



NEWS RELEASE

LAUNCH OF “LISTEN TO YOUR HEART!” SOCIAL PROJECT: PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES AND THEIR PREVENTION

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On October 26, 2016, “Dynamo” Ukraine Sports Society, All-Ukrainian Public Organization “Ukrainian Health Fund” and “Pharma Start”, LLC, a company of a Swiss pharmaceutical group ACINO, launched “Listen to Your Heart!” joint social project with official support of Ukraine’s Ministry of Internal Affairs.

“Nowadays officers of the National Police of Ukraine operate under difficult socioeconomic conditions present in the country and often face stressful situations during performance of their duties, which may be a risk factor for cardiovascular diseases. Such disorders, however, can be early identified and prevented – this is the goal of “Listen to Your Heart!” project”, Ludmyla Iosypivna Shostak, Deputy Head of Health and Rehabilitation Department at the Ukraine’s Ministry of Internal Affairs, said at a press conference.

600 staff members of the National Police of Ukraine belonging to the age category “35+” in five major Ukrainian cities - Lviv, Odesa, Vinnytsia, Kharkiv, Dnipro will undergo free-of-charge medical examination by a team of qualified medical specialists within the project. The project started in Vinnytsia and shall last till the end of the year.

“Ukrainian Health Fund has initiated “Listen to Your Heart!” project primarily to draw public attention to the fact that cardiovascular diseases account for two-thirds of all death cases in Ukraine. We feel certain that raising awareness of the public about heart diseases prevention, and promoting knowledge on self-assessment techniques and measures of emergency management of myocardial infarction and stroke can contribute to saving people’s lives and improving their longevity. Essentially, the project involves rapid testing of blood pressure, blood glucose and cholesterol levels as well as body weight (body mass index). Following such examination, every person will receive information on his/her individual risk of acute cardiovascular diseases, and a guide on diagnostic and self-assessment techniques with myocardial infarction and stroke, as well as related emergency procedures. In particular, medical check-up in Vinnytsia showed that 88% of all subjects have above the normal body mass index, 56% - high blood glucose levels, 50% - abnormal blood pressure and 28% - high blood cholesterol levels”, Volodymyr Volodymyrovych Dudka, Head of Ukrainian Health Fund, commented.

“Support of projects promoting healthy lifestyle is one of the key and core aspects of work of “Dynamo” Ukraine Sports Society”, notes Viktor Petrovych Korzh, First Deputy Head of “Dynamo” Ukraine Sports Society. “A number of socially important activities in healthcare have been initiated by the Society. Among them, namely, is the supply of the Central Hospital of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine with high-tech cardiologic equipment, organization of medical products delivery to the ATO zone. “Listen to Your Heart!” project is a logical extension of these activities. It is a timely and socially significant initiative in view of the risks faced by police officers aged above 35, attributable to a range of factors associated with their professional activity. Medical examination using modern equipment provided by Pharma Start, LLC, which is not always available in public health facilities dealing with mandatory health assessment of police officers, offers an opportunity to prevent a number of cardiovascular diseases in this group of law enforcement officers and develop recommendations to be submitted to the officials of Ukraine’s Ministry of Internal Affairs.”

“Pharma Start Company, Ukrainian manufacturer of medicinal products and a part of Swiss pharmaceutical company Acino, is the primary sponsor of “Listen to Your Heart!” social project. “Acino Pharma Start” participates in social healthcare projects in Ukraine, which also includes support of charitable programs. The company annually invests significant funds in social, humanitarian and charitable projects with the aim to improve the quality of life of Ukrainian people. We believe that active social attitude of local pharmaceutical companies will contribute to the development of healthcare system in Ukraine”, says Ievgen Eduardovych Zaika, Director General of “Pharma Start”, LLC, a company of Swiss pharmaceutical group ACINO.



The health examination will be held according to the following schedule: November 16 – Lviv, November 23 – Odesa, November 30 – Kharkiv, December 13, 2016 – Dnipro. Following examination, medical specialists will develop a set of recommendations to be submitted to the management of Ukraine's Ministry of Internal Affairs.

FOR REFERENCE:

“Dynamo” Ukraine Sports Society, All-Ukrainian Public Organization “Ukrainian Health Fund” and “Pharma Start”, LLC, a company of Swiss pharmaceutical group ACINO, share a common goal in their activities, which is to ensure healthy and high-quality life for Ukrainian people. Each of these organizations, through its mission and values, implements the stated goal. It is to popularize sports and physical training, introduce and execute social programs, provide pharmacological support for the people of Ukraine through the supply of high-quality, effective, safe and affordable medicinal products.

About “Dynamo” Ukraine Sports Society

“Dynamo” Ukraine Sports Society (founded in 1923) is the most powerful domestic organization of sports and physical training, which is actively involved in execution of the state programs and activities associated with physical training and sport, and ensures physical preparedness of athletes, military servants and law enforcement officials of Ukraine to perform their professional duties. With its background of unique experience and human capacity, “Dynamo” Ukraine Society continues to implement healthy lifestyle and mass sports among the people, supporting enforcement of the state policy in this area. www.dynamo.ua.

About All-Ukrainian Public Organization “Ukrainian Health Fund”

The mission of All-Ukrainian Public Organization “Ukrainian Health Fund” (www.healthfund.com.ua), founded in 2011, is to contribute to economic and social prosperity of Ukraine through maintenance, strengthening and improvement of health of all people. The Fund implements social and educational projects aimed at development of healthcare system, investigates foreign experience related to reforms in healthcare and assists with its implementation in Ukraine; it also provides advisory support to public authorities and government officials involved in the process of healthcare system reforming, etc.

About “Pharma Start”, LLC – company of Swiss pharmaceutical group ACINO

“Pharma Start” Limited Liability Company, a part of Swiss pharmaceutical group ACINO (www.acino.ua) starting from October 2015, is a modern pharmaceutical company that operates in the area of development and manufacture of high-technology generic medicinal products with additional properties. ACINO group of companies (www.acino.swiss) specializes for over 170 years in the development and manufacture of high-quality generic and innovative medicinal products and distributes its products for the benefit of patients in more than 80 countries worldwide. The product portfolio of “Pharma Start”, a company of Swiss pharmaceutical group ACINO, includes 43 medicinal products used in neurology, psychiatry, cardiology and therapy. For the manufacture of highly-effective medicinal products the company uses own production facilities located in Kyiv – a pharmaceutical plant certified in accordance with Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) standards, and scientific research laboratory dealing with development of new products. As of today, the company employs about 600 highly skilled professionals throughout the country. The company's mission is to develop, manufacture and promote the medicinal products of Swiss quality for the benefit of patients. For this reason, the company participates in Ukrainian health protection programs including provision of support to domestic medical and preventive treatment facilities and charitable projects aimed at improvement of life quality of the nation.

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For more information, please contact Yulia Pidkurganna, Executive Officer of All-Ukrainian Public Organization “Ukrainian Health Fund”; Tel.: + 38 050 615 99 94.