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INDUSTRIAL AND MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING IN FIGHT AGAINST THE VIRUS THREAT: PERSPECTIVES OF INCREASING QUALITY BASED ON DIGITALIZATION AND INDUSTRY 4.0

Abstract: *This paper is devoted to finding the importance of the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering for fighting a virus threat and to substantiating the perspectives of increasing quality in the healthcare sphere of based on digitalization and Industry 4.0. The authors perform quantitative analysis of the influence of the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering on quality of fight against the virus threat in comparison with the traditional factors. A qualitative treatment of the advantages of digitalization and Industry 4.0 with the help of industrial and manufacturing engineering for increasing the quality in fight against the virus threat is provided. The perspectives are modeled and recommendations are developed for increasing the quality of fight against the virus threat based on digitalization and Industry 4.0, with the help of industrial and manufacturing engineering. Originality and advantages of the research consist in the fact that successfulness of fight against the virus threat is treated not from the positions of resources (expenditures) but from the positions of results – quality. Due to this, the research contributes to formation of a concept of healthcare, which is oriented at the result and which guarantees high quality of medical services. Importance of the research is predetermined by determining the role of the technological factors (industrial and manufacturing engineering) in provision of quality of fighting the virus threat. Significance of the performed research for development of scientific knowledge consists in provision of substantiation and practical recommendations for applying a new – digital – approach to fight against the virus threat.*

Keywords: *Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering; Fight against the virus threat; Healthcare; Quality; Quality Management; Digitalization; Industry 4.0.*

1. Introduction

Quality has come to the foreground and become the characteristic of the healthcare system through which the approach to its

evaluation and management should be reconsidered. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the global system of healthcare faced a critically high burden. The criteria of analyzing the competitiveness of the national

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systems of healthcare have to be reconsidered. The traditional criteria include financial provision of healthcare, which determines sufficiency of the resource basis for executing its functions on provision of planned medical services (including drugs and other aspects of healthcare). Also, such traditional criteria as number of medical personnel and hospital beds are used – they characterize the production capacity and efficiency of the healthcare system.

In the conditions of urgent provision of medical services, instability of demand for them and quick increase of the burden on the healthcare system are observed; this does not allow for its timely adaptation (increase of efficiency and production capacities). The situation is difficult due to absence of a COVID-19 drug and vaccine against COVID-19 with proved high effectiveness. The pandemic set new requirements to the healthcare system. People must have access to medical services and be able to count on their high quality, as, unlike planned medical services with conventionally fixed quality, the quality of urgent medical services could be different. For example, in case of COVID-19 the presence of a highly-qualified doctor and a hospital bed does not guarantee quick recovery or prevention of a fatal outcome.

A perspective mechanism of quick adaptation of the healthcare system to the peak burden, which it faced in 2020, is digitalization, which is based on industrial and manufacturing engineering. In the conditions of the digital economy, there are three directions of increasing the quality of medical services. The first direction includes the use of Big data and AI for the healthcare purposes. These technologies will ensure collection of detailed statistics of morbidity and automatized analytics of the statistics. In particular, AI was used for selecting the perspective components of COVID-19 vaccines. Further development of “smart” healthcare envisages the search for mechanisms of restraint of infectious diseases – e.g., through analysis of social interactions,

comparison of self-isolation variants, or substantiation of refusal from it.

The second direction consists in development of the system of online public services in the healthcare system. The online form of medical services allows for their partial automatization during AI’s collecting the information from a patient, setting a preliminary diagnosis, and providing sample recommendations for treatment and for remote provision of medical services (information and consultation) by doctors, increasing their labor efficiency. Online public services also allow solving a lot of organizational issues in the healthcare sphere: online medical appointment booking, receipt of prescriptions, etc.

The third direction is hi-tech medical services – MedTech. Automatization, which is based on robotization, in healthcare allows creating leading equipment that is capable of increasing the labor efficiency of medical personnel and ensuring precision of laboratory research, diagnostics, manipulations, and creation of drugs, including vaccines. This could allow achieving better results in prevention and treatment of infectious diseases.

The originality and advantage of this research consists in the fact that successfulness of fight against the virus threat is treated not from the positions of resources (expenditures) but from the positions of results – quality. Due to this, the research contributes to formation of the concept of healthcare that is oriented at result and guarantees high quality of medical services. Importance of the research is predetermined by specifying the role of technological factors (industrial and manufacturing engineering) in provision of quality of fight against the virus threat.

The purpose of this research is to determine the role of the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering for successful fighting against a virus threat and to substantiate the perspectives of increasing quality in the healthcare sphere based on digitalization and Industry 4.0. For achieving

the set goal, the following tasks are solved:

- Quantitative analysis of the influence of the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering on quality of fight against the virus threat in comparison with the traditional factors;
- Qualitative treatment of advantages of digitalization and Industry 4.0 with the help of industrial and manufacturing engineering for increasing quality of fight against the virus threat;
- Modeling the perspectives and developing recommendations for increasing quality of fight against the virus threat based on digitalization and Industry 4.0 with the help of industrial and manufacturing engineering.

2. Literature Review

In order to perform a literature overview, it is necessary to specify and determine the categorical tools of the research. Two aspects of functioning of the healthcare system are distinguished. 1st aspect: provision of planned services and medical services to patients who pose a moderate threat to surrounding people (not threat of a pandemic). Quality of healthcare in this aspect is determined by sufficient financing of healthcare and accessibility of medical services (number of medical personnel and number of hospital beds).

