

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH



ANNUAL REPORT

2005

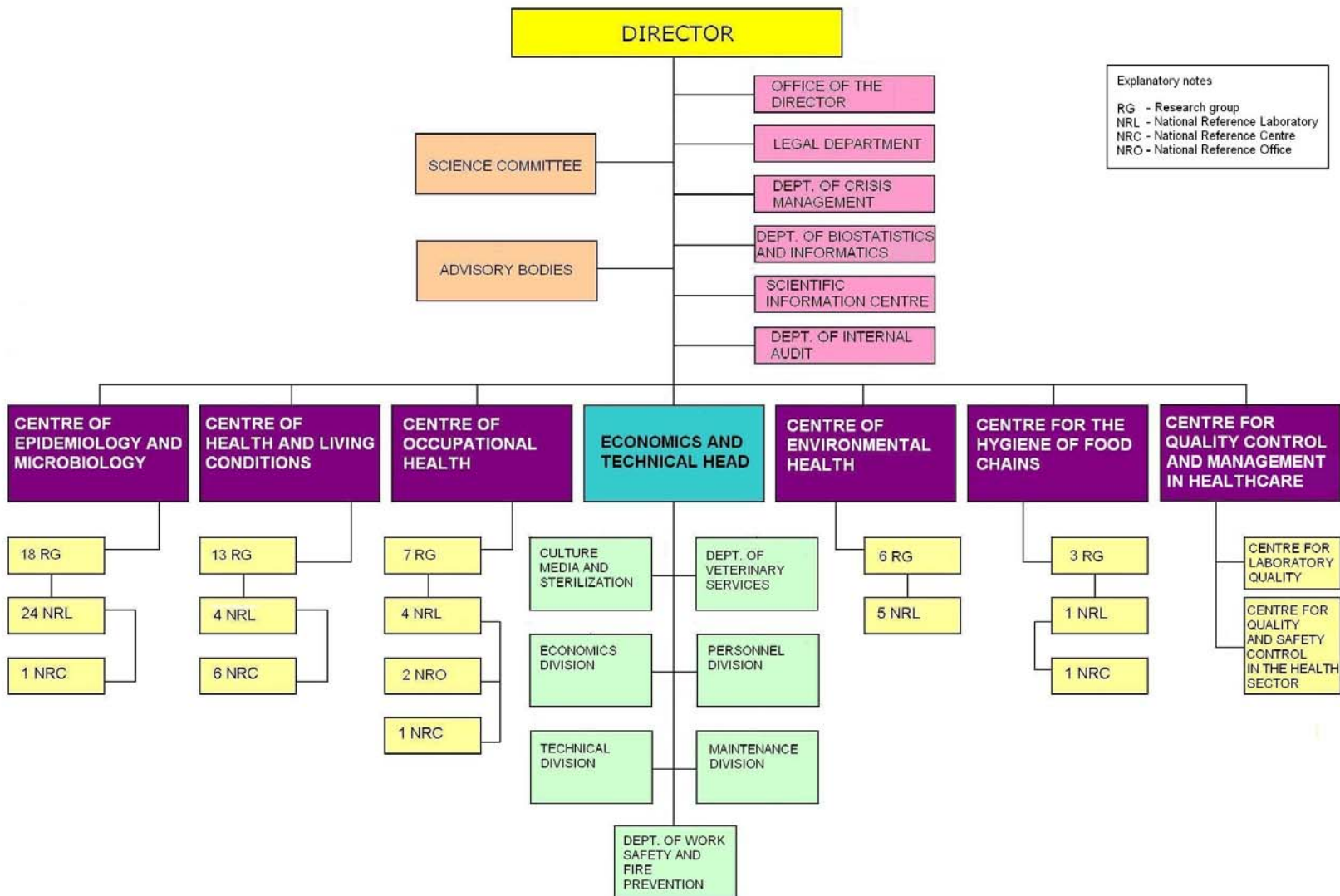
National Institute of Public Health, 2006



ANNUAL REPORT 2005
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1. POSITION AND TASKS OF THE NIPH IN THE
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PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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1 POSITION AND TASKS OF THE NIPH IN THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Under Act No. 258/2000 Dig. on the protection of public health in the valid wording of its article 86, the National Institute of Public Health has been founded as a healthcare facility, a contributory organization of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic. That legal decision came into force January 1, 2003, and thereby there has begun a new era of the Institute, continuing in its many year development and expansion, although from time to time interrupted by various organizational twists and turns that have never encroached on its professional quality. Its present director, Jaroslav Volf, M.D., Ph.D., assumed his duties on January 1, 2003.

