ІСТОРІЯ МЕДИЦИНИ

HISTORY OF MEDICINE

ISSN: 2411-6181(on-line); ISSN: 2311-9896 (print)
Current issues of social studies and history of medicine. Joint Ukrainian – Romanian scientific journal, 2025, № :2 (40), P. 82-85
***УДК** 616-006.6-085.357(091)*
***DOI** 10.24061/2411-6181.2.2025.467*

ІСТОРИЧНИЙ НАРИС РОЗВИТКУ ОНКОЛОГІЇ НА БУКОВИНІ

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HISTORICAL OUTLINE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF ONCOLOGY IN BUKOVYNA

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Богдан Шумко, Володимир Бодяка, Валентин Гродецький. Історичний нарис розвитку онкології на Буковині. Мета роботи – встановити історичний розвиток онкології на Буковині з моменту Австро-Угорської імперії до наших днів. **Матеріал і методи.** Матеріалом дослідження слугували події на Буковині, пов'язані з лікуванням онкологічних хворих. Історичний метод є основним для дослідження історії розвитку онкологічної допомоги у Буковинському краї. Автор пропонує звернути увагу на перспективи її розвитку у XXI столітті порівнюючи з минулим.

Результати отримані в процесі дослідження історії розвитку онкології на Буковині вказали на прогресивний поступ онкологічної служби впродовж століть, коли на початку зародження онкологічної служби існував брак фахівців, обмежені можливості у діагностиці, недостатнє наукове підґрунтя. Для розв'язання цієї проблеми у 1959 році було прийняте рішення створити кафедру рентгенології та медичної радіології. Першим її завідувачем став доцент Т. П. Ковінський з двома асистентами під його керівництвом. Проходять роки і у серпні завідувачем кафедри обирають за конкурсом доцента І. Г. Федорова. Пізніше, у 70-х роках організовується курс онкології при кафедрі госпітальної хірургії. Його очолює доцент А. В. Живецький, а практичною базою для викладання предмету стає онкодиспансер. У 80-х роках курс очолює доцент Д. А. Чумак з двома асистентами В. А. Андрусенком та В. О. Федоренком. Проходить 10 років і на чолі курсу онкології стає професор Р. В. Сенютович. У 1994 році створюється кафедра онкології, променевої діагностики, променевої терапії та радіаційної медицини, яку очолює також професор Р. В. Сенютович. З плином часу у 2010 році кафедрі присвоюють назву онкології та радіології, на чолі якої у 2011 році стає професор О. І. Іващук. У 2015 році посаду завідувача кафедри обіймає доктор медичних наук, доцент В. Ю. Бодяка. Нині кафедра є структурним підрозділом інституту післядипломної освіти, який здійснює підготовку фахівців за різними спеціальностями. На сьогоднішній день відбувся прорив не тільки у науці на кафедрі онкології та радіології, а і у практичній роботі Буковинського клінічного онкоцентру від підвального приміщення у 1947 році, де опалювали грубкою, до сучасних 12 структурних підрозділів для діагностики та лікування профільних хворих.

Ключові слова: *історія, онкологія, Буковина, Австро-Угорщина, Буковинський клінічний онкологічний центр*

Introduction. The historical development of Bukovina in different periods depended on the states to which it belonged. As is well known, for 450 years it was under the protectorate of Moldova, which in the middle of the 16th century fell into vassal dependence on Turkey. During the Austrian occupation (lasting 140 years), the region became famous throughout Europe.

General Gabriel von Spleni, who commanded the Austrian army in Bukovyna, sent a letter to the government of the Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1775 requesting that several doctors be sent to the city of Chernivtsi. Maria Teodoryn was appointed the first midwife. Later, in 1811, the first school for midwives was founded in Bukovina. Joseph Glabach, who was a certified doctor, was appointed the first sanitary advisor to the administration.

