

THE 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF PROF. MUDR. FRANTIŠEK HAMZA, THE FOUNDER OF SOCIAL MEDICINE AND CHILDREN ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS

Marie MAREČKOVÁ

Abstract: *Vast organisational activities and medical-science works of an author and physician, founder of social medicine and anti-tuberculosis medical institutions, Prof. MUDr. František Hamza (1868–1930), deepened the knowledge on social health care in our countries not only by his own investigational contribution but also by his innovator share in the organisation of the Czechoslovak healthcare and by a concrete application of modern complex curative methods, prevention and hygienic measures in real life. On the background of the European development he emphasised the influence of social environment, life style, hygiene and further education in the fight against tuberculosis and cancer. His whole-life effort and personal engagement oriented in this direction laid the foundations of a modern conception of social medicine in theory and practice and of a complex care in patients, particularly in children and youth.*

Keywords: *Hamza František, social medicine, anti-tuberculosis medical institutions, health service organisation*

Vast organisational activities and medical-science works of an author and physician, founder of social medicine and anti-tuberculosis medical institutions, Prof. MUDr. František Hamza (1868–1930), deepened the knowledge on social health care in our countries not only by his own investigational contribution but also by his innovator share in the organisation of the Czechoslovak healthcare and by a concrete application of modern complex therapeutic methods, prevention and hygienic measures in real life. On the background of the European development he emphasised the influence of social environment, life style, hygiene and further education in the fight against tuberculosis and cancer. His whole-life effort and personal engagement oriented in this direction laid the foundations of a modern conception of social medicine in theory and practice and of complex care in patients, particularly in children and youth.

Research, practical and organisational contribution of Hamza's work to the modernisation of the Czech health service and health culture of the population is still live. This medallion should also be an honour to the 140th anniversary of the birth of František Hamza, the head of the Institute of social medicine of the Faculty of Medicine, MU Brno, since the foundation of which have passed 85 years.

František Hamza belonged to the famous generation of progressive Czech students, after 1882, that was formed round the Fraternity of Czech medical students at the Faculty of Medicine, Charles University. After his graduation on 15th July 1897 he decided before all for a systematic procedure in curing, and in that time immedicable social disease – tuberculosis. In 1900 in Luž-Košumberk he built up the first institution in Czech countries for patients stricken by scrofula. Because of the fact that unsuitable social conditions undoubtedly contributed to tuberculosis morbidity similarly as a bacillary infection, František Hamza not only urged for their improvement but before all endeavoured after rigorous prophylaxis and prevention under the condition of a systematic health education.

In 1918 Vavro Šrobár, his friend from studies and minister of public health services and physical education, entrusted him with the position of a chief of the section of social affairs. František Hamza should have applied his experience in the cooperation in constituting social health care in Czechoslovakia. Besides ensuring an obligatory smallpox vaccination and foundation of the institute for curing rabies, he took a very active part in founding new state curing institutions, namely the State Šrobár therapeutic institution in the High Tatras, for which he elaborated rigorous institution regulations. He succeeded in establishing dispensaries, in other words, anti-tuberculosis clinics and health institutions, the effect of which exposed the following decades.

By request of Jan Babák, the dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University Brno, František Hamza, in February 1922, was appointed an Associated Professor of social medicine at the faculty, which introduced a systematic education of this upcoming branch.

Besides establishing and heading the Institute of social medicine of the Faculty of Medicine MU, which, as the oldest in our country, will have celebrated 85 years of fruitful and inspirational activities, František Hamza notably contributed to the development of Brno health service by establishing an anti-tuberculosis clinic and infirmary for railwaymen and also by building a Student health institute. He participated in the solution of existing pedagogical and psychological problems of children and youth, in the application of the principles of healthy housing and housing hygiene and also took part in the preparations of Masaryk Institute of Oncology.

The scientific and pedagogical significance of František Hamza has been explored and evaluated by the workers of the Faculty of Medicine MU Brno where the incentive ideas of the teacher and founder of the Institute of social medicine are

being further developed. Acquired knowledge of the life, work and achievements of this personality can form a basis of further research.¹

Hamza's lifelong effort is as incentive also in the framework of the problems of present health policy. There come changes both in the role of state and in the active role of the citizen in the health care system. The state of health of every person is influenced by systematic health education, which becomes an important social and personal value and a component of an all-society strategy for health in 21st century, too.

140. VÝROČÍ NAROZENÍ PROF. MUDR. FRANTIŠKA HAMZY, ZAKLADATELE SOCIÁLNÍHO LÉKAŘSTVÍ A PROTITUBERKULÓZNÍCH DĚTSKÝCH LÉČEBEN

Abstrakt: Věhlasný lékař, zakladatel a budovatel Ústavu sociálního lékařství Lékařské fakulty Masarykovy univerzity, budovatel protituberkulózních dětských léčeben prof. MUDr. František Hamza (1868–1930), byl průkopníkem integrálního sociálního lékařství a preventivní medicíny. Významně se podílel na organizaci československého zdravotnictví a konkrétní aplikaci moderních komplexních léčebných metod, prevence a hygienických opatření v praxi. Závažné místo v praktické orientaci Františka Hamzy patřilo školní zdravotní péči a proklamaci společné cesty ke zdraví.

Klíčová slova: Prof. MUDr. František Hamza, sociální lékařství, protituberkulózní dětské léčebny, preventivní medicína, komplexní léčebné metody, organizace československého zdravotnictví, škola a zdraví

¹ LINHARTOVÁ, V. Skutkem a pravdou milovat lidi. Prof. MUDr. František Hamza (1868–1930). 158 s. Brno: Akademické nakladatelství CERM, s.r.o., 2008.