In the autumn of 2005 we have celebrated the 80th anniversary of the functioning of the National Institute of Public Health within the structure of Czech health care since its establishment in the 1920s. On that occasion there was held a celebrative scientific conference, which highlighted the share of the NIPH in the successes of Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic in improving population health. It recapitulated the long-term role of the NIPH in the struggle against infectious diseases, in the production of sera and vaccines, in the laying of the foundations of modern epidemiology and of the system of microbiological diagnostics. The Institute played a significant role in the development of disciplines such as hygiene, social medicine and health education; and in the analysis of the state of health and in scientific approaches towards the identification of the relations between environmental factors and health. To the good name of the Institute there contributed eminent personages, many of international renown and laureates with national awards.

The activities of a number of workers in the year 2005 were focused on the development of international information exchange, participation in international studies and membership in international organizations. Broad international cooperation is being materialized in all the Centres with three being WHO Collaborating Centres that finalized four projects; the UNAIDS Contact Office and collaboration in another project are in progress. A substantial part of the international collaboration was focused on 57 projects worked on from the year 2004 and earlier. Of that number there have been finalized nine projects of collaboration in EC Framework Programs, EU projects “Community Action in the Field of Public Health 2003 – 2008” and other programs. Collaboration has been newly established in 11 international projects, e.g. “Development of a Coherent Approach to Human Monitoring in Europe – ES BIO”, “Capacity building for Improving Health across Europe” and “Health Disparities and Aging in Societies in Transition”. International cooperation is described in detail in chapters on the activities of the individual Centres.

The year 2005 was extraordinary for the Institute in the assuming of its new role, following from the entry of the Czech Republic into the European Union, and due to its inclusion among European institutions constituting the professional basis of the European Centre for Disease Control in Stockholm. There have been, often at a hectic pace, finalized the legislative preparations of European integration. That required more than standard effort in the final touches on each document the preparation of which the Institute had participated in. Many new methodological and authorization activities followed from the needs of Regional Public Health Authorities and Regional Public Health Institutes in their fulfilling of requirements following from the Act on public health protection.

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PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Laboratories of the Centre of Epidemiology and microbiology (CEM) have been accredited for complex activities in the field of detection, diagnostics and identification of microbial agents; determination of antigens, sensitivity to antibiotics and virustatics, efficiency of disinfectants, rodenticides, insecticides and sterilization; and the assessment of *in vitro* diagnostic aids in health care. In the year 2005 there has passed inspection a BL3 complex for work with highly infectious agents.

A number of workers participate in pre- and post-graduate education of healthcare and non-medical workers. In 2005 there proceeded an accreditation of various programs for postgraduate education and for education of the public in health.

Notwithstanding a number of problems that have been a natural consequence and concomitant phenomenon of that period, the National Institute of Public Health has entered the year 2006 with good perspectives and self-conscience in being a modern and fully functional European healthcare facility.

2 ACTIVITIES OF THE NIPH CENTRES AND SERVICES

2.1 Centre of Epidemiology and Microbiology

Activities of the Centre of Epidemiology and Microbiology (CEM) follow from the Statute of the NIPH and valid legislative norms and from other authorizations following from international agreements and treaties (strategies and projects of the WHO, EU – ECDC) and research grants allotted by domestic and foreign grant agencies.

Professional and expert report activities

As in previous years, there predominated consulting activities for the Czech Ministry of Health, organs of public health protection and other organs of the administration, including expert report activities for business circles. Conducted were measurements, analyses and evaluations of results, the elaboration of expert reports and specialized investigations.

Expert reports by the CEM are focused on diagnostic products, vaccines, and disinfectants and pest control products. In the framework of paid expert report activities the CEM prepares documentation for the registration of new diagnostic products and agents for preventive and focal disinfection and pest control, as well as for the registration of methods subject to approval by the Chief Public Health Officer. The CEM ensures the control of diagnostic products.

Legislation and health policy

A considerable part of the working capacity of the Centre has been expended on the preparation of documentation for administrative proceedings at the Ministry of Health. There have been elaborated remarks and drafts of texts to a number of legislative amendments.