The first maternity hospital with 15 beds, in accordance with a resolution of the Bukovina Seym, was opened at 7 Transylvania Street (now 129 Holovna Street). This date coincides with the birthday of Sofia Okunevska, who was born into the family of Atanasiy Okunevskyi, a doctor from Storozhynets. She became the first woman to work as a doctor specializing in gynecology in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. As a gynecologist, she received a doctorate. S. A. Okunevska put the results of her scientific work into practice. Dr. Okunevska used radium in the treatment of cervical cancer according to Maria Skłodowska-Curie's methods. Her brother, Yaroslav Okunevsky, born in 1860, worked as a doctor in the Austrian navy, became an admiral, and published several books on medicine. He headed the sanitary commission of the West Ukrainian People's Republic. Later, Yaroslav Okunevsky worked in the city of Horodenka in the Ivano-Frankivsk oblast in the 1920s, where he tragically died in 1929.

Sofia Okunevska established close ties with the Ukrainian elite of Bukovyna and Galicia, in particular with Olha Kobylianska, Natalia Kobrynska, Vasyl Stefanyk, and Lesya Ukrainka. She died in 1926 and was buried in Lychakiv cemetery (Lviv), near the grave of Ivan Franko, whom she had known during her lifetime. Half a century later, the Sofia Okunevska Annual Award was established, with medical workers from the oncology clinic becoming its laureates.

History of the issue. Looking back at the past, one cannot fail to mention talented Ukrainian doctors, in particular the famous surgeon Volodymyr Zalozetskyi, a participant in

the Russo-Turkish War (1876-1878), recipient of the Knight's Cross and the Order of Franz Joseph. He then served in the 41st Bukovyna Regiment alongside Yuriy Fedkovych.

We cannot ignore the memory of medical scientists from Bukovyna. This is, first of all, J. A. Mikulicz, who was born into a Ukrainian-Polish family in 1850 and graduated from the University of Vienna. A surgeon, J. A. Mikulicz, working at the University of Krakow and later in Königsberg, pioneered the first surgical method of treating cancer patients. In 1904, he was the first in the world to remove a benign lung tumour and also removed a cancerous tumour of the thoracic oesophagus through a transthoracic approach, using an inter-oesophageal anastomosis. J. A. Mikulicz made a significant contribution to the development of asepsis and antisepsis. He proposed many surgical instruments (gastroscope, Mikulicz clamp, etc.). Later, having discovered a malignant tumour of the stomach, he was operated on by Professor Eisilberg, but unsuccessfully, and in 1905 he died and was buried in the Christian cemetery on Ruska Street. His father, Knight Andreas Mikulicz von Radecki, is the author of the town hall in Chernivtsi on Central Square and many other architectural structures.

Nestor Dmytrovych Monastyrskyi was an extraordinary personality. He was born in 1847 on the outskirts of Chernivtsi (Rosha). N. D. Monastyrsky boldly paved new paths in surgery and oncology, participated in the Russian-Turkish war of 1876-1878, and conducted experiments to study tetanus and other infectious diseases.

In January 1875, Nestor Monastyrskyi was awarded the title of professor and appointed head of the surgical department of the Clinical Institute in St. Petersburg. He enriched science with numerous discoveries: he removed the gallbladder, performed a gastroenterostomy for scarred pylorus narrowing, and was the first surgeon in Europe to successfully connect the gallbladder to the small intestine in a patient with pancreatic cancer. In the prime of his career, he became ill with hypernephroma of the kidney. He underwent surgery for this condition and died on 24 May 1888.

The dynasty founded in Bukovyna by the famous physician Titus Yosypovych Burachynskyi, in particular his sons Myroslav and Erastus, is also worth mentioning. The latter, in addition to his medical education, also had a degree in music; he was a pianist, conductor, and singer. He wrote a number of popular articles on medical topics and memoirs about Bolshevik camps. This circle includes Yevhen Omelsky, Narcys Lukyanovych, Yaroslav Voevitko, and Opanas Shevchukevych, who were well-known in the western Ukrainian lands. Mykhaylo Romanovych Tsyhelskyi defended his doctoral dissertation on oncology: «Analysis of the effectiveness of transmural resection of the prostate gland», and was the initiator and sponsor of the Ukrainian edition of the two-volume Dorland's Medical Illustrated Dictionary. Physicist Ivan Puluj, advisor to Frans Josef, who 15 years before W. K. Roentgen made an X-ray image of the metacarpus[1].

