

Scientific And Pedagogic Principles of Professional And Ethical Competence Formation of Future Doctors of Veterinary Medicine.

Humanistic and democratic trends in the development of modern society along with growth of importance of moral principles led us to significant changes in priorities and values of education.

Today, the one of the most important components of the process of professional training is the component of professional and ethical competence of future agricultural specialists, including doctors of veterinary medicine.

Professional and ethical competence is a fundamental component of professionalism of a doctor of veterinary medicine. It reflects the level of veterinarian's morality, professional culture and the ability to make appropriate moral decisions and to act in accordance with the ethical standards. Professional and ethical competence allows defining the level of professional attitude to the work duties of the doctor of veterinary medicine and moreover, to analyze professional relations due to the contact with pets and animals.

This article is focused on priority of studying pedagogical problems of professional and ethical competence formation development to implement the best methods of teaching professional and ethical competence in university education system for the students of veterinary faculties. In accordance with this pedagogic mission the article highlights the scientific and pedagogical fundamental codes of professional and ethical competence formation by analyzing high school education system of future doctors of veterinary medicine. High level of professional and ethical competence is a key skill for a successful career of a veterinarian.

Key words: professional and ethical competence, morality, professional training, veterinarian, doctor, ethical standards, moral decisions.

Statement of the problem. Moral regeneration and spiritual perfection of humans – those are purpose and means of the progressive development of Ukrainian society and humanity in general. The important role in generating moral culture of an individual and a society should be played by moral education that provides knowledge of moral values, gives understanding of moral criteria for analysis of behavior of a single person and actions of social groups in a social life [6].

Education in Ukraine is recognized as one of the most important components of human society values. The mission of education aims at each human being`s comprehensive personal growth which is the highest value of society, including development of talents, mental and physical abilities, cultivation of high moral features of character, and evolutionary formation of citizens who able to make a deliberate choice [13]. Therefore, government Ukrainian high school system of education provides every citizen with an opportunity of comprehensive and harmonious personal development in patriotic identification, professional realization, national dignity, legal rights of freedoms and liberties, moral and spiritual aspects.

Due to this mission, the Presidium of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine issued a decree number 45 dated 28.02.2007. The Concept of this legislative document contents the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine special program of comprehensive researches "National program of development of intellectual, moral and spiritual potential of nation and upgrading applied science, education, culture and management systems"[12]. One of the priority goals of this program is the research on the current level of Ukrainian society spiritual values and moral standards as a pre-requisite to the condition of political and social stability, development of problem solving strategies, escalation of humanity role in nowadays social growth, maintaining and updating the new historical conditions of cultural and spiritual heritage of the Ukrainian people.

Analysis of the latest sources and publications. Since the mentioned problem of upgrading high school education system gained a high level of

importance, there were a great number of published relevant research papers. In particular, issues related to the reformation, upgrading of educational content and conceptual framework of training future specialists were investigated by V. Andruschenko, Y. Babanskiy, V. Bezpalko, E. Zeyer, I. Zyazyun, N. Nychkalo, V. Sidorenko and other researchers. The pedagogic problems of content, methods and forms of education and training of future specialists are reflected and researched in the researches of S. Sysoev, N. Tverezovskoyi and other scientists. The issues of research and development on future specialists professional competency and its components were studied by N. Bibik, A. Ovcharuk, J. Raven, J. Winter, A. Markov, A. Hutorskoy, S. Sisov and others.

The previously gained knowledge and experience on the ethical training of students published in psychological and pedagogical researches cannot be considered now as a sufficient level for professional competency formation. It is appropriate to emphasize that the problem of moral perfection of a doctor attracted attention of the following antique era philosophers - Aristotle, Hippocrates, Socrates, M. Quintilian. Objectives of ethics and deontology of humanitarian medicine were studied by N. Pirogov, J. Benediktova, A. Bilibin, G. Tsaregorodtsev, S. Gurevich, V. Petrenko and others. Many researchers nowadays are interested in the reification of new principles and methods of formation of professional and ethical knowledge in veterinary medicine practice. In this case we should name such Ukrainian authors as: I. Panko, L. Matveeva, I. Zayanchkovskoho, F. Syzonenko.