Further, there has been dealt with the application of Act No. 95/2004 Dig. on conditions of acquiring and acknowledgement of professional qualification and specialized qualification for the performing of the healthcare professions of physician, stomatologist and pharmacist, and of Act No. 96/2004 Dig. on conditions of acquiring and acknowledgement of qualification for performing non-medical healthcare professions and for the performing of activities connected with providing health care, and amendments of certain related laws (the act on non-medical healthcare professions).

Very exacting was work on amendments, commentaries and remarks to other legal norms that are closely related to the branch. There have been elaborated remarks to further amendments of Act No. 258/2000 Dig. on public health protection and amendments of certain related laws.

Within the framework of remarks to drafts of new legislation, the centre has participated in the preparation of documentation for the content of preventive physical examinations in persons exposed to selected factors in the working environment.

International collaboration

The Centre of Epidemiology and Microbiology has a wide array of bilateral as well as multilateral collaboration. All the reference laboratories are collaborating with analogous facilities in other countries. They are part of External Quality Assessment, namely actively (in supplying strains) as well as passively (themselves being assessed). They likewise collaborate

with the WHO, the CDC in Atlanta, the Institute of Public Health and Environment Protection in Bilthoven, the Public Health Laboratory Service Colindale, the national Institute for Biological Standards and Control in London. Further, they are participating in the EUROGROG systems (Paris): EMGM, the European Surveillance of Bacterial Meningitis (London), EUROSENTINEL (Brussels), and ENTERnet – the European Network of Reporting Salmonellosis and Verotoxinogenic E.coli (London), the EISS and the WHO FluNet. The reference laboratories are collaborating with central national microbiological and epidemiological institutions in most industrialized countries. In question are specialized investigations of strains and sera. International collaboration is being developed on the basis of reference activities as well as through common grant-supported projects. The Epidemiology Group ensures international exchange of information in the field of epidemiology of infectious diseases with WHO networks as well as EU networks and the European CDC. The CEM is a part of and the host workplace to EPIET – the European Program of Intervention Epidemiology Training.

Education and training

The Centre also provides professional practice to students of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Faculties of Medicine of Charles University, of the Charles University Faculty of Natural Sciences, and the Higher School of Nursing. Experts of the Centre have participated as consultants in the students' diploma theses for the state exam in epidemiology at the Charles University 3rd Faculty of Medicine, and participated in guiding Doctors' Theses.

Together with the J.E. Purkinje Czech Medical Association, the Centre conducted regular seminars that have been transformed in 2005 into all-day-long tutorial days.

Information sources

The workplaces of the CEM have participated in the materialization of surveillance programs and in their revision. Further, the microbiological workplaces have participated in External Quality Assessment organized by the NIPH as well as in QCA organized by workplaces abroad.

There took place a renewed accreditation of Subject No. 1206.4 – CEM laboratories (24 NRL – Testing Laboratories) following ČSN EN ISO/IEC 17025 after three years of accredited activity, and a new accreditation of Subject No. 8002 – CEM laboratories (21 NRL – Healthcare Laboratories) following ČSN EN ISO 15189.

Expert groups

In the Group for Airborne Infections there was performed an on-going identification and verification of serological groups and species of streptococci, enterococci, lactococci and other genera and species, G⁺ catalase negative bacteria for regional laboratories, clinical workplaces and for reporting of results to European and worldwide projects (around 2000 strains a year). Strain identification has been made more exact, newly described species have been included in diagnostic charts, tested and introduced were new recommended additional tests and procedures. Conducted was strain serotyping in *S. pneumoniae*, *S. agalactiae* and *S. pyogenes* to determine the distribution of serotypes for the development and application of type-specific vaccines, for epidemiological and other purposes. For improving type identification there have been introduced into routine practice the molecular typing of *S. agalactiae* and *S. pyogenes* strains. Emm typing (*S. pyogenes*) has been included in the

procedures accredited by ČIA, in 2004. There continued the active surveillance of *S. agalactiae* infections (early and late) in newborns. Followed up were severe affections in other age groups as well. ASO and ADNB antibody values in the serum of patients were determined on an on-going basis. There has begun the standardization of latex-agglutination procedures for ASO titer assessment along with the corresponding reagents. In collaboration with clinical facilities there continued investigations of anti-pneumococcal post-vaccination antibody titers in oncological and hemodialyzed patients and subjects from old folks' homes.

