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THE ROLE OF BIOBIBLIOGRAPHIC INDEXES AND OTHER REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS IN THE RESEARCH OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE IN UKRAINE IN THE 19th – EARLY 20th CENTURIES

Summary

The article analyzes (bio)bibliographic indexes and other types of reference literature on the history of medicine in Ukraine in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

To reveal the chosen topic, the authors used general scientific principles: objectivity, systematicity, typology; biographical approach; methods: problem-chronological, problem-historiographic, comparative-historical as well as the methodology of bibliographic search and description.

The scientific novelty of the article lies in the fact that the role of biobibliographic indexes and other reference publications in the study of the history of medicine in Ukraine in the 19th and early 20th centuries has been little studied by specialists. The analysis of reference literature on the selected issues revealed certain problems, primarily related to the quality of content and insufficient standardization of the rules for compiling reference publications, especially the design of references, citations and general lists of literature. Specific examples show the importance of the following sections of reference literature: introductory word (preface, biographical sketch in biobibliographic indexes, etc.), nominal and other indexes, list of

conventional abbreviations. The authors advocate the correct use of appendices, photographs, scans and other illustrative material.

The importance of reference literature is shown not only for historians of medicine, biographers of famous doctors, but also for the general public. Diverse reference information contributes to the clarification and popularization of information about the life and creative path of physicians of the past. Readers' access to biographical directories, encyclopedias and other types of reference literature has become more accessible thanks to the general informatization of library work. The considered types of reference literature stimulate further research into both the biographies and works of individual physicians, and the history of various educational and research institutions of the medical profile, and ultimately the history of medicine and its individual branches as a whole.

Keywords: *history of medicine, medical practice, encyclopedias, biographical dictionaries, (bio)bibliographic indexes.*