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Legislative background of food and nutrition policy in Ukraine

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BACKGROUND: The importance of effective policy aimed at improving nutrition practices is highly recognized by the global community.

METHODS: Analysis of Ukrainian legislative documents was conducted to clarify the situation in the field of policy initiatives and legislation devoted to nutrition in Ukraine. Documents in force adopted from 1991 to 2011 including key words "nutrition", "health", "concept", and "food products" were reviewed.

RESULTS: We reviewed 55 legislative acts related to nutrition and identified several groups: 18 documents are related to organization of supply, regimen, norms of nutrition in state establishments or for special populations; 12 documents related to economic and technological regulation of food preparation, quality control and distribution; 3 documents regulating nutritious and safety norms of food products for children under 3 years; 14 documents aimed to control food safety, quality and accessibility; 6 other documents partly referred to nutrition, including 4 Concepts of healthy lifestyles. Some of the principles of healthy eating are declared in the "Concept of improving food security and quality of nutrition of the population" approved by the Cabinet of Ministers in 2004. Principles of maintaining breastfeeding, activities

aimed to reduce iodine deficiency among population as well as school educational program "Foundations of health" were those few governmental activities, which supported some of the ideas declared in the Concept.

CONCLUSION: Great attention of policymakers is paid to regulation of production, distribution of food, its quality control, affordability of products for special population groups, especially children. Not much attention is devoted in the official documents to creating and maintaining the healthy eating practices of the population. Mechanisms aimed to form healthy eating practices are not specified in the legislative documents. No regulatory documents to implement these principles were found. The existing regulatory documents do not fully reflect global trends and practices for healthy eating.

KEYWORDS: healthy eating, nutrition policy.

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Нормативно-правовое обеспечение политики, касающейся питания, в Украине

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КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА: здоровое питание; политика, касающаяся питания.

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Нормативно-правове забезпечення політики щодо харчування в Україні

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КЛЮЧОВІ СЛОВА: здорове харчування, політика харчування

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