The Council of Ministers of the USSR adopted a resolution of 30.04.1945 «On Improving Cancer Care for the Population», the Minister of Health of Ukraine issued Order No. 1346-K, and the Chernivtsi Regional Health Department founded the Chernivtsi Oncology Dispensary by Order No. 108 of 20.06.1946. During this period, our colleagues have overcome a difficult path that was not paved with rose petals, given the circumstances, and could not have been easier – because they have always resisted disease and death, affirming goodness and mercy.

Nowadays. From today's perspective, it is quite difficult to understand the dramatic realities of the 1940s: epidemics – typhus, malaria, dysentery, endemic goitre, tuberculosis, hundreds, thousands of neglected cancer patients, venereal diseases, and the impoverished hospitals of the land lacked doctors (most of them retreated with the Romanian troops), medical equipment (there were only 2 X-ray machines in the whole oblast at that time, a therapeutic and a diagnostic one, both in Chernivtsi). The echo of gunfire could still be heard in the Carpathians, and doctors and scientists came to Chernivtsi to work permanently. At that time, the Second Medical Institute was transferred from Kyiv to Chernivtsi to train local personnel.

Professor M. K. Afanasiev arrives from Donetsk and begins to perform the duties of chief physician and scientific director. He began teaching a course in radiology and oncology at the Chernivtsi Medical Institute. He is a legendary man with an extremely interesting and difficult life, energetic, persistent, and extremely honest. This is how the first head of the surgical department B. M. Gutman and gynaecologist I. S. Kokhanovska remembered him.

Professor M. K. Afanasiev worked (1946-1948) around the clock, seven days a week, because in a short time he had to set up a polyclinic and a hospital for 100 beds in the former country houses of Austrian officers in Y. Fedkovych Street, (there was no inventory and nowhere to get it because the war was ongoing). B. M. Hutman recalled that 2-3 boards were attached to the decommissioned iron beds and covered with various rags[2]. The stove of the hospital was heated with peat, and sometimes instruments, syringes, and systems were boiled in the same stoves). In 1947, the first radiotherapy apparatus in Chernivtsi, the Stabilivolt, was installed in the basement and combined radiotherapy was launched.

In 1948, the chief physician M. K. Afanasiev was dismissed, the number of beds was reduced to 50, and Dmytro Dionizovych Zerbino took over as the chief physician of the oncological dispensary. Soon, by the order of the regional health department, D. D. Zerbino was appointed chief surgeon of the Chernivtsi oblast, and Mykola P. Mishenda, a strong-willed, energetic doctor, PhD, and a wise healthcare manager, was appointed in his place. Mishenda restores the number of beds to 100, reorganises the oncological dispensary, and invites medical institute scientists, in particular, professors E. R. Tsytrytskyi, L. B. Theodor, and N. M. Shinkerman, to work as consultants.

From 1953 to 1964, V. E. Zeharovskyi was appointed chief physician, who paid considerable attention to the development of radiology. From 1964 to 1968, M. P. Mishenda was again appointed to the position of

[1] Bilynskyi B. T. «Stratehiya i taktyka onkolohiyi v istorychnomu aspekti» [Strategy and tactics of oncology in historic aspect]. *Onkolohiya* [Oncology], 2006, N 8(2), P. 159-162 [in Ukrainian].

[2] Chekhun V. F. «Istoriya stanovlennia onkolohyi yak nauky ta orhanizatsiya onkolohichnoyi dopomohy v Ukraini» [History of oncology as a science and organisation of oncological care in Ukraine], *Onkolohiya* [Oncology], 2010, N 4, P. 10-11 [in Ukrainian].

chief physician. He built a new building of the Oncology Centre with 120 beds. Then the team was headed by M. V. Nechytailo. From 1974 to 1977, V. I. Dutko became the head of the institution, who made significant efforts to develop the endoscopic service in Bukovyna.

From 1977 to 1994, I. A. Horodynskyi held the position of chief physician. He significantly improves the material and technical base, introduces new methods of research and treatment with the help of a radionuclide laboratory and the *Scalpel 1* apparatus.[3] I. A. Horodynskyi contributes to the preparation of technical documentation for the expansion of the oncological dispensary.

