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## News from the International Association of Ethnopsychologists and Ethnopsychotherapists (IAEE)

### A New Dissertation Council on Psychiatry and Narcology has been Opened in Tomsk, Russia

A new dissertation council on psychiatry and narcology has been opened based on Tomsk National Research Medical Center at Mental Health Research Institute (headquarters of the International Association of Ethnopsychologists and Ethnopsychotherapists, Tomsk, Russia) with expanded powers to defend dissertations not only in medical but also in biological sciences.

The Council included leading scientists in the field of psychiatry and narcology, including those with a basic biological education, who own advanced high-tech research methods.

Chairman of the Council - Director of Mental Health Research Institute of Tomsk National Research Medical Center, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Honoured Scientist of the Russian Federation, Doctor of Medical Sciences, Professor Nikolai Bokhan.

Mental Health Research Institute has many years of experience in the training and certification of highly qualified medical scientific personnel for the regions of Siberia and the Far East, as well as near and far abroad. The dissertation council at Mental Health Research Institute has been functioning since 1987 (as a doctoral council since 1991) and was the only council in the Urals, Siberia and the Far East to review dissertations for the scientific degrees of doctor and candidate of medical sciences in the specialties “psychiatry” and “narcology”.

Researchers, practitioners, psychologists from various parts of the country, including representatives of Yakutia, Buryatia, Khakassia, Tuva, defended their theses in the Dissertation Council of the Institute.

In addition to highly qualified medical specialists, in recent years there has been a need for highly qualified biological specialists. The study of the aetiology and pathogenesis of mental and narcological diseases, which have a multifactorial heterogeneous nature, requires an interdisciplinary approach of the biological and medical branches of science. New knowledge about the fundamental regularities of the pathology of the mental sphere with the aim of implementing translational and personalised medicine in the field of neurosciences can be obtained by highly qualified scientific personnel at the intersection of medical and biological sciences.

The opening of the council will serve to expand scientific research and international collaborations on clinical and biological issues in the field of psychiatry and narcology.

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