In veterinary medicine practice the professional ethics of veterinarians was historically given much more attention and was more extensively provided in the professional society in foreign countries. Among those we have to mention the works of such researchers as: C. Adams, S. Armstrong, T. Bauhamp, M. Bekoff, C. Hall, P. Sand, P. Singer, B. Rolling, D. Tannenbaum etc.

Even though we definitely can use the expanded coverage on this problem of veterinarians ethical education made by researchers in the countries of Western Europe and the United States of America we still will be experiencing the current

lack of local researches, fundamental studies of different aspects of the professional competency formation and methodical works tailored for Ukrainian specifications. The given analysis of the existing researches overview made by Ukrainian authors on the topic shows that the problem of professional and ethical competence formation of future vets have not yet meet the needs of current comprehensive scientific coverage for a high school education and have not become the objective of any special study.

The main objective. To satisfy the social demand in any kind of specialist and to realize a program of professional training for multiple professional activities, it is necessary to expand the level of influence of moral regulations in the service sector such as health services [4].

Ukrainian researcher of ethical and pedagogical foundations of an individual N. Voznyuk highlights: "The changes that are happening now in the political, economic life of Ukrainian nation brought our society to the point of urgent need of providing reformation into spiritual fundamentals of society, particularly in the area of morality". [4]

Hence, modern system of education in Ukraine should provide professional training with high-quality education and high moral and spiritual traits to future professionals. Studying professional ethics at high school should become one of the key tools of this task implementation for future professionals. Profession of a veterinarian requires special attention as of professional ethics aspects. It is the type of profession in which our society requires high moral demands. It could be explained by the special moral right of such a professional as a veterinarian like to influence on life activity of an animal or a pet along with correlation between the proper performance of professional duties and life of a patient. Today we have classification of specific types of professional ethics: legal, medical, educational, military, political and others. Unfortunately, veterinarians' professional ethics has not been paid enough attention. However, their role in increasing the quality of food products is so significant: by preventing various animal diseases veterinary doctors simultaneously protect health of animals, pets and humans [10].

From this concept we have to lead to the direction of solving the problem – our main task is to train veterinarians in high moral culture and responsibility for the performance of professional duties. Though, an effective professional training of a veterinarian for future work is not completed without self-confidence to exercise ethical competence.

Veterinary medicine is a specific branch of science that deals with treating predominantly domesticated animals, pets and wild animals. The objective of veterinary medicine is prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease, injury including study on animal diseases, improving the scope of the anatomy of animals. Under the term "veterinary" we often mean government monitoring and control of zoonotic disease to supervise health of animals. Scientists and veterinary physicians working in the veterinary field are called veterinarians.

"Medicine takes care of humans and veterinary medicine saves humanity" [14]. These words described the value field of veterinary medicine and they belong to the well-known veterinarian and writer Sergei Stepanovich Yevseyenko. A veterinarian performs the main task which is to prevent any disease of humans and animals. The veterinary medicine field is not only clinical work, but also prevention, including inspection of all facilities which are food products producers and traders. Food plants, farm markets, large and small farms, poultry farms, milk processing factories are some example of those facilities .

Veterinary care with elements of the modern days understanding of veterinary treatments of animals was established in early era of wild animals domestication. The earliest data belongs to the 4th century BC (Egypt, India). Shepherds, priests, herdsmen were first professionals involved into providing veterinary care. In ancient Greece animals treated hippiatry (from "hippos" - horse and "iatros" - doctor), and sometimes doctors. Veterinary medicine was historically developed in Greece, Rome Empire and Arab countries. Animal diseases were initially described in the writings of the Roman scientist such as Cato the Elder, Varro and Columella. The terms "veterinary care", "veterinarian", "veterinary medicine" were initially used in those writings.

Nowadays, veterinary medicine has significant development. Just recently the quality of all cures and treatments for animals and pets was increased tremendously. Veterinarian surgeons provide such technically complex surgery like transplanting the cornea and lens, dental implants procedures, plastic surgery for skin, grafting artificial kidney, magnetic resonance imaging, cellular therapy, chemotherapy, and many other complex treatments. We have to mention that 10 years ago specialists of veterinary medicine even had no idea about any of those. The resolution like “euthanasia” is declared much less.

