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TRENDS IN TRAINING RADIOLOGISTS AND RADIOLOGY TECHNICIANS

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The last decade is marked by a further increase of the part played by radiology in the integral system of training doctors. The reasons for this are the introduction of automation, electronics and television in radiology; achievements in angiography, fast development of nuclear medicine methods; and computer tomography, apart from the improvement of results in complex radiological methods of treating malignant tumors.

It is obvious that the above required both reorganization of the whole system of training radiologists and radiology technicians and its intensification on the most optimal basis.

A new system of training radiologists has been developed in the USSR. It covers traditional and programmed training methods. The theory of consequential levels of action is the basis for the system. This theory was developed by the Soviet physiologist Galperin in 1965.

The major features of the new training system are:

- definition of training aims, represented by certain types of activity;
- definition of logic structure of the whole training course as well as logic structure of each particular section of clinical training;
- relationship between lectures, practical lessons, individual work and use of training programmes.

Training programmes stipulate practical and individual activities for students.

The training programme contains diagrams, showing the direction of the students' further activities.

To make the new system more widely used, new programme manuals have been issued in the USSR.

The success of the new programmes is shown by the fact that when controlled tests were held, 90% of the students obtained 90% correct answers. These compare with only 73% correct answers when traditional methods were used.

To solve the complicated problems of integration and specialization of post-graduates in the field of modern radiology, there are 14 institutes that will improve the doctors qualification as well as faculties for the improvement of lecturers' qualifications at large medical institutes.

For the constant improvement of medical personnel qualifications, a nationwide step-by-step training system is used in the USSR. For intern and post-graduates the course is based on the following principles:

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- Solid professional and general theoretical training;
- solid theoretical and practical training in radiology;
- combination of training and clinical work;
- consequent training in all sectors in radiology.

The basis of the system is the so called problem training where systematic mental activity is stimulated for the maximum benefit of the student.

An important part is played here by a social and creative atmosphere in which the specialist is trained.

It is difficult to overestimate such factors as proper selection of teachers, lecturers and scientific workers of the chair, general medical level professional and intellectual features of the scientific team, favourable atmosphere etc.

Joint scientific activity of teachers and post-graduates in research is extremely essential.