medical education**

Result:

New primary health care in new united community.

(Sources: Data of Ministry of Health of Ukraine, 2016)

Innovations – the key direction in primary health care reform:

1. Providing access of patients to PHC. Family medicine's new model of care with holistic approach, Personal medical home.
2. Use of medical information systems, electronic health record (EHR), online appointments, Web-based patient education, E-visits.
3. Evidence-based medicine.
4. Use of clinical protocols and formulary systems.
5. Health care market research.
6. Development of modern educational training programs with using of innovative teaching approaches.

Harmonization and institutionalization of grant educational activities

Ukrainian Family Medicine Training Center (UFMTC)

- within the EU framework international project “Preventive and Primary Health Care in Ukraine” (TACIS)
- structural subdivision of the Bogomolets National Medical University (under Decree of MoH of Ukraine).

Main objectives:

- education and training for medical personnel
- scientific research
- design and implementation of new medical technologies in primary health care, based on the family medicine practice

Main goals of UFMTC activities:

- **CME for** primary health care providers (with credit for physician's obligatory recertification)
- **Training of faculty** from medical schools and colleges, involved in training of physicians and nurses under specialty "Family Medicine"
- **Research and clinical work** with training of family medicine residents

- **Innovative technologies** in primary health care, e.g., the distance learning in CME, medical information systems
- **Promotion of international best practices/experience exchange** in primary health care, collaboration with international educational, research, and medical institutions

Implementation of innovative methods to family physician CME

- ✓ In 2014 - Developing and conducting the pilot training course for modern technologies of counteraction for transmission of HIV/AIDS in the family medicine practice (with International Training and Education Center for Health (I-TECH) University of Washington, with support of U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), in the framework of PEPFAR).
- ✓ In 2015 - a new Training Guide for the Prevention of HIV/AIDS Transmission in Ukraine, based on the results of a pilot training event, was published.
- ✓ In 2015-2016 - conducting the series of trainings in cooperation of I-TECH and UFMTC for Ukrainian physicians on the national level.

Ukrainian Center of Family Medicine, 2016

Implementation of innovative methods to family physician CME

- ✓ In 2012 - Developed training course jointly with the Program “Healthy Women of Ukraine” with support of USAID and the Institute of Research and Training “John Snow Inc.“ for teaching Ukrainian family physicians of family planning.
- ✓ In 2015 - Developed and conducted in cooperation with I-TECH and International Renaissance Foundation series of training courses “Use of Narcotic, Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors in the Practice of Family Medicine”
- ✓ and published in in 2016 as the Facilitator Guide under the auspices of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine.
- ✓ Implementation of on-line distance learning courses.

Ukrainian Center of Family Medicine, 2016

Results of these innovative approaches:

Currently about 4,000 Ukrainian physicians have improved their competences by taking part in more than 180 training courses

Audience:
Physicians and managers of primary health care; faculty of medical schools, schools of nursing

Conclusion (1):

1. **Primary health care is determined as one of main directions of health care reform in Ukraine.**
2. **Main problem of PHC in Ukraine is insufficiency:**
   - quality and quantity of human resources for primary health care delivery.
   - motivation tools to work in PHC sector.
   - approaches of modern management.
   - unavailability of PHC in the face of actual decentralization of medical services from a number of pressing issues of public health care.

Conclusion (2):

Innovative approach as the most effective way concerning strengthening of PHC reforms:

1. Implementation of innovative model of intensive development of PHC in Ukraine;
2. Optimization and strengthening of human resources for PHC;
3. Active development of effective and cost-effective management approaches, effective e-Health approaches;
4. Active participation in international projects.

Philosophy of Family Medicine:

"When a patient comes to me, he makes me a great honor, because he gives his health and his confidence into my hands.

Then my diplomas and titles don't matter at all, and I should serve my patient.

Not only do I my best, but I also think about whether my best knowledge is optimally sufficient for that person.

We are concerned about only one thing - the patient, his health, his interests. And my main ultimate evaluation criteria are my patients' results and my colleagues' respect".

Ihor Galarnyk, MD, LMCC,
Board certified Family Physician,
one of the founders of family medicine in USA and Ukraine

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION!
KÖSZÖNÖM A
FIGYELMET!