

Dear Colleagues!

This issue of the Russian Journal of Cardiology, coinciding with the Congress, includes diverse articles showing the potential and interests of cardiology as a clinical discipline. Nevertheless, the central themes of the issue are ethical, legal and psychosocial aspects of working with patients. This direction is becoming more and more relevant.

It so happens that behind the rapid developing of biomedical technologies and advances in the treatment of cardiovascular disease, communication with a patient as a part of society, as a person, an identity, is lost and lagged behind. This component is the ethical imperative of medicine. Helping a suffering person is the essence of the doctor-patient relationship. However, in the technological age, it is necessary to rethink and find new ways of interaction. This is important, firstly, in view of strengthening law role — regulation of care, informing and obtaining patient consent, medical privacy in the context of digital healthcare and during a pandemic. Secondly, in view of higher understanding of sociocultural risk factors, the role of a doctor as a communicating helping subject, a person endowed with the power of medicine, whose tasks include creating a constructive experience by a patient of his condition, increasing adherence, and establishing ways to improve the health, becomes more and more complex.

All this requires an understanding of the ethical, legal, psychological aspects of interaction between a cardiologist and a patient. A number of articles included in the issue propose this understanding from different points of view. Of course, these issues should be resolved with interdisciplinary team of clinicians, lawyers, psychologists and philosophers.

I wish you a productive Congress, new ideas and perspectives!

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