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THE ROLE OF THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF MILITARY AND VETERANS HEALTH RESEARCH (CIMVHR) IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF PHYSICAL REHABILITATION PROGRAMS FOR MILITARY VETERANS

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Relevance. Physical rehabilitation of war veterans is one of the key elements of the health care and social support system in countries that participated in armed conflicts. For Ukraine, which is in a state of war, the issue of restoring the health and functional capacity of military personnel is of particular relevance. The experience of Canada, which has a developed veteran support system, is valuable for the implementation of effective rehabilitation models. The Canadian Institute for Military and Veterans Health Research (CIMVHR) plays a leading role in the development, implementation and evaluation of innovative approaches to the physical rehabilitation of veterans, in particular in cooperation with international partners and Ukrainian specialists. [1, 2]

CIMVHR brings together over 1,700 researchers from 46 Canadian universities and 15 international partners, enabling interdisciplinary research, the application of cutting-edge technologies, and the development of methodologies for the rehabilitation of military and veterans. The institute focuses on prosthetics, exoskeletons, telerehabilitation, and the integration of mental health into physical rehabilitation. [2]

Goal research: analysis of CIMVHR activities in the field of physical rehabilitation of war veterans and assessment of the possibilities of adapting Canadian experience for the Ukrainian rehabilitation system.

Research objectives: 1. To characterize the main areas of CIMVHR research on physical rehabilitation of veterans. 2. To identify the possibilities of applying Canadian approaches in Ukraine.

Results. CIMVHR focuses its research on comprehensive physical rehabilitation of veterans, integrating biomedical, psychological and social aspects. Priority topics are — recovery after amputations, the introduction of modern prostheses, the use of exoskeletons, telerehabilitation (the provision of rehabilitation services remotely, using information and communication technologies). The institute actively cooperates with clinics, universities, charitable foundations and government agencies, which allows implementing research results into practice and forming national rehabilitation standards. [2]

CIMVHR actively implements a multidisciplinary approach, where teams of physical and rehabilitation medicine doctors, occupational therapists, physical therapists, prosthetists, psychologists and social workers play a key role. Modern methods include kinesitherapy, functional training, the use of robotic prostheses, exoskeletons, virtual reality (VR) and telemedicine platforms for remote patient support. Particular attention is paid to the adaptation of prostheses to individual needs, training in the use of assistive devices and the integration of psychotherapeutic support into the physical rehabilitation process. [2]

The implementation of such a model in Ukraine will ensure a comprehensive approach, coordination of actions, development of an individual rehabilitation plan, and continuous support for the patient at all stages of recovery.

Conclusions. CIMVHR research in the field of physical rehabilitation of war veterans demonstrates the effectiveness of a multidisciplinary approach, the introduction of innovative technologies

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and the integration of mental health into the recovery process. The implementation of international standards will allow creating a modern, accessible and effective rehabilitation system for Ukrainian veterans.

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