The group collaborated in ensuring the surveillance program over invasive affections caused by *Haemophilus influenzae* b in the Czech Republic, in the monitoring of the properties of strains isolated in microbiological laboratories, in *H. influenzae* biotyping and serotyping, in the determination of antibodies against *Haemophilus influenzae* b by the ELISA method and in the follow-up of failures in vaccinations against *Haemophilus influenzae* b.

The Group for Airborne Viral Infections was the guarantee of the program of virological surveillance of ARI in the Czech Republic with international collaboration (active participation in the European system EISS, active participation in the WHO global program of flu surveillance). Carried out was the identification of strains of influenza and non-influenza respiratory viruses isolated in the Czech Republic, and kept and completed on an on-going basis was the collection of virus strains and type-specific sera. The NRL for Influenza collaborated with the WHO influenza centre NIMR in London in the testing of antigenic changes in circulating influenza strains. The group prepared antigens and ELISA sets of rapid diagnostics of influenza virus and non-influenza respiratory viruses, investigated clinical and autopsy material for healthcare facilities and the public health service. A pilot study within the EU project "Improving the quality of virological surveillance of ARI and the laboratory diagnostics of hazardous respiratory agents with emphasis on preparedness for a pandemic" was going on. The expert group is prepared for laboratory diagnostics of ARI, including SARS coronavirus PCR, as well as for PCR and serologic diagnostics of avian subtypes of influenza virus H5, H6, H9. There took place consultations and practical training of virological laboratory workers, study sojourns for beginners, teaching of attestation candidates, and lectures. The expert group participated in the preparation of samples and evaluation of results of EQC of virological laboratories organized by the NIPH, and participated in the international quality assessment of laboratories. The expert group assessed the functional capacity of *in vitro* diagnostic products (ELISA sets for diagnosing IgG, IgM and IgA antibody against *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*). Successful was the renewed accreditation of both NRLs following ČSN EN ISO/IEC 17025, as well as a new accreditation following ČSN EN ISO 15189. The group fulfilled tasks following from the international study assessing influenza vaccine efficacy (FLUARIX) by GSK Biologicals – co-researchers; and co-researchers in an international grant-supported project (occurrence, detection and influencing adenovirus infections in transplanted patients) – finalization.

The Group for Exanthematous Infections and Zoonoses, including the NRL for Herpes Viruses, the NRL for Chlamydiae and the NRL for Measles, Rubella, Mumps and Parvovirus B19 (MRM), carried out above-standard investigations for healthcare facilities (determination of antibodies against HV; numbers of copies of herpes virus DNA; parvovirus B19 and chlamydiae in clinical material; typing of herpes virus isolates, serological and molecular biology diagnostics of HHV6,8). The NRL for MRM indulged in the serological diagnostics of suspect cases, pregnant women and subjects exposed to the above-mentioned infections, in the verification of immunity against those viruses, and in serological confirmations for microbiological and serological laboratories. Standards and reference material were prepared

for the diagnostic methods applied prepared and evaluated samples for EQC (serology of measles, rubella and mumps; EBV serology; HSV serology; varicella-zoster serology; Chlamydia serology; and direct demonstrations of virus). The NRL for HV participated in the verification of the efficiency of commercial and newly developed diagnostic sets. The NRL for Chlamydiae was the chief researcher in the Ministry of Health IGA-supported project “Development of a method for the demonstration of *C.pneumoniae* and *C.trachomatis* DNA by real-time PCR”, and co-researcher in the Ministry of Health IGA-supported project “Detection of CMV and Chlamydia pneumoniae in intravascular biopsies from patients suffering ischemia of the lower extremities”. The NRL for MRM participates in tasks concerning the control of infectious diseases in the WHO EURO program “Health for the 21st Century”, task 7.3 “Elimination of non-imported measles in the region” (till 2007). It participates in the obtaining of certification on the elimination of measles (till 2010), and in task 7.4 “Attaining mumps incidence lesser than 1 per 100 000 of the population” (by 2010) and “Attaining inborn rubella incidence lesser than 0.1 per 1000 live-born children“ (by 2010). It successfully passed EQC organized by the Regional Reference Laboratory in Berlin in 18 regional laboratories.

The NRL for Enteroviruses participated in poliovirus surveillance and in enterovirus diagnostics focused on the detection of poliomyelitis viruses.

