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## **Creation of the medical-demographic atlas**

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The medical-demographic atlas is a scientific-reference product, which includes basic data necessary for decision-making for maintaining favorable sanitary and epidemiologic situation and protecting population health and the environment against the adverse influences. It is such atlases, unfortunately seldom produced, that promote the access of all population strata to the information about the state of health.

The medical-demographic atlas of the Kaliningrad oblast of Russian Federation was developed by experts of the Faculty of Geography of the Lomonosov Moscow State University basing on materials of the Federal Statistical Service. Data for the period of 1990-2005 (for adults over 18 years old) were used. Most maps show the 2005 situation. The maps were produced with the geoinformation technologies developed by the Laboratory of Digital Cartography of the Faculty of Geography of the Lomonosov Moscow State University.

The atlas belongs to rather new type of cartographic products, which appeared at the end of the XX century and combine maps, graphics, remote sensing materials and the text. Maps of the atlas differ in their themes (general and special), ways of the mapped phenomena study (analytical and complex) and the practical orientation of cartographical information (inventory and evaluation).

Thematic content of the atlas reflects the diversity of social conditions, demographic situation, resources of public health services and basic parameters of health of the population of the Kaliningrad oblast, the town of Kaliningrad, and the resort zone, as well as the trends of their change. The introduction section includes general and political-administrative maps, and the space image of the territory displaying the distribution of natural and technogenic objects. The section devoted to population and

social conditions involves maps of population density; sex and age structure, death and birth rate, natural increase of population and migrations. It also presents information about labor resources, unemployment rate, basic tendencies of labor market, standard of living, social welfare etc. The core section of the atlas includes the series of maps, which represent the population health on three hierarchical levels: the Kaliningrad oblast as a whole, the town of Kaliningrad and the resort zone. Maps on all basic classes of diseases according to the International Classification of Diseases (Revision X) are included in the section (infectious diseases, neoplasms, diseases of blood and blood-forming bodies etc.). In addition socially important pathologies, such as AIDS, tuberculosis, venereal diseases, viral hepatitis etc., and also natural-foci diseases are considered. The section devoted to the organization of public health services of the oblast includes the following maps: network of medical-prophylactic institutions, medical staff and the average medical personnel, specialization of medical assistance, structure of the hospital fund, visits to polyclinics, ambulance activities etc. Special attention is given to the basic parameters of the sanatoria network, which are of particular importance in the system of public health services of the Kaliningrad oblast.

Results of the evaluation of medical-demographic conditions in the Kaliningrad oblast are systematized in the Atlas as spatially distributed information. They form the basis for identifying the causes of diseases and carrying out preventive and other practical measures on social-ecological protection of the population. The atlas is intended for all levels of the oblast's administration, public health services, research and education institutions; it can also be of interest for the wide public.