In 1994, A. O. Gontsa was appointed head of the team, who reorganised the oncological dispensary, increasing the bed capacity by 35 and creating new specialised departments, and was registered in the oblast Cancer Registry in October 1995. He initiated the resumption of the construction of the outpatient department and the food unit, and reconstructed the old buildings.

For many years, the medical service of the oncological dispensary was headed by V. I. Tashchuk, who ensured the rhythmic operation of the inpatient departments. At that time, the specialists of the medical and preventive service were the heads of departments and services: V. D. Babin, I. M. Kryvchanskyi, S. I. Pomortsev, L. I. Pakholka, V. M. Polos, T. G. Kharyuk, I. M. Turyanskyi, L. A. Melnychenko, V. Y. Bobita, who fought against cancer in Bukovyna with their persistent and titanic work.

On 11 November 2019, under the registration number 10381020000012413, the Chernivtsi Regional Clinical Oncology Dispensary was renamed into the Oblast Municipal Non-profit Enterprise «Bukovyna Clinical Oncology Centre» (BCOC).

Since 23 July 2020, Ihor Malyshevskyi has been the head of the Bukovyna Clinical Oncology Centre since then. The Bukovinian Clinical Cancer Centre has 12 structural units: a patient support centre, a polyclinic, clinical and morphological studies, medical diagnostics and work with the NHS, radiation diagnostics, radiation therapy, surgical oncology and innovative treatment methods, anaesthesiology and intensive care with an intensive care unit, clinical oncology, infection control, medical support, and diagnostic histopathology.

At the Bukovyna Clinical Oncology Centre, 1 habilitation doctor of medicine, 4 PhDs work as doctors, 24 have the highest medical category, 19 have the first medical category, 15 – the second, and 10 staff members have a specialist certificate.

The hospital employs highly qualified doctors who provide quality care in accordance with modern international standards in various specialities, as the problem of cancer control has been and remains the most urgent in medicine.

In 1959, the Department of Radiology and Medical Radiology was organised to solve the problems of oncology, with the chair of the department, Associate Professor T. P. Kovinsky, and two assistants. In August 1961, Associate Professor I. G. Fedorov was elected as the Chair of the Department on a competitive basis. In the early 70s, the Department of Hospital Surgery organised an oncology course headed by Associate Professor A. V. Zhyvetskyi, and the regional oncological dispensary became the base for teaching oncology. In 1976, the course of oncology was headed by Associate Professor D. A. Chumak. In the 70s and 80s, together with D. A. Chumak, the course was taught by V. A. Andrusenko, PhD, and V. O. Fedorenko, Ph D. In 1991, Habilitation Doctor of Medicine, R. V. Senyutovych was appointed as the Chair of the Oncology Course (the course was also taught by assistant V. V. Goryachev). In May 1994, the Department of Oncology, Radiation Diagnostics, Radiation Therapy and Radiation Medicine was established. The department was headed by Professor R. V. Senyutovych.

Under the supervision of Associate Professor G. K. Butvin, T. Matsyuk successfully defended his PhD dissertation in 2002 on «Study of the possibilities of using pharmacological modifiers during X-ray computed tomography to determine local spread at the stage of gastric cancer development».

From 2005 to 2007, the department carried out work on the topic «Development and implementation of new organisational technologies for early diagnosis and prevention of cancer of the female reproductive organs and breast», since 2008 – «Development of new automated technologies for screening, early diagnosis and differential diagnosis of female reproductive organs cancer based on laser polarimetry methods».

In 2010, the name of the department was changed to the Department of Oncology and Radiology. Since September 2011, the department has been headed by Habilitation Doctor of Medicine, Professor O. Ivashchuk. The staff of the department conducts work in various areas, in the last five years the work has been on the topic ‘Optimisation of diagnosis and treatment of cancer taking into account indicators of genetic, multifactorial risk’. Five PhD dissertations has been defended at the department.

