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## **The Restoration of the Medical Institute in Kyiv under Nazi Occupation (1941–1943) as Reflected in the Local Ukrainian Press**

During the German—Soviet War 1941—1945, the Ukrainian city of Kyiv had been under German Nazi occupation from September 19, 1941, till November 6, 1943. The majority of the staff of the preexistent Kyiv Medical Institute (KMI) facing the occupation threat was evacuated to Kharkiv and then to Russian Cheliabinsk, where it continued its academic activity. The minority of the KMI staff remained in Kyiv. Considering the growing need of the qualified medical professionals for the local civilians, the German occupation authorities gave permission to restore some medical institutes and nursing/midwifery schools in the Reichskommissariat Ukraine and Distrikt Galizien. Among those restored institutions was the KMI (in November 1942 renamed to Polymedicum). Unfortunately, due to pure political reasons, in the Soviet Ukraine this page of the KMI history was not reflected at all in the official chronicles of KMI and seemed to be proclaimed as non-existent.

We have analyzed any mentions about the restored KMI in the local Ukrainian language press published under Nazi occupation and found in the Central State Archive of Supreme Authorities and Governments (CDAVO) of Ukraine. The most relevant newspapers were „Ukrayinske Slovo“ and „Nove Ukrayinske Slovo“.

In October 1941 the press wrote about general medical situation in Kyiv freed from the Communist government accounting 21 ambulatories, 15 hospitals, 14 pediatric clinics, and 9 sanitary stations. All certified medical specialists left in Kyiv were re-registered and re-appointed to their work places. The Kyiv Municipal Government made all necessary preparations to re-open special schools and educational institutes, including KMI.

In November 15, 1941, the newspapers informed about restored training in the KMI for senior students. In January 28, 1942, appeared a call for admission for the 1st year students of the Medical, Dental, and Pharmaceutical faculties. Prof. O. Lazurenko was appointed as the Director of the restored KMI.

During 1941—1942 the newspapers mentioned many professors working at KMI clinical departments, among them: Synhalevych, Ziukov, Kramarenko, Bohatyrchuk, Podushko, Yarovy, Ventskivsky, Neschadymenko, Bohayevsky, Khokhutov, Levytsky, Tomilin, Pliusch, Bazilevych, Kucherenko, Solntsev, Lysovetsky, Lozinsky, Rumyantsev, Sofin, Seletsky, Studzynsky, Ruchkivsky,

Sementsov, Ivakin. Prof. Y. Kramarenko and Prof. F. Bohatyrchuk were themselves authors of several articles in the local newspapers.

The significant portion of the clinical work of the KMI academic staff was dedicated to the treatment of POWs, i.e. Red Army soldiers treated in occupied Kyiv, e.g. in the 1st Municipal Clinical Hospital.

The work of the Polymedicum was gradually put to the end by Nazi occupiers who beginning from January 1942 recruited Ostarbeiters. Though initially such recruitment seemed to be on a voluntary basis, during summer—autumn 1942 it was more and more liked to human hunting. Some caught students were forcefully engaged in agricultural seasonal works in Ukraine. Therefore, the KMI students eventually began to boycott institutional meetings or lessons and tried to hide elsewhere. At the last academic meeting on November 13, the KMI/Polymedicum was dissolved, and all its students were subject to forced labour in Germany.

The last mention about the former KMI/Polymedicum students in the „Nove Ukrayinske Slovo“ is dated to November 15, 1942.

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