

355.237.3:356.33:355.232-633(437.1/.2)

## PREPARATION AND EDUCATION OF MILITARY MEDICAL PERSONNEL

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Nowadays 70 types of medical professions are engaged in medical preventive care support in the Czech Republic Army (hereafter CRA). Education and preparation to a career must be in agreement with appropriate civil laws and regulations on medical personnel of the Czech Republic (hereafter CR) and in addition to this it must conclude military and special military problems in peacetime as well as in wartime as a necessary assumption of combat readiness support of the forces. At present, teaching projects in the Czech Republic Army are ensured by the Military Medical Academy in Hradec Králové (hereafter PMMA) in assistance with the Medical Faculty, Charles University (hereafter MF) and the Pharmaceutical Faculty, Charles University (hereafter PF) in Hradec Králové at academic level and by the Military Health School (hereafter MHS) in Hradec Králové working on the ground of the Purkyně Military Medical Academy and the Health School (hereafter HS) in Hradec Králové at secondary level and the Medical Service Training Centre in Uherské Hradiště ensures a training of auxilliary nursing workers.

The educational system of medical professionals in the CRA is based on a principle the army provides a preparation only in military medicine and military disciplines and general and special subjects are provided at particular civil schooling institutions. A preparation is performed principally in two ways:

- simultaneous study at both the civil and military schooling institutions
- by recruiting of complete specialists from civil sector through their military and military medical training in the army.

### Programme of academic education of the Czech Army Military Medical Service staff.

It is necessary to take into account in training military doctors the fact that military doctor in comparison with civilian one has to be better prepared in the conditions of the CRA to overcome specific problems of military health service as follows:

- problems of acute states and their therapy in field conditions
- peculiarities in providing therapeutic preventive care at forces in peacetime
- providing therapeutic and preventive care in emergency conditions (disasters, war conflict) etc.
- principles of military expertise work, control procedure, transportation of patients, drug supply,
- peculiarities in hygienic and epidemiologic support
- problems of a commander at all fields of management, including knowledge and skills in application of civil law standards into the military branch.

An assumption of that is profound knowledge, skills and habits in the branches of war surgery, war internal medicine, military toxicology, military radiobiology, organization of military health service in peacetime, organization of military health service in wartime, military pharmacy, military hygiene, military epidemiology etc.

Proper programme of military doctors and pharmacists training is provided as follows:

a) Education - physicians, dentists, pharmacists - type of simultaneous study at MF or PF and PMMA

→ 6 years study at the civil MF and PMMA (general option) 5 years study at the civil MF and PMMA (stomatology option) 5 years study at the civil PF and PMMA	officer-physician (pharmacist), who is unable to work independently	→ 2,5 years study to complete the postgraduate diploma at the work places of PMMA and military hospitals	officer-qualified physician (pharmacists)
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b) Education - physicians, dentists, pharmacists - type of recruitment from civilian MF or PF

→ 6 years study at the civil MF (general option) 5 years study at the civil MF (stomatology option) 5 years study at the civil PF	physician (pharmacist), who is unable to work independently	→ military and military medical preparation at the PMMA 12 months	→ 2,5 years study to complete the postgraduate diploma at the work places of PMMA and military hospitals	officer-highly qualified physician (pharmacists)
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Except for some cases, all military doctors in the CRA are prepared initially for their position at garrison sick rooms (hereafter GSR) in the branch of general medicine to complete their postgraduate certificate of the first grade. At the GSR, doctors may be engaged according to their interests and needs of the CRA in a special training in another branches (totally 62 basic and extension specialties) or in the advanced studies to complete a higher degree in the discipline of general medicine. Physicians in the GSR have an opportunity to participate in selection processes to occupy special positions in military hospitals (hereafter MH) and after the admission they may apply for an advanced study at a special department of the MH where they are able to reach a full qualification in the chosen branch (scheme 1).

The graduates skilled in management with a first degree of postgraduate diploma in general medicine are engaged in the branch of public health service and covered positions in the GSR with the prospect to occupy higher command posts. When they pass extension studies, selected physicians are sent for advanced study to foreign countries (scheme 2).