2nd aspect: fight against the virus threat – i.e., urgent measures of healthcare, aimed at prevention or overcoming of infectious diseases pandemic with high danger in the form of complications and fatal cases. In this aspect, quality of healthcare is determined by reduction of morbidity rate and death rate from infectious diseases.

The important issues of fight against the virus threat are studied in the works of the modern authors. Da Costa et al. (2019) distinguish the factors that influence exchange of research data on zika virus and substantiate the theory of fighting this virus threat. Johanson and Madsen (2019) emphasize the

controllability of virus threat and wide perspectives of its prevention with the help of management. Omar and Fen (2018) consider the recent development of SPR-spectroscopy as a potential method of diagnostics of E-protein of dengue virus.

Plianbangchang (2018) offer a concept of healthcare with a special approach and increased attention to fighting the virus diseases. Platt et al. (2019) note the importance of society and information intermediaries' trust in the sphere of public healthcare and scientific research as the basis of fight against the virus threat. Larasanty et al. (2019) emphasize the necessity for orientation at patients' satisfaction with pharmaceutical services, provided in medical establishments of the primary and secondary levels in the system of medical insurance (by the example of Indonesia).

Candrea and Eger (2018) prove that results for health could be useful for specialists on the budget of public healthcare. Piroozi et al. (2019) show catastrophic expenditures for healthcare and their determinants in households with patients with gastrointestinal cancer (based on analysis of the data of a new reform of the healthcare system in Iran). Markham (2019) considers good functioning of a person, health, and strengthening of health as determinants of fight against the virus threat. Baaki et al. (2019) form conceptual framework for safe and sustainable health-care waste management (SSHCWM) in medical establishments for fight against the virus threat.

The conceptual and applied issues of provision of quality in the healthcare sphere have also been studied in detail. MacVane Phipps (2020) emphasizes the importance of initiatives in the sphere of public healthcare and other spheres, aimed at increase of quality in the healthcare sphere. Anaba and Abuosi (2018) offer a complex of scientific and methodological recommendations for evaluating and increasing the quality of medical services in clinics.

Bahadori et al. (2018) evaluate the influence of accreditation on quality medical services, based on a view from the positions of nurses. Bäckström (2019) analyzes the role of quality management in healthcare as compared to its treatment by a manager and medical staff. Pronovost et al. (2018) outline the next (future, perspective) level of responsibility of the board of directors on quality of medical services. Bader and Ganguli (2019) perform an analysis of connection between economic growth, quality of environment, and healthcare in The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf in 1980-2012.

Vijay (2014) notes the necessity for reducing and optimizing the duration of the cycle of patients release with the use of the six sigma approach. Thandapani et al. (2014) track the evolution of the medical studies register in developing countries (by the example of Malaysia). Doğu (2012) perform a monitoring of time between medical errors for improving the quality of medical aid. Tadić et al. (2009) offer a methodological approach to monitoring of therapy procedures with the help of AI methods, connected to achievement of high quality in the processes of medical services provision.

General issues of increasing the quality of goods and services due to application of the leading technologies and progressive capabilities of the digital economy and Industry 4.0 are studied in the work Popkova et al. (2020). Inshakova and Bogoviz (2020) offer the alternative methods of evaluating economic conflicts in the national positive and soft law. Alpidovskaya and Popkova (2019) perform a political and economic analysis of social systems' management.

Popkova (2017) outlines the economic and legal framework of the modern Russian society. Popkova and Sergi (2019) determine the contradiction of the digital economy, which consists in opposition of complexity, variability, flexibility, and rationality. Popkova and Sergi (2020) study human capital and AI in Industry 4.0 from the positions of convergence and divergence in

social entrepreneurship in Russia. Sergi et al. (2019b) outline the perspectives of financial development of Central Asia and China through cooperation with Russia in the sphere of the leading technologies, which could allow for more effective quality management in healthcare.

Sergi et al. (2019a) define public-private partnership as a mechanism of financing of sustainable development. Popkova and Sergi (2018) show that Industry 4.0 and other innovations have large influence on Russia's socio-economic development. Sergi (2019) considers technologies, smart cities, and regional development in modern Russia. Sergi (2003) studies economic dynamics in countries with transitional economy by the example of four countries' governments, expansion of the EU, and the Brussels consensus. Ragulina (2019) substantiates the priorities of development of Industry 4.0 in modern economic systems with different progress in formation of the knowledge economy.

Stolyarov et al. (2020) determines new players and new logic of decision making in the digital reality of the modern economy. Popkova (2019) describes the preconditions of formation and development of Industry 4.0 in the knowledge economy. Popkova and Gulzat (2020a) and Popkova and Gulzat (2020b) study the essence of the fourth industrial revolution, transition to Industry 4.0, and formation of the knowledge economy through the prism of various contradictions. Popkova and Zmiyak (2019) outline the priorities of digital personnel training for Industry 4.0 and show that in order to raise the quality of healthcare services it is necessary to use a competence-based approach to digital personnel training.

The experience and prospects of digitalization and improvement of the practices of fight against the virus threat based on capabilities of Industry 4.0 are studied in the existing publications. Young (2018) show the critical and interdisciplinary perspectives of formation

and development of digital healthcare. Rubbio et al. (2019) show that digital medical technologies strengthen sustainable behavior of people in society. Nayak et al. (2019) prove the perspectives of applying digital technologies in medical insurance for consumers' social benefit in India. Andersen et al. (2019) outlines the necessity to use and barriers in the form of high cost and the digital (infrastructural) gap in online healthcare (by the example of modern Denmark).