The Bacterial Resistance Group organized the surveillance of resistance to antibiotics in all clinically important bacteria in the Czech Republic, participated in the national Program for Antibiotics Policy at the Czech Ministry of Health and materialized the organization at the national level of the EARSS project (European Surveillance Antimicrobial Resistance System) organized by the EU and DG SANCO. In the framework of the activities mentioned, there was conducted the collection of strains, the testing of resistance to reserve antibiotics not tested routinely, the preserving of strains manifesting significant resistance, the management of data collection and their control. Introduced are new and innovated methods for routine investigations, methods for demonstrating atypical resistance, methods for the demonstration of specific genes determining resistance, and molecular biology methods for the epidemiology of resistance. The group elaborated recommended procedures guaranteed by the J.E.Purkinje Czech Medical Association for the diagnostics and treatment of community-acquired respiratory infections and for the application of penicillin macrolid antibiotics.

The NRL for Virus Hepatitides (NRL-VH) conducted centrally, mandatory by law, confirmatory investigations of HCV and HBV for the blood transfusion service and solicited confirmation investigations for laboratories investigating markers of virus hepatitides. The NRL-VH carries out specialized diagnostics of VH by serological, eventually molecular biology methods. Further, it is the quantitative determination of the virus load of HBV and HCV, the determination of clinically significant mutants of HBV, the determination of HCV genotypes. The NRL-VH prepared and evaluated 3 pilot series for the external quality assessment of the determination of HBV and HCV nucleic acids for the monitoring of the level of molecular biology diagnostics of HBV and HCV in the Czech Republic and as a methodological preparation for inclusion into what the EQA system has to offer, in the year 2006. The NRL-VH participates successfully in the system of international quality control INSTAND (FRG) for serology, and in EDQM (EU) for nucleic acid determinations.

The expert group conducted the phenotypic and genotypic follow-up of factors of virulence in staphylococci and enteric pathogens – causative agents of serious infectious diseases, the monitoring of the incidence of invasive strains. Further, it followed up resistance and the occurrence of *S.aureus* strains (known under the acronym MRSA) resistant to the key

antibiotic oxacillin. The new penta-resistant clone of *Salmonella* typhimurium (STM) designated as ACSSuT, belonging mostly to the DT104 phage type that has gradually spread over the whole of Europe and over the North American continent is being monitored on an on-going basis foremost from the point of view of its genotypic properties. The surveillance of salmonellosis shall also include other salmonellae already present as well as those imported into the Czech Republic. Among the enteric pathogens under follow-up are also shigatoxinogenic strains of *E. coli* that are the cause of as yet sporadic cases of the hemolytic-uremic syndrome.

The Expert Group for Disinfection and Pest Control has been carrying out expert report activities focused on the assessment of the disinfecting efficacy of chemical substances, of the sterilizing efficacy of apparatuses, of biological and non-biological indicators of sterilization, of the occurrence of moulds in buildings and measures for their liquidation. There have been verified new testing methods for the assessment of the disinfecting efficacy of disinfectants. The group collaborated with the Czech Institute of Standards in the field of EU standards, and participated in EQC in the area of sterilization.

The key task of the group for AIDS was the confirmation of reactive findings in a screening investigation of HIV/AIDS at 152 field laboratories which it guides methodologically, and the monitoring of the course of infection in HIV infected subjects. In the framework of the EU project "EuroHIV" there has been materialized the program of HIV/AIDS monitoring in the Czech Republic, on an on-going basis there has been conducted HIV/AIDS surveillance in populations under increased risk of HIV. The results were provided to the Czech Ministry of Health and the HIV Monitoring Centre in Paris. The NRL for AIDS participates in the EU project "SPREAD" within the framework of which is followed up the development and spread of HIV mutants resistant to anti-retrovirus drugs.

The NRL for Mycobacteria (NRLM) together with the group for chronic epidemiology ensured the running of the Information System of Bacillary TB (ISBT), the distribution of new software, consultations with consultants in TB and respiratory diseases at the Public Health Institutes (or at Regional Public Health Administrations). It collaborated with the National Unit for TB Surveillance in the participating in the EuroTB program. The NRLM verified results of tests of sensitivity to antitubercotics in strains of *M. tuberculosis* from the field reported to be multi-drug resistant (MRD), and determined the sensitivity of MRD *M. tuberculosis* and selected mycobacterial species to second-line drugs by the microdilution method (MIC determinations).

