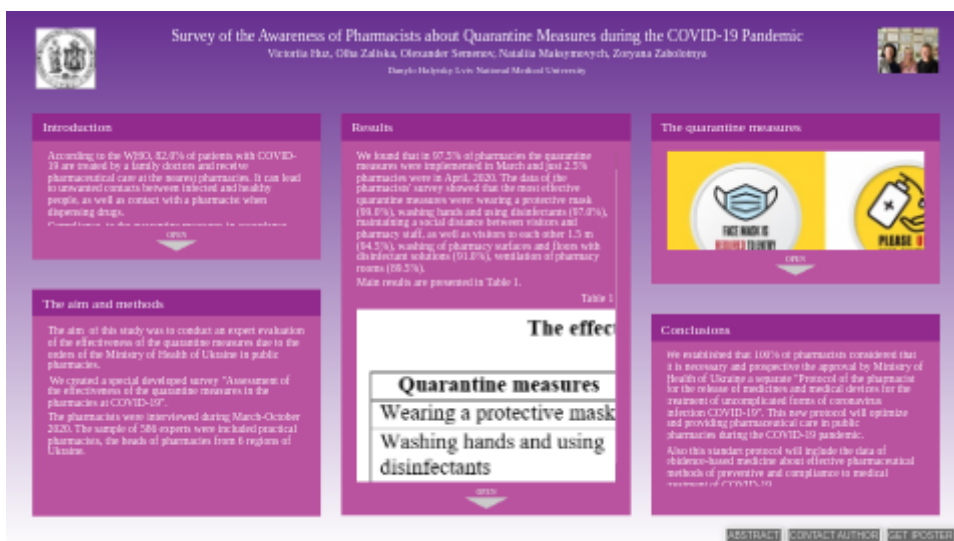


# Survey of the Awareness of Pharmacists about Quarantine Measures during the COVID-19 Pandemic



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## INTRODUCTION

According to the WHO, 82.0% of patients with COVID-19 are treated by a family doctors and receive pharmaceutical care at the nearest pharmacies. It can lead to unwanted contacts between infected and healthy people, as well as contact with a pharmacist when dispensing drugs.

Compliance to the quarantine measures in accordance with the Resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers and Orders of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine in pharmacies is an essential component of overall safety during a pandemic, and the awareness of pharmacists due to preventing the COVID-19 pandemic is important and actual.

## THE AIM AND METHODS

The aim of this study was to conduct an expert evaluation of the effectiveness of the quarantine measures due to the orders of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine in public pharmacies.

We created a special developed survey "Assessment of the effectiveness of the quarantine measures in the pharmacies at COVID-19".

The pharmacists were interviewed during March-October 2020. The sample of 586 experts were included practical pharmacists, the heads of pharmacies from 6 regions of Ukraine.

## RESULTS

We found that in 97.5% of pharmacies the quarantine measures were implemented in March and just 2.5% pharmacies were in April, 2020. The data of the pharmacists' survey showed that the most effective quarantine measures were: wearing a protective mask (99.0%), washing hands and using disinfectants (97.0%), maintaining a social distance between visitors and pharmacy staff, as well as visitors to each other 1.5 m (94.5%), washing of pharmacy surfaces and floors with disinfectant solutions (91.0%), ventilation of pharmacy rooms (89.5%).

Main results are presented in Table 1.

Table 1

**The effectiveness of quarantine measures in pharmacies  
according to a survey of pharmacists**

<b>Quarantine measures</b>	<b>High (3 point)</b>	<b>Medium (2 point)</b>	<b>Low (1 point)</b>
Wearing a protective mask	<b>99%</b>	<b>1%</b>	-
Washing hands and using disinfectants	<b>97%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>1%</b>
Maintaining a social distance	<b>95%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>1%</b>
Washing of pharmacy surfaces and floors with disinfectant solutions	<b>91%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>2%</b>
Ventilation of pharmacy rooms	<b>90%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>1%</b>
Data	<b>22%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>3%</b>
Explanatory work with patients	<b>20%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>65%</b>

## THE QUARANTINE MEASURES



## CONCLUSIONS

We established that 100% of pharmacists considered that it is necessary and prospective the approval by Ministry of Health of Ukraine a separate "Protocol of the pharmacist for the release of medicines and medical devices for the treatment of uncomplicated forms of coronavirus infection COVID-19". This new protocol will optimize and providing pharmaceutical care in public pharmacies during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Also this standart protocol will include the data of ebidence-based medicine about effective pharmaceutical methods of preventive and compliamce to medical treatment of COVID-19.

## ABSTRACT

**OBJECTIVES :** According to the WHO, 82% of patients with COVID-19 are treated by a family doctors and receive pharmaceutical care at the nearest pharmacies, it can lead to unwanted contacts between infected and healthy people, as well as contact with a pharmacist when dispensing drugs. Compliance with quarantine measures in accordance with the Resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers and Orders of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine in pharmacies is an important component of overall safety during a pandemic, and the awareness of pharmacists in preventing the COVID-19 pandemic is important. The aim was to conduct an expert evaluation of the effectiveness of quarantine measures due to the orders of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine in pharmacies.

**METHODS :** According to a specially developed survey "Assessment of the effectiveness of quarantine measures in the pharmacy at COVID-19" pharmacists were interviewed during March-October 2020. The sample of 586 experts included pharmacists, heads of pharmacies from 6 regions of Ukraine.

**RESULTS :** It was found that in 97.5% of pharmacies quarantine measures were implemented in March, in 2.5% pharmacies were in April 2020. The data of the pharmacists' survey show that the most effective quarantine measures are: wearing a protective mask (99.0%), washing hands and using disinfectants (97.0%), maintaining a social distance between visitors and pharmacy staff, as well as visitors to each other 1.5 m (94.5%), washing of pharmacy surfaces and floors with disinfectant solutions (91.0%), ventilation of pharmacy rooms (89.5%).

**CONCLUSIONS :** It established that 100% of pharmacists consider it necessary and prospective the approval by Ministry of Health of Ukraine a separate "Protocol of the pharmacist for the release of medicines and medical devices for the treatment of uncomplicated forms of coronavirus infection COVID-19" to optimize pharmaceutical care during the COVID-19 pandemic.