Thus, the literature overview has shown that the theoretical foundations of studying the considered problem are already forms – which allows for its elaboration. However, the gap analysis has shown that the scale, character, and essence of the influence of the factors of industrial & manufacturing engineering on successfulness of fight against the virus threat are poorly studied and require further research. In addition to this, the perspectives of increasing the quality of fight against the virus threat based on digitalization and Industry 4.0 with the help of managing the factors of industrial & manufacturing engineering have not been clearly determined and substantiated. Here we aim to fill these gaps.

3. Materials and method

In order to determine the perspectives of increasing the quality of fight against the virus threat based on digitalization and Industry 4.0 with the help of managing the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering, we offer and verify a range of the following scientific hypotheses:

- *Hypothesis H₁*: factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering positively influence the quality in fight against the virus threat, stimulating its increase (positive correlation);
- *Hypothesis H₂*: factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering largely determine

the quality in fight against the virus threat (correlation – above 50%);

- *Hypothesis H₃*: factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering determine quality in fight against the virus threat to a larger extent than traditional factors (correlation between quality of healthcare and the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering is higher than with traditional factors);
- *Hypothesis H₄*: contribution of the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering in increase of quality of healthcare services depends on the level of digitalization of an economic system, which determines the economic system's ability to successfully cope with a virus threat (large differences in correlation between countries with different digital competitiveness and different successfulness of fight against the virus threat).

In order to optimize the research and verify all offered hypotheses, the research objects are countries of two categories. The first category contains countries with the best results in fight against the virus threat in 2020 – i.e., with the best positions in the global ranking of countries' positions in the context of the COVID-2019 pandemic in 2020 dataset “Epidemics and pandemics: Big data for the scientific analytics of the dynamics of infectious diseases throughout the world and their consequences”). It should be noted that these countries are also the leaders in the IMD Digital Competitiveness Ranking.

The second category contains countries with the worst results in fight against the virus threat in 2020; these countries occupy peripheral positions in the Digital Competitiveness Ranking. The selected approach to classification of countries in this paper allows considering quality and digitalization of healthcare. Statistics of digital competitiveness and quality of healthcare in the selected countries are systematized and shown in Figure 1.

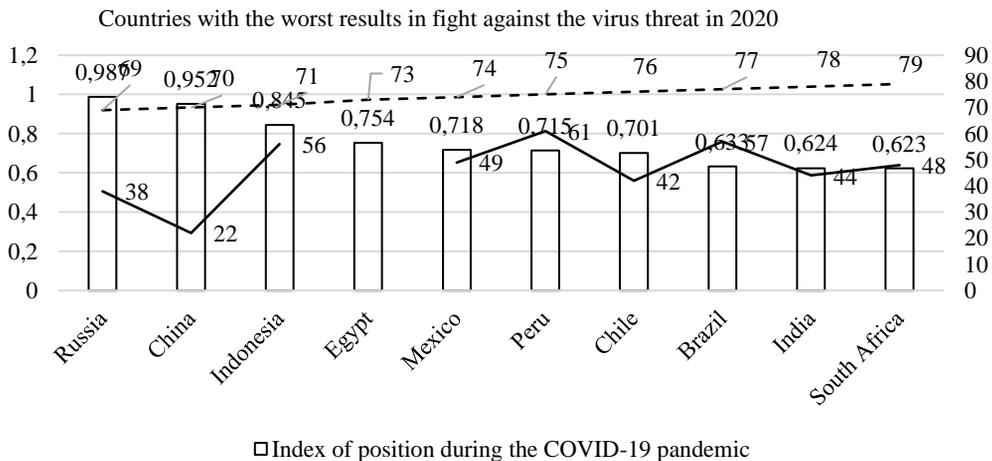
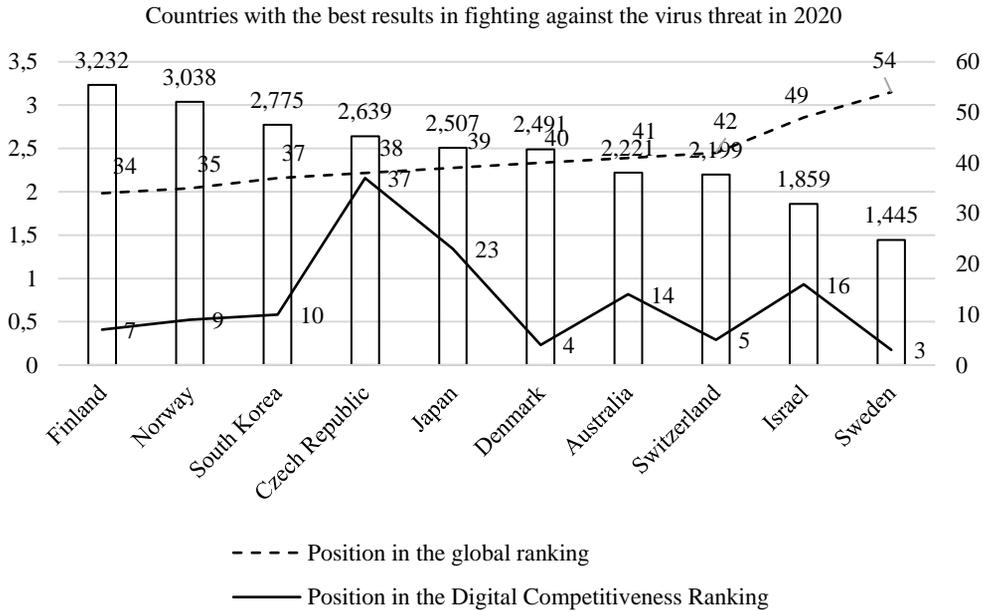