The NRLM evaluated the QuantiFeron TB Gold test and elaborated a methodological procedure for the taking and sending of samples, and instructions for the interpretation of results. Further, it evaluated the identification test GenoType Mycobacterium and GenoType MTBC (Hain Lifescience BmBH, FRG) – molecular biology methods the principle of which is the line probe assay.

The NRLM conducted tests of sensitivity to basic antitubercotics in the automatic detection system Bactec MGIT (BD, FRG) and the identification of mycobacterial species by conventional as well as gene technology methods.

Activities of the NRLM, being a component of the network of supranational reference laboratories (SRL) of WHO/IUTLD, included quality control, collaboration with the WHO Coordinating Centre for TB Bacteriology, and the international SRL survey "Frequency of *M. tuberculosis* Resistant to All Second-line Drugs".

The NRLM participated in working groups for non-tuberculosis mycobacteria and for molecular epidemiology and control of tuberculosis.

Activities of the Expert Group for Parasitology were focused on routine diagnostics, the keeping and maintenance of the National Collection of *Leptospira* Cultures, the production and distribution of diagnostic antigens for the public health and veterinary services in the Czech Republic. The group participated in the follow-up of endemic foci of leptospirosis infections in the Czech Republic, including the examination of small mammals.

Activities of the Group for Electron Microscopy and the NRL for Direct Demonstration of Bacteria, Viruses and Extraneous Cells mingled with research. Conducted were rapid diagnostics of viruses in clinical material for healthcare facilities and in epidemics for the public health service and the WHO, collaboration and reimbursed services in the demonstration of borreliae in clinical samples, detection of malignant cells in thin-needle biopsies with the aid of electron microscopy (in lymphogranulomas, adenocarcinoma, yolk sarcoma, melanoma metastases, etc. – collaboration with the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Departments of Radiology, collaboration with and membership in GEL).

The NRL is a component of the External Quality Assessment Scheme. Electron Microscopy Viral Diagnosis (EQA-EMV) which includes 96 laboratories worldwide. It is supported by the European Society for Clinical Virology, the WHO, and others. In collaboration with the Robert-Koch Institut in Berlin the EQA conducts quality control in selected laboratories twice a year.

Twice a year it diagnoses six suspension samples that simulate clinical material. The benefit of this collaboration is the check-up of stabilization and preparation of samples for ELM investigations, the check-up on the non-selectiveness of the method and the correct determination of viruses, the encountering of viruses that routine practice does not give (Dengue, West Nile virus, etc.), the encountering of viruses and bacteria in case of bioterrorism (e.g. demonstration of *B. anthracis*, variola virus, legionellae) and other dangerous infections when ELM for its rapidity and non-selectiveness is an indispensable method accepted by the CDCP. On the basis of many-year collaboration since 1990 the NRL has been included in the worldwide register for differential diagnostics of bacteria and viruses founded in the USA, and in the Directory of Electron Microscope Facilities which may provide assistance and advice concerning emergency diagnostic matters.

The NRL for Lyme Borreliosis (WHO Collaborating centre for Research on Borreliosis) participates in control systems: PHLS – Public Health Service Control, Swansea; WHO EQA Study on Standardization of Serology for Borreliosis, and the EU Concerted Action on Lyme Borreliosis (EUCALB). In the framework of these complex activities there is taking place the checking of an ELISA serological method prepared with our endemic strains, the checking of the confirmation method Western Blot prepared from our strains, the preparation of third-generation Western Blots with recombinant antigens, and the preparation and isolation of the *VlsE* gene and the verification of its efficacy in ELISA and WB. Twice a year, there have been sent out six clinical samples for identification from the WHO; isolated were new strains, and new cultivation methods were being developed. Introduced were new molecular biology methods – DPSA – direct sequence of amplicons, and verified were subtypes of 4 genospecies pathogenic to humans. Further, there has been performed the identification of new strains by PCR – by sequencing or by Light-Cycler real-time PCR.