Assumption of the job in a GSR	Military hospital-by competition Schooling or advanced study in a GSR 3-7 years	Career in a MH  Career in a GS
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Scheme 1

Position in a GSR for 1-2 years	Position at a higher command level 3 years	Advanced course completed with postgraduate diploma at the PMMA 6 months	Further schooling and study abroad
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Scheme 2

Graduates whose abilities to research work were evident during their university study are engaged in the advanced doctor's study at the PMMA in accredited disciplines as war internal medicine, war surgery, military radiobiology, military hygiene, toxicology, epidemiology and medical microbiology focused on research-pedagogical and research positions in the Czech Republic Army Military Health Service. The selected graduates may take particular advanced study abroad.

Postgraduate study 3-5 years	Position at the MMA or military research centres of the CRA 3-7 years	Special study Study abroad Habilitation as an associate professor (academic degree)
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icular advanced study abroad.

Considerable attention in the CRA is devoted to continuing education of physicians. Each military doctor may spend a day per week and a month per year in any military health facility in the branch of his or her interest. The PMMA holds approximately 100 types of training actions. Military doctors have at the disposal a library, selected special journals, video with special educational programmes, PC data bases, for instance MEDLINE, CURRENT CONTENTS, they can participate in the medical educational satellite programme EuroTransMed etc. During last year nearly all GSRs were equipped, in assistance with the Military Health Insurance Office, with the PC Hawlett Packard with the processors Intel 486 and most GSR s personnel were trained at the PMMA in the usage of wide spectrum of programmes intended for general practitioners. Special sessions, conferences, clinical and pathological conferences, methodic workshops are held and, working days focused on the current problems in medical disciplines are organized in cooperation with special societies. The military doctors may take part, according to their choice, in appropriate educational activities in a civil sector.

### Programme of bachelor's education in military health management

A new structure of the CRA Military Medicine Service consists of military medicine managers with a bachelor's

3-year general, military medical and military study	Positions at troops 2-10 years	- Magister's type of study with prolonged duty - Leaving for the reserve
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degree as well. These workers are engaged in the manager's positions in GSRs and in another medical facilities to remove organizing and managing duties, which are not necessary for providing therapeutic and preventive care, from physicians and pharmacists. Thus a drop of demand

for medical and pharmaceutical jobs and a total saving of money in a process of education and a repay for their work were occurred. At present, the CRA recruits bachelors only from their own resources. The selected bachelors may complete in the future time, according to the CRA demands, their academic education in the branch of management by means of magister's study with corresponding increase of their duty in the army.

### Programme of secondary school education of the Czech Republic Army Military Medical Service nursing staff

A nursing staff is necessary in the Army for providing an adequate therapeutic and preventive care and military medical service support. At present, the CRA is composed of two groups of nursing staff. The first one consists of nurses with no military medical education and are recruited from the civil sector when they finish the civil secondary nursing schools. The next group comprises of military aidmen, who have besides general medical education at the level of nurse, military medical and military education allowing their service in field and unit as well and are admitted to active duty at the rank of warrant-officer.

a) Education - health providers - the type of programme at military medical school and civil nursing school

→ 4-year study at the Civil Nursing School and Military Nursing School	warrant-officer fully qualified medical officer	- service at troops - advanced courses - postgraduate diplomas
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b) Education - health providers - the type of programme of a recruitment from civil nursing school

→ 4-year study at the Civil Nursing School	→ 12-month military and military medical preparation at the Annual Warrant-Officer's School	warrant officer fully qualified medical officer	- service at troops - advanced courses - postgraduate diplomas
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Advanced education of nursing staff and their special study are performed in agreement with a valid modification in the Czech Republic. So health providers with a degree at a secondary school level in the CRA may complete total 8 types of certificates and proficiencies according to their position and take part in educational courses organized for them on the regular basis in the CRA as well as in civil sector.

### Programme of paramedical staff education

These are aidmen in companies, conscripts who passed a civil nursing school with a certificate. They attend the 6-month non-commissioned officer's school in the CRA. They are trained at school in medical problems and served a basic training. Then they serve at troops until they finish their basic duty.

In the conclusion we can note that in recent years the whole military educational system has passed different changes. These have endeavoured a development of a new system of education and advanced qualification which would make possible a professional promotion in special, military and military medical career to citizens and a transfer from a civil sector into military one and vice versa according to the army and society needs. The contemporary system principally meets these demands and at the same time eliminates a possibility that professional education of military medical personnel wouldn't be adequate to a civil one and simultaneously enables an optimal preparation in special military and military fields at minimalization of expenses on educational process from a military budget.