Figure 1. Statistics of digital competitiveness and quality of healthcare in countries of the distinguished categories in 2020

Source: compiled by the authors based on Institute of Scientific Communications (2020), IMD (2020)

As shown in Figure 1, in the first category Finland occupies the 34th position in ranking of position during the COVID-19 pandemic (3.232 points) – i.e., it shows high quality of healthcare, as well as high level of digitalization (7th position). For comparison, in the second category Russia occupies the

69th position in the ranking of position during the COVID-19 pandemic (0.987 points) – i.e., it shows moderate quality of healthcare and moderate level of digitalization (38th position). Therefore, the differences between countries of the distinguished categories are very vivid.

The statistical framework of the research includes manifestations of quality in fight against the virus threat:

- infectious diseases mortality rate in 2016, %;
- number of HIV cases in 2018, % of population aged 15-49;
- tuberculosis morbidity rate per 100,000 people in 2018;
- number of COVID-19 cases;
- death rate from COVID-19, %.

Secondly, traditionally accounted factors of quality in healthcare (with proved significance for planned medical services, but with uncertain influence on fight against the virus threat):

- healthcare expenditures in 2016, % of GDP;
- number of medical personnel per 1,000 people (most recent data);

- number of hospital beds per 1,000 people (most recent data);

Thirdly, the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering (determining the quality of healthcare based on digitalization and Industry 4.0 and potentially having a large role in fight against the virus threat):

- world robots distribution as a manifestation of use of Big data and AI for the healthcare purposes;
- use of Big data and analytics as a manifestation of hi-tech medical services (MedTech);
- e-government as a manifestation of online public services in the healthcare system;

The selected statistical data for countries of the first category are shown in Table 1, for countries of the second category – in Table 2.

Table 1. Quality of healthcare and the traditional and industrial and manufacturing engineering factors that influence it in countries with the best results in fight against the virus threat in 2020

Country	Manifestations of quality in fighting a virus threat					Traditionally accounted factors			Factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering		
	Infectious diseases' death rate in 2016, %	HIV cases in 2018, % of population aged 15-49	Tuberculosis morbidity rate per 100,000 people in 2018	Number of COVID-19 cases	COVID-19 death rate, %	Healthcare expenditures in 2016, % of GDP	Medical personnel per 1,000 people (most recent data)	Number of hospital beds per 1,000 people (most recent data)	Robotization level, positions 1-63	Use of Big data and AI, positions 1-63	Development of online public services, positions 1-63
Finland	93.2	0.1	4.7	7,117	4.581	9.21	3.8	4.4	33	24	6
Norway	87.0	0.1	4.1	8,692	2.807	10.45	2.9	3.9	41	15	14
South Korea	79.8	n/a	66.0	12,257	2.284	7.60	2.4	11.5	3	40	3
Czech Republic	89.9	0.1	5.4	10,176	3.272	7.23	4.1	6.5	16	36	45
Japan	82.4	0.1	14.0	17,588	5.316	10.94	2.4	13.4	2	63	10
Denmark	89.7	0.1	5.4	12,534	4.787	10.11	4.0	2.5	30	17	1
Australia	89.5	0.1	6.6	7,391	1.380	9.21	3.7	3.8	29	28	2
Switzerland	89.6	n/a	6.4	31,200	6.269	12.35	4.3	4.7	27	29	15
Israel	85.8	0.2	4.0	19,894	1.523	7.41	4.6	3.1	39	3	27
Sweden	89.9	n/a	5.5	56,043	9.016	11.02	4.0	2.6	17	7	5

n/a – no data in the source

Source: compiled by the authors based on Institute of Scientific Communications (2020), IMD (2020)

Table 2. Quality of healthcare and the traditional and industrial and manufacturing engineering factors that influence it in countries with the worst results in fight against the virus threat in 2020

Country	Manifestations of quality in fighting a virus threat					Traditionally accounted factors			Factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering		
	Infectious diseases' death rate in 2016, %	HIV cases in 2018, % of population aged 15-49	Tuberculosis morbidity rate per 100,000 people in 2018	Number of COVID-19 cases	COVID-19 death rate, %	Healthcare expenditures in 2016, % of GDP	Medical personnel per 1,000 people (most recent data)	Number of hospital beds per 1,000 people (most recent data)	Robotization level, positions 1-63	Use of Big data and AI, positions 1-63	Development of online public services, positions 1-63
Russia	87.4	n/a	54.0	560.279	1.363	5.34	4.0	8.2	34	31	28
China	89.3	n/a	61.0	84.462	5.491	5.15	2.0	4.2	1	12	50
Indonesia	73.3	0.4	316.0	42.762	5.470	2.99	0.4	1.2	25	8	61
Egypt	84.1	0.1	12.0	49.219	3.759	5.29	0.5	1.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
Mexico	79.9	0.2	23.0	159.793	11.940	5.52	2.4	1.5	11	56	49
Peru	69.2	0.3	123.0	240.908	3.012	5.00	1.3	1.6	54	59	55
Chile	84.7	0.5	18.0	220.628	1.639	8.98	2.6	2.2	47	52	35
Brazil	73.9	0.5	45.0	955.377	4.868	9.47	2.2	2.2	19	60	37
India	62.7	n/a	199.0	366.946	3.335	3.53	0.9	0.7	13	30	58
South Africa	51.3	20.4	520.0	80,412	2.082	8.11	0.9	2.8	32	20	52

n/a – no data in the source.