Modern veterinary medicine combines three relatively isolated groups of scientific subjects:

Veterinary biological - study on the scope of anatomy and activity of a healthy and a sick organism, influence of pathogens, effects of medications. It often collaborates with such sciences as physiology, morphology, microbiology, pharmacology and others.

Clinical – study on animal diseases, methods of their diagnosis, prevention and treatment. It includes collaboration with epizootiology, therapy, obstetrics and others.

Veterinary Sanitation – study on the effects on the external factors. It examines the problem of optimizing the habitat of animals; improves the quality of animal products. Knowledge on this science students gain via such subjects as zoo hygiene, veterinary and sanitary examination.

In addition, veterinary medicine is closely related to many other sectors - livestock, food industry, transportation, import and export trade applied sciences. Status of the veterinary field development is classically defined by social development of a country, the particular level of economy function, progress in science and education.

According to statistics the profession of a veterinarian is listed in top ten most respected and well-paid professions in western world countries: Germany - 4th place, Canada - 4th place, Israel - 3rd place, and only overrunning professions are architects, cosmetic surgeons and neurosurgeons.

Patients of vet doctor cannot switch to another doctor on their own or complain to management of a vet clinic. Their rights are not protected by law and the Hippocratic Oath. Compliance of professional ethics and love to animals - these should be professional qualification features of a doctor of veterinary medicine.

The results of work of a veterinarian are visible in many sectors of economy: farming, food industry, medicine and fisheries etc.

In historical periods of time when veterinary service had not been properly developed on the globe human society often encountered epidemics and pandemics of infectious animal diseases. Those caused mass dying of cattle, causing huge economic losses, condemning many people to hunger and poverty. Diseases of animals led to significant casualties.

Nowadays, such "epidemic" risk is rare, but it does not mean that epidemics and pandemics have gone into oblivion. Moreover, in the present conditions of society are many factors that contribute to the rapid spread of infectious diseases. So, the mission of veterinarian is to supervise constantly such "enemy" by studying its behavior, predicting the possible cures, preventing the risks of contamination of animals and humans.

Before 1916 any high veterinary school issued appropriate certificate to graduates with the title of "veterinarian". At graduation veterinarians graduates had to give the promise, similar to the oath of Hippocrates in medicine, the text of which was printed on the back of the diploma: "Via taking proper appreciation of the right of being a veterinarian which is given to me by this certificate, I give a promise faithfully perform the duties of my rank, to promote the treatments for animals and possible cure of their disease."

As we know, a description of a profession with its certain characteristics, content of duties and requirements is provided by science of *professiogramme*. It describes psychological, industrial, technical, medical and sanitary, ethical and other features of each specialty. This science specifies the functions of a specialty

and complexity of mastering a profession by possessing psycho-physiological qualities associated with certain profession and organization of work environment. Here is the example of the structure professiogram specialty veterinarian for your consideration: [15]

Complex veterinarian duties include:

- Monitoring life and behavior of animals;
- Identify causes of disease in animals;
- Diagnosis of animal diseases and treatment assignment;
- Preventive measures for prevention of diseases of animals and humans;
- Monitoring the implementation of health standards on farms and animal habitats;
- Veterinary examination of food products of animal origin (meat, eggs, milk, butter, honey, etc.)
- Artificial insemination and submitting them to obstetric care.

By watching life and behavior of animals, conducting preventive examinations, veterinarians are able to determine the status of their health. If a vet finds sick animals diagnosed with a disease, the necessary steps should be taken for their treatment and prevention of disease of other animals. In addition, veterinarians provide ambulant vet services.

A veterinarian performs basic diagnostic and therapeutic procedures (Thermo, determination of pulse, taking a blood sample, rubbing, massage, diagnostic and preventive vaccination, preparation of medications, drugs prescription), surgery on animals in compliance with the rules of antisepsis and safety.

In the case of infectious animal was identified a veterinarian prepares disinfectants with support of staff spreads disinfection of livestock buildings and adjacent territories, establishes quarantine with a due date. When epidemic is detected a veterinarian makes necropsy of animals, identifies the diagnosis, determines the veterinary preventive measures to stop the spread of epidemic.