The Expert Group for Epidemiology including the NRC for Analysis of Epidemiological data (NRC AED) regularly processes weekly and monthly reports of

infectious diseases in the Czech Republic following district and regional reports from organs of public health protection; monthly reviews of epidemic occurrences in the Czech republic; nationwide commentaries following monthly reports from the Regional Public Health Administrations; regular processing of weekly reports on the epidemiological situation in ARI in the Czech Republic; weekly nationwide reports of cases of acute flaccid paralysis in the framework of the WHO program of polio eradication; annual reports for the Czech Republic to the WHO (in collaboration with the NRLE and the Department of Epidemiology at the Ministry of Health). It carries out annual assessments of reports of epidemics in the Czech Republic for the Czech Ministry of health.

In the area of norms fixing it participates in the processing of EU material for the needs of legislation at the Ministry of Health: case definitions, surveillance programs, International Health Regulations. On an on-going basis it participates in the elaboration of and amendments to texts of decrees, methodological measures and other expert material and expert standpoints in the field of health care for the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic.

According to need it processes documentation for the EU, WHO and other international partners. It represents the Czech Republic in the networks of EU and WHO for individual infectious diseases (influenza – EISS, zoonoses – EFSA, salmonellosis – Enternet, reporting of infectious diseases in the EU BSN network).

It provides professional and information support to NRLs within the CEM and other units in the Czech Republic, namely in extension of EPIDAT.

In the framework of activities of the Group for Tissue Cultures it ensured cell production of 13 cell lines amounting to an average of 2 ths million cells monthly, mostly for units within the CEM and some other units in the NIPH and the public health service. In parallel there has been established a bank of more than 55 cell lines. On an on-going basis there has been provided a regular service of culture media preparation (over 150 liters annually), auxiliary solutions and tissue culture grade water. The unit carries out a specialized service in glass and other needs for laboratories working with tissue cultures, foremost the virological laboratories of the CEM.

The expert group ensured the activities of the Information System for Bacillary Tuberculosis and evaluated data from microbiological laboratories on the positive findings in patients suffering tuberculosis or mycobacterioses. The ISBT database is interconnected with the register of tuberculosis in a single system of tuberculosis and mycobacterioses notification. In other activities it participates in group 74. It ensures contact with the Epiet program – the European Program of Intervention Epidemiology Training. It implemented GIS in the assessment of the incidence of selected infectious diseases.

The major task of the Group for HIV/AIDS is the coordination of activities of the National Program of the Struggle against AIDS. The group was involved in data collection and analysis in the framework of WHO/UNAIDS indicators that serve the follow-up of the success of the National Program of the Struggle against AIDS. Further, there was conducted research on the quality and accessibility of materials on prevention in the field of HIV/AIDS, which has been materialized on the initiative of the director of the NIPH.

The proceeded a project mapping all activities concerning the epidemiology, diagnostics and treatment of viral hepatitides; a project collecting all data concerning the vaccination and surveillance of diseases preventable by vaccination – EUVACNET; the providing of information on the epidemiological situation; editorial and coordinating activities; the evaluation of articles from abroad in EUROSURVEILLANCE. Provided were

activities of the NRL network for diphtheria surveillance in Europe; the organization of programs, transfer of epidemiological and microbiological data, DIP-NET and the activities of the Epidemiology Group preparing strategic decisions in infectious disease epidemiology for the European Commission, Epidemiological Surveillance Components of the Community Network – ESCON.

2.2 Centre of Health and Living Conditions

The year 2005 brought about efforts to comply with EU legislation, reflected namely in consumer health protection activities. At the same time, the preparation of and amendments to decrees related to Act No. 258/2000 Dig. on protection of public health, were in progress. The area of health promotion was also developed by working on the Centre's own projects with nationwide impact, providing methodological guidance and creating project assessment methods. Besides that, the Centre was also entrusted with the control of selected projects. The Centre organized, and provided lecturers for, several training courses for the professionals of the Regional Public Health Authorities and Public Health Institutes. Despite the problems due to failure of research projects to be accepted, the research activities continued.

The laboratories of the Centre of Health and Living Conditions have been accredited as a whole under No 1206.3 according to standard ČSN ISO EN 17 025. In 2005, the regular supervisory inspection of auditors of the Czech Accreditation Institute revealed no violation of the above standard.

Pursuant to Regulation No 882/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, a new National Reference Laboratory for Food Contact Materials and Articles was created to be included in the EU network of national reference laboratories.

In 2005, several new analytical methods and procedures for testing safety of products classified under this category were introduced into routine practice.