Source: compiled by the authors based on Institute of Scientific Communications (2020), IMD (2020)

The research methodology consists of correlation analysis, which is used for determining the dependence (connection) of the manifestations of quality in fight against the virus threat on various factors – traditional factors and factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering. Comparative analysis is used for comparing correlation between quality in fight against the virus threat and different factors and for determining the differences in their significance for quality of healthcare. Also, the differences between the distinguished categories of countries are determined.

4. Results

4.1 Quantitative analysis of influence of the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering on quality of fight against the virus threat in comparison with the traditional factors

For performing a quantitative analysis of influence of various factors on quality of fight against the virus threat based on the data from Table 1, the following results of correlation analysis of quality of healthcare with the traditional factors (Figure 2) and the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering are received for countries of the first category (Figure 3).

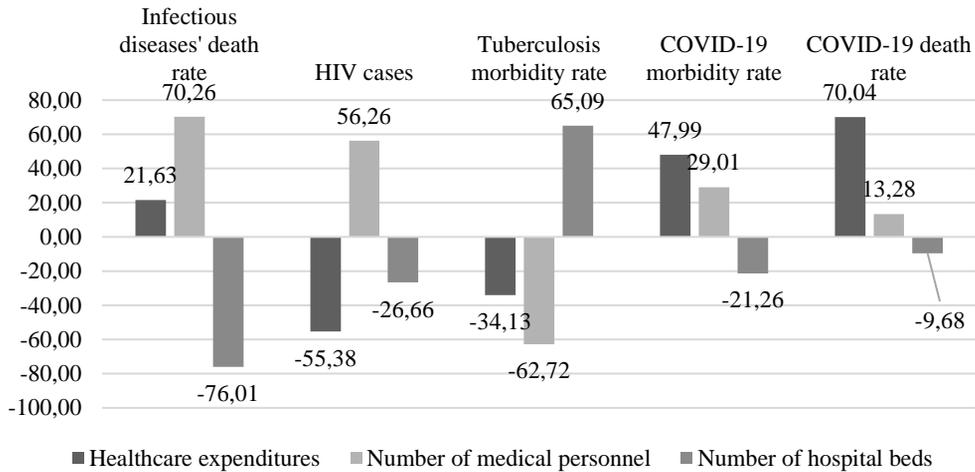


Figure 2. Correlation between quality of fight against the virus threat and the traditional factors in countries with the best results in fight against the virus threat in 2020, %
Source: calculated and compiled by the authors

As is shown in Figure 2, in countries with the best results in fight against the virus threat in 2020 the infectious diseases' death rate is largely determined (decreases in case of increase) by the number of hospital beds (correlation -76.01%); HIV cases – by expenditures for healthcare (-55.38%) and number of hospital beds (-26.66%).

Tuberculosis morbidity rate decreases in case of growth of expenditures for healthcare (-34.13%) and number of medical personnel (-62.72%). The number of cases and death rate from COVID-19, % decreases in case of growth of the number of hospital beds (-21.26% and -9.68%, accordingly).

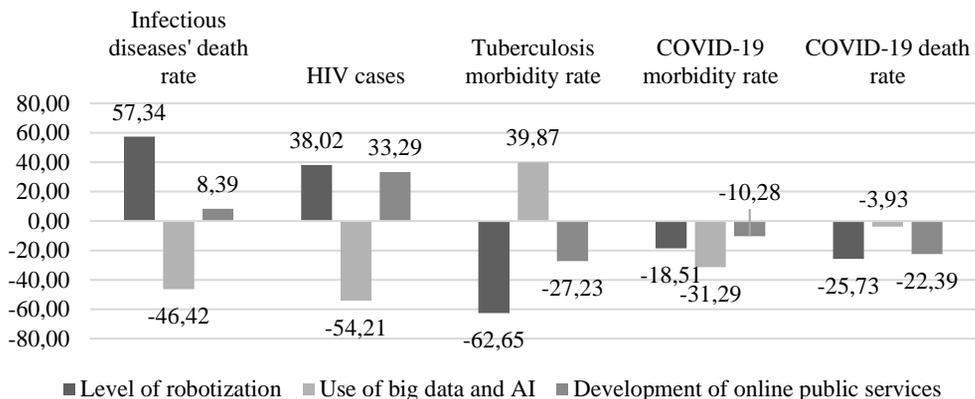


Figure 3. Correlation between quality of fight against the virus threat and the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering in countries with the best results in fight against the virus threat in 2020, %
Source: calculated and compiled by the authors

As shown in Figure 3, in countries with the best results in fight against the virus threat in 2020, infectious diseases' death rate is largely determined (decreases in case of improvement) by the level of robotization (correlation – 57.34%); HIV cases – by robotization (38.02%) and development of online public services (33.29%). Tuberculosis morbidity rate decreases in case of growth of the level of use of Big data and AI (39.87%). The number of cases and death rate from

COVID-19 at the current state of the pandemic (2nd trimester) do not depend on the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering (no positive correlation).