The department works in the following scientific areas: nonspecific immunotherapy, unconventional cancer therapy; cancer prevention; cancer chronotherapy and melatonin application; cancer cryosurgery; development of new and improvement of existing methods of chemotherapeutic radiation and surgical treatment of cancer patients; development of new surgical instruments; screening and early diagnosis, prevention of tumours of female reproductive organs, new diagnostic methods; optimisation of methods of diagnosis and treatment of oncological pathology through the development and implementation of genetic and multifactorial risk maps, as well as studying the effectiveness of antioxidant complexes in the treatment of cancer patients.

For the first time in Ukraine, electrochemotherapy for breast, vulva, cervical cancer and precancerous diseases such as leukoplakia and vulvar cervical kraurosis was introduced and successfully applied.

The department also develops new radiation methods of research and radiation therapy for gastric

[3] «Viddanist idealam nauky (do 110-i richnytsi vid dnia narodzhennia akademika R. Ye. Kavetskoho)» [Dedication to the ideals of science (to the 110th anniversary of the birth of Academy Fellow R. E. Kavetsky)], *Onkolohiya* [Oncology], 2009, N 11(4), P. 246-248 [In Ukrainian].

and colon cancer; radiation methods of breast cancer research; treatment of breast malignancies, laparoscopic surgery; radiation diagnostics of chest diseases; treatment of abdominal malignancies, chemotherapy of oncological diseases; factors predicting the effectiveness of neoadjuvant chemotherapy for locally advanced breast cancer.

For the group of people with an increased risk of cancer, chemoprevention agents have been developed. Together with OJSC *Rosy Bukovyny*, we developed *Prokar* water (carcinoma prevention) and obtained patents.

Today, the Department of Oncology and Radiology is a base for testing new pharmaceuticals manufactured abroad. Two employees of the department were trained abroad (i.e. monitors) to conduct research at the proper level, and equipment was purchased.

Several variants of devices for cryosurgical treatment of rectal and breast cancer based on thermoelectric principles have been developed. The developed devices have significant advantages. Compared to the use of liquid nitrogen, which provides a fixed temperature, our devices allow you to set certain temperature conditions automatically, and they are compact and convenient.

The department has been working for many years to develop instruments for the treatment of colorectal and rectal cancer. It has received 20 patents for these instruments.

Today, the Department of Oncology and Radiology is a base for testing new pharmaceuticals manufactured abroad. Two members of the department were trained abroad (so called monitors) to conduct research at the appropriate level, and equipment was purchased.

Main scientific activities. The staff of the Department has published more than 1000 papers, 70 monographs and textbooks, received 25 patents for inventions, more than 200 rationalisation proposals, participated in congresses of oncologists and radiologists of Ukraine, the CIS, numerous international and national conferences.

Much attention is paid to the improvement of medical qualifications. Professor R. V. Senyutovych has completed internships in Poland and Germany, Italy, Austria, and the UK.

The staff of the Department has established close ties with German doctors of the Lübeck Clinic. The Department has been hosting German-Ukrainian symposia for many years.

The staff of the department has introduced 30 new methods of surgical and chemotherapeutic treatment of cancer, and it also carries out extensive diagnostic, medical and consulting work.

Much work has been done to optimise the educational process. Training for interns and thematic improvement in oncogynaecology and surgery were organised.

Since 2015 the Chair of the Department of Oncology and Radiology is Volodymyr Bodiaka, Dr. Hab., Associate Professor.

Today, the Department of Oncology and Radiology is a structural subdivision of the Educational and Research Institute of Further Education. The department trains specialists in the specialities of General Medicine, Paediatrics, Medical Psychology, Dentistry, and also provides training for doctors in internships and clinical residencies in the speciality of Clinical Oncology. The department conducts thematic improvement courses, pre-certification cycles and specialisations for medical students.

Conclusions. In the process of retrospective analysis of the development of oncology in Bukovyna, we have seen significant progress in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer in the early stages.

At the beginning of the development of the oncology service in Bukovyna, the lack of staff and the absence of a scientific and technical base prevented doctors from achieving good results in diagnosing and treating patients.

The use of screening diagnostic methods and modern approaches to cancer treatment helped to achieve positive results and improve the quality of life of patients.

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Received*: 19.11.2025*
Advance Access Published*: December, 2025*