At a meat factory and farmer`s markets veterinarian conducts veterinary examination of animal products, determines their suitability for use as food, discarded the affected organs or even whole carcasses under veterinary legislation.

Most veterinarians work in agricultural sector. The responsibilities of such veterinarian include constant surveillance of animals, the implementation of rules of the care, feeding, maintenance and reproduction. A veterinarian performs a systematic preventative measures (vaccinations, culling, etc.) and provides strict control on the following sanitary standards on farms.

In the case of diseases of animals a veterinarian finds out the causes of disease, makes diagnose, prescribes treatment and conducts preventive measures for meat processing and other enterprises for the processing of animal products. Veterinarians develop and implement measures to detect sick animals, control the quality of raw materials and finished products, thereby prevent disease for humans, do not allow the consumption of low-quality animal products.

Professional and ethical competence of a veterinarian is identified by the specific features of a future professional described in this article along with professional activities where the regulatory framework consists of professional and ethical competence of a veterinarian.

Competence in turn can be described through its external manifestations as a person's ability to operate outside of educational subjects and situations and the ability to transfer knowledge and skills outside the context in which knowledge and skills are initially formed, additionally with the ability to formulate a qualified judgment, to take appropriate decisions in problem situations, reaching the goal eventually [12].

These definitions require the inclusion of certain features of the structure of competence by thinking in particular about creative features that provide the ability to transfer knowledge and skills in new areas of implementation, independence in decision-making, problem-solving ability.

Based on the above mentioned fundamentals we formulate the definition of the phenomenon of professional and ethical competence in the light of the

mission of our study. Professional and ethical competence of a veterinary doctor is a characteristic of the science of veterinary activity, defined by the presence of ethical important qualities of a professional, as well as a set of professional concepts and ethical standards of behavior and conscious for use of their skills in veterinary practice to address ethical issues. This is a complex individual psychological education which should combine theoretical knowledge with professional ethics and professional practice skills of a veterinarian to ensure the choice it deliberates for ethical conduct in accordance with professional and ethical standards. The process of mastering of professional ethics is important to resolve difficult ethical situations while performing professional practice. We listed all aspects of professional and ethical competence for professional practice of a veterinarian. High level of professional performance of duties within professional code of excellence is not impossible without the formation of professional and ethical competence of students.

Conclusions. The analysis of this paper, as well as philosophical, psychological and pedagogical literature allows us to draw the following conclusions on the importance of the ethical component of professional activities veterinarian.

For the first, the profession of veterinarian performs an important social function. The vet in professional activity is led by two major motives that are purely of moral and ethical character: internal, which is based on the moral consciousness of an individual and external, which is based on the strength of the learned professional code.

For the second, the study of the components of professional and ethical competence of a veterinarian led us to a system developing component of personal nature progress; the mentioned component is divided into two competencies, one of which refers to moral and ethical sphere of consciousness of a specialist and the other to a professional sphere.

For the third, consideration of researches of national and international scientists in the field of professional ethics helped to illustrate the unexplored

status of this problem and highlighted the importance of solution to be developed to this pedagogic problem to ensure the proper level of professionalism of future veterinarians.

The above provisions give us reasonable basis for allocation ethical component of professional activities of a doctor of veterinary medicine as an independent significant expertise key feature which is necessary for successful implementation of professional duties and meeting social expectations. The analysis of existing variety of key features in professional and ethical competency in education should emphasize the mission of professional and ethical components of competence in work practice of future doctors of veterinary medicine. The professional component is supposed to reflect the ideology of the professional practice of a veterinarian along with ethical attitudes, values, professional experiences.

Strategies of further research. I believe there should be introduced the special segment of the professional competence of a veterinary doctor - concept of "professional and ethical competence". This concept has to be developed as a structural component in the professional training of future veterinarians. Professional and ethical competence has to be identified as a structural component of education and the function of it has to be developed. Specific pedagogical methods of teaching professional and ethical competence should be invented and implemented to ensure the effectiveness of the formation of ethical competence of students enrolled in the specialty "Veterinary Medicine".

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