For countries of the second category, the following results of the correlation analysis of quality of healthcare with the traditional factors (Figure 4) and the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering (Figure 5) are obtained.

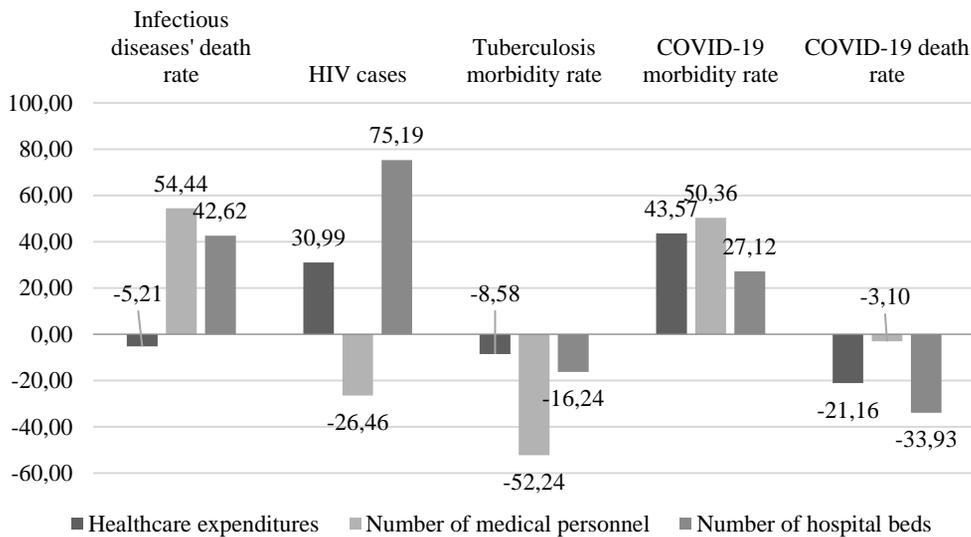


Figure 4. Correlation between quality of fight against the virus threat and the traditional factors in countries with the worst results in fight against the virus threat in 2020, %
 Source: calculated and compiled by the authors

As shown in Figure 4, in countries that have the best results in fight against the virus threat in 2020, death rate from infectious diseases is largely determined (decreases in case of growth) by expenditures for healthcare (correlation -5.21%); HIV cases – by number of medical personnel (-26.46%). Tuberculosis morbidity rate decreases in case of increase of

number of medical personnel (-52.24%) and number of hospital beds (-16.24%). Number of COVID-19 cases does not depend on the traditional factors (no positive correlation). Death rate from COVID-19 decreases in case of growth of expenditures for healthcare (-21.16%) and number of hospital beds (-33.93% and -9.68%, accordingly).

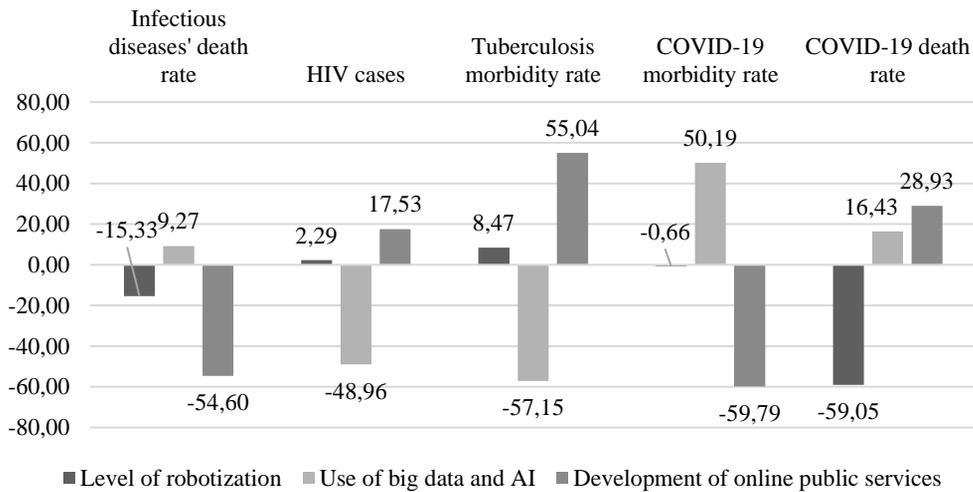


Figure 5. Correlation between quality of fight against the virus threat and the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering in countries with the worst results in fight against the virus threat in 2020, %
Source: calculated and compiled by the authors

As shown in Figure 5, in countries that have the worst results in fight against the virus threat in 2020, infectious diseases' death rate is largely determined (decreases in case of improvement) by use of Big data and AI (correlation - 9.27 %); HIV cases - by robotization (2.29%) and development of online public services (17.53%). Tuberculosis morbidity rate decreases due to robotization (8.47%) and development of online public services (55.04%). Number of COVID-19 cases decreases due to use of Big data and AI (50.19%); death rate from COVID-19 decreases due to use of Big data and AI (16.43%) and development of online public services (28.93%).

Average correlation between quality of fight against the virus threat and various factors in countries of the distinguished categories in 2020 is shown in Figure 6.

