

Role of the Asian Congress of Neurological Surgeons in neurosurgery development of Kazakhstan

The Republic of Kazakhstan is the state which located in the northern hemisphere on joint of two continents—Europe and Asia. By the square Kazakhstan takes the 9th place in the world, conceding to Russia, China, the USA, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, India and Australia.

Kazakhstan shares borders with China, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Russia. The population of Kazakhstan is more than 16 million people and there are more than 130 ethnic groups possessing the cultural, language and historical specifics.

Kazakhstan is the state with market economy. The policy of national economy creates all conditions for social and economic development of the Kazakhstan. The Republic of Kazakhstan possesses high industrial potential and highly skilled manpower, has rich stocks of minerals and extensive agricultural grounds. The gross internal product per capita in Kazakhstan equaled \$9000 following the results of 2010.

The neurosurgical service in Kazakhstan has more than 40-year history and its beginning is inseparably linked with neurosurgical service of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). The new stage came with acquisition of independence of our country after breakup of the USSR.

There are 1 specialized scientific center, 32 specialized neurosurgical units, 2 units of neurotraumatology and 5 traumatologic units as part of which there are neurosurgical beds in the Republic of Kazakhstan. Total of 1471 neurosurgical beds, from them 202 for children are available in Kazakhstan. The neurosurgical care is rendered by 232 neurosurgeons.

The medical cluster in Astana which became one of the effective ways of innovative “breakthrough”, allowing cardinaly to improve situation in health care was created in 2008, by order of the President of our Republic Nursultan Nazarbayev. Our center—Republican research center for neurosurgery is also one of successfully carrying out Strategy of Development of Kazakhstan. The center became unique specialized clinic in Central Asia which was constructed in 2008 according to the modern project and equipped with the new equipment and trained staff.

For 4 years of work more than 30 innovative technologies which have not been used before in Kazakhstan were implemented in the Center for neurosurgery. These are such technologies as endovascular neurosurgery of arteriovenous

malformation and aneurisms, endoscopic approaches to skull base tumors, an innovation in surgeries of spine and spinal cord, new microneurosurgery application in neurooncology, innovative methods of treatment of stroke, functional neurosurgery, neurosurgery of newborns.

The Center works on coordination of activity of all neurosurgical service of Kazakhstan, and it is the educational and methodical center. The main training of specialists in the republic takes place in the Center where lectures, seminars and practical training are leading by master neurosurgeons of our country. Master classes and training seminars with course of lectures and indicative operations, with the invitation of leading professors are performed with the aim of professional development of neurosurgeons, strengthening of international relations and experience of known foreign schools.

The Kazakh Association of Neurosurgeons is created in 2010 on the basis of the Center of neurosurgery. The International Congresses of Neurosurgeons are carried out in Astana and other regions of Kazakhstan by means of Association. The Kazakh Association of Neurosurgeons became competent and valued member of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies (WFNS), the European Association of Neurosurgical Societies (EANS) and the Asian Congress of Neurological Surgeons. Members of KAN are individual members of ACNS, EANS, American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS).

The Asian Congress of Neurological Surgeons renders big support to the Kazakh Association of Neurosurgeons and all neurosurgery of Kazakhstan. The choice of carrying out X ACNS in the capital of Kazakhstan in Astana became big trust to Kazakhstan. Major work on strengthening of bilateral communications is carried out by professors Yoko Kato, Tetsuo Kanno, Peter Black and Alexander Potapov. For the first time in the Central Asian region, in Astana, the educational courses WFNS are carried out thanks to their efforts in 2011. Kazakhstan was visited by neurosurgeons from 22 countries of the world. It was grand event for the medical community of Kazakhstan.

II Congress of neurosurgeons of Kazakhstan with the international participation have recently passed. Delegates of Congress unanimously supported an initiative of further development of neurosurgical service of Kazakhstan as part of WFNS, EANS and ACNS. The congress was visited by the President of EANS Professor Vladimir Benes with whom the question about carrying the EANS Educational courses in Astana in 2013 was discussed.

Major work on improvement of educational programs, continuing professional education and development of the Kazakh neurosurgeons, attraction of foreign experience is planned in prospect jointly with ACNS.

Bigger part of Kazakhstan situates in Asia and therefore it will undoubtedly collaborate with neighbors by region, considering its dynamic development. Participation of KAN in ACNS is one of the main strategic directions of work of the organization.



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