As shown in Figure 6, in countries that have the best results in fight against the virus threat in 2020, average correlation equals -7.16% with the traditional factors and 5.85% - with

the factor of industrial and manufacturing engineering. In countries that have the worst results in fight against the virus threat in 2020, average correlation is -8.38% with the traditional factors and 10.49% - with the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering.

Thus, the performed quantitative analysis has shown that the level of digitalization and general progressiveness of the healthcare system largely determines susceptibility of quality of fight against the virus threat to the influence of various factors. In these countries (from the second category), importance of the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering is much higher as compared to the traditional factors.

In countries with less developed systems of healthcare and lower level of digital competitiveness, the influence of manageability on quality of fight against the virus threat is higher than in countries with well-developed digital economy and progressive system of healthcare.

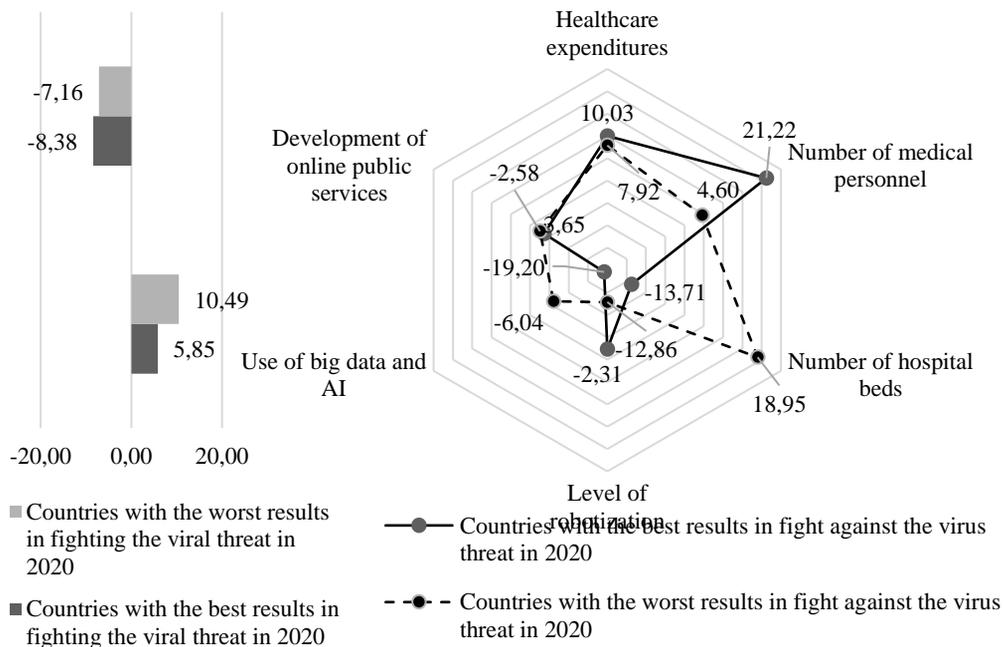


Figure 6. Average correlation between quality of fight against the virus threat and various factors in countries of the distinguished categories in 2020, %

Source: calculated and compiled by the authors

4.2 Qualitative treatment of the advantages of digitalization and Industry 4.0 with the help of industrial and manufacturing engineering for increasing the quality in fight against the virus threat

Qualitative treatment and expert evaluation of the advantages of digitalization and Industry 4.0 with the help of industrial and manufacturing engineering for increasing the quality in fight against the virus threat in view of its structural components from the positions of game theory are shown in Table 3.

The methodology of game theory (Table 3) allows for qualitative and quantitative presentation of the advantages of digitalization and Industry 4.0 for increasing the quality in fight against the virus threat. Precision of measuring the level of virus threat and the developed measures on its

prevention is moderately significant (4 points, weight – 0.33). The traditional approach (management of the traditional factors) envisages the intuitive character of management and low precision of information and decisions (quality - 2 points out of 5). In case of the digital approach (management of the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering for development of digital healthcare), Big data and AI guarantee full-scale information and empirical provision and high precision of decision making (quality - 5 points).

Effectiveness of infectious diseases treatment is very significant (5 points, weight – 0.42). In case of the traditional approach, treatment is complicated, and development of vaccine based on manual labor, with limited possibilities for automatization, is slow (quality - 3 points). In case of the digital approach, robotization and automatization

ensure hi-tech character of treatment and high speed of development and effectiveness of application of vaccines and drugs (quality - 5 points).

Mass character: quantitative and pricing accessibility of diagnostics and treatment of infectious diseases is least significant (3

points, weight – 0.25). In case of the traditional approach, the burden on medical personnel is large, and possibilities of increasing the number of hospital beds are limited (quality - 4 points). In case of the digital approach, remote medical services allow for multiple increase of medical personnel’s efficiency (quality - 5 points).

Table 3. Qualitative treatment and expert evaluation of the advantages of digitalization and Industry 4.0 for increasing the quality in fight against the virus threat from the positions of game theory

Component of quality of fight against the virus threat	Significance of the component of quality, points 1-5	Weight coefficients of the component of quality	Traditional approach		Digital approach (Industry 4.0)	
			Treatment	Evaluation, points 1-5	Treatment	Evaluation, points 1-5
Precision of measuring the level of virus threat and developed measures on its prevention	4	4/12=0.33	intuitive character of management, low precision	2	Big data and AI guarantee high precision	5
Effectiveness of infectious diseases treatment	5	5/12=0.42	treatment is difficult, development of vaccine is slow	3	robotization and automatization ensure hi-tech character of treatment	5
Mass character: quantitative and pricing accessibility of diagnostics and treatment of infectious diseases	3	3/12=0.25	burden on medical personnel is high, and possibilities of increasing the number of hospital beds are limited	4	remote medical services allow for multiple increase of medical personnel’s efficiency	5
Quality on the whole	4+5+3=12	0.33+0.42+0.25=1	Hierarchy synthesis			
			2*0.33+3*0.42+4*0.25=0.66+1.26+1=2.92		5*0.33+5*0.42+5*0.25=1.65+2.1+1.25=5	

Source: developed and compiled by the authors

Thus, according to all components, quality of fight against the virus threat is much higher in the digital approach (hierarchy synthesis: 5 points out of 5) than in the traditional approach (hierarchy synthesis: 2.92 points). This shows the expedience of digitalization of healthcare and development of Industry 4.0 in medicine.

4.3 Modeling of perspectives and development of recommendations for increasing the quality of fight against the virus threat based on digitalization and Industry 4.0, with the help of industrial and manufacturing engineering

Substantiation of the advantages of digitalization and use of breakthrough technologies of Industry 4.0 for significant

increase of quality in fight against the virus threat, which has been provided in this paper, stimulates the specification of the foundations of quality management in healthcare. For obtaining a positive effect in practice, it is necessary to supplement the theoretical substantiation with applied recommendations – i.e., form the policy implications. Development of applied recommendations should be oriented at each determined direction of increasing the quality of fight against the virus threat based on digitalization and Industry 4.0 with the help of industrial and manufacturing engineering.

In the first direction, connected to use of Big data and AI for the healthcare purposes, public benefits are generated – recommendations protection of health of wide groups of population. A vivid example of implementation of this direction is adoption of government decrees on self-isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic. Big data and AI allow for determination and quantitative description of the positive effect from self-isolation, determination of its level (in points on the map by the level of traffic), and provision of the optimal variant (rate and sequence) of limitations for social communication and visiting of public places.

As in the case with all public benefits, implementation of this direction does not pose commercial profit and is not interesting for private business. Thus, in view of large social importance of this direction of increasing the quality of fight against the virus threat, it is offered to place a government order for R&D and to finance the measures on digital modernization of the system of state monitoring and intellectual decision support in healthcare management.

In the second direction, connected to development of the system of online public services in the healthcare system, - i.e., transition to the online form of medical services – the infrastructure is very important. Thus, its intensive development is recommended. Special attention should be paid to the telecommunication infrastructure

– equipping all healthcare establishments (state-funded hospitals, clinics, etc.) with modern digital equipment and Internet. The social infrastructure of digital healthcare is also very important; its development will require support (primarily, by financing and standardization) of training of digital personnel and increase of population's media-literacy.

Within the third direction, which envisages provision of hi-tech medical services – MedTech based on automatization (robotization) в healthcare – the perspectives of commercial profit are rather vivid and significant. For example, together with the government (free) COVID-19 vaccine, commercial (paid) vaccine could be developed, which would have more advantages (better immunity, less vivid side effects), as well as drugs and tools for diagnostics and treatment (progressive medical equipment). In order to transfer the financial burden on private business with provision of sufficient control from the government, it is recommended to implement the mechanism of public-private partnership in this direction.

5. Conclusion

Thus, it is possible to make the following conclusions. The factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering positively influence the quality in fight against the virus threat – i.e., stimulate its increase: average correlation in countries with a high level of digitalization and progressive system of healthcare equals 5.85%, and in countries with moderate digitalization and less developed system of healthcare – 10.49% (hypothesis H_2 has been proved).

The factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering moderately determine the quality in fight against the virus threat (correlation is below 50% – hypothesis H_2 has been disproved), but they are less significant than the traditional factors, and in countries with moderate digitalization and less developed

system of healthcare the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering are even more significant than the traditional factors (10.49% vs. -7.16%) – i.e., hypothesis H₃ has been proved. The factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering determine quality in fight against the virus threat to a larger extent than the traditional factors (correlation between quality of healthcare and the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering is much higher than with traditional factors).

Contribution of the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering to increase of quality of services, which are provided in the healthcare system, depends on the level of digitalization of the economic system, which determines the economic system's ability to cope with the virus threat – there are large differences in correlation between countries with different digital competitiveness and successfulness of fight against the virus threat: hypothesis H₄ has been proved. Therefore, attention to the issues of development of digital healthcare and management of the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering should be paid in countries with less developed systems of healthcare and lower digital competitiveness – for obtaining maximum advantages for quality of fight against the virus threat.

The importance of the performed research for development of scientific knowledge consists in provision of the substantiation and practical recommendations for the use of a

new – digital – approach to fight against the virus threat. The advantage of the offered approach is the systemic character of managing the factors of quality in healthcare: consideration of not only traditional (financing, number of medical personnel and hospital beds) but also progressive, digital (technological provision, level of automatization) factors. Despite the vivid differences between countries, the new approach is universal and popular around the world – especially in the conditions of the critical virus threat during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Though this research determined the key directions of increasing the quality of fight against the virus threat based on digitalization and Industry 4.0 with the help of managing the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering, it also showed that actualized new gaps in the scientific thought, which include study of the experience of certain countries (case studies) and development of the applied national models of managing the factors of industrial and manufacturing engineering. They are beyond the limits of this research and should be elaborated in further works on this topic.

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