Decree No 26/2001, on cosmetics, was amended to implement three technical amendments to Directive 76/768/EC. Decree No 84/2001, on safety requirements for toys and articles intended for children under 3 years of age, and Decree No 38/2001, on safety requirements for articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs, were also amended. As for the Food Law, background information for decrees or their amendments was provided. The new European Directives on Food Additives and Flavourings were transposed (Decree No 304/2004, specifying the types and conditions for use of additives and flavourings in food production, Decree No. 447/2004, on quantitative and qualitative requirements for substances intended for flavouring food products, on the conditions of their use and safety requirements, Decree No. 54/2002, specifying safety requirements for identity and purity of additives). Decree No. 305/2004, specifying the types of contaminants and toxicologically relevant substances and their allowable quantities in food products and Decree No 68/2005, specifying the maximum allowable quantities of pesticide residues in food products and raw materials, were completed. The Centre was also involved in the preparation of a bill on the protection against the harm caused by tobacco, alcohol and other addictive substances.

The Centre participated in the coordination of several goals of the government strategy document Long-term programme of population health improvement in the Czech Republic - Health for all in the 21st century.

Selected specialists of the Centre designated as experts for EU working teams participated in the preparation of EU directives and regulations or their amendments, if needed, related namely to the following areas: food safety, including materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs, safety of cosmetics, toys and articles intended for children. The Centre was involved in the preparation of the Commission regulation on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs and in standardization of the methods for food microbiological testing. It also participated in the preparation of the European standard on

safety requirements for the production of food packaging materials drawn up on the initiative of the European Commission by the European Committee for Standardization CEN.

In 2005, NRC for Cosmetics and NRC for Plastics and Commonly Used Articles were involved in record keeping, processing and distribution of reports on dangerous products from the RAPEX and RASFF systems targeting food contact materials. Specialists from both NRCs provided methodical guidance to the Regional Public Health Authorities and Public Health Institutes for the purposes of the state supervision of safety of cosmetics, articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs, toys and articles intended for children under 3 years of age. The Centre was involved in the creation of two new information systems for reporting newly marketed cosmetics and general formulas of cosmetics for the first aid purposes. Several new methods for testing safety and function of cosmetics, e.g. SPF determination in sunscreen/sunblock products, determination of skin physiological parameters, determination of the content of selected allergens, pigments, etc, were implemented. NRL for Experimental Immunotoxicology finished research project No IAA4050301 of the Czech Academy of Sciences. Further alternative methods were implemented to replace the use of laboratory animals in classical toxicological methods for testing dangerous properties of ingredients and final products in line with the REACH strategy and requirements of the 7th Amendment to the EU Directive on Cosmetics. NRL started a new international CRAFT grant project within the 6th EC Framework Research Programme (FP6) acronymed AMAY focused on the production and use of Aloe vera extracts for health protection and promotion by means of cosmetics.

Researchers of the Centre participated in meetings of the EU Working Group on Methods of Chemical Analysis of Cosmetic Products and of the Technical Committee for the Development and Validation of Analytical Methods for Allergens in Materials and Products.

Dagmar Jírová MD, PhD was a member of the EU Expert Committee for Cosmetics, EC Working Group for Cosmetics, Scientific Committee of the European Centre for Validation of Alternative Methods and European Scientific Committee for Cosmetics and Non-Food Products.

Jitka Sosnovcová, MChem participated in the EC Working Groups on Food Contact Materials and European Committee for Safety of Toys and implementation of Toy Safety Directive 88/378/EEC. Her activities as a representative of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic in the Coordination Group for the issues of EU internal market obstacles in non-harmonized areas and the EC Health Risk Assessment Working Group established in line with Directive 2001/95/EC on general product safety were also associated with the implementation of European law. Jitka Sosnovcová as the Head of the Working Group on Commonly Used Articles of the Chief Public Health Officer of the Czech Republic was involved in the implementation of the EEC directly binding regulations (Regulation No. 1935/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Regulation No. 882/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council) into practice within the performance of state public health surveillance.

In the field of food safety, V. Špelina, MSc was a member of the DG Sanco Biological Risks Working Group on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs that drew up the harmonized European criteria included in EC Regulation No. 2073/2005. The research group has also been involved in the development of methods for microbiological testing of foodstuffs within ISO TC 34/SC 9 Microbiology and CEN TC 275/WG 6 Microbiological contaminants and

facilitates their rapid application to surveillance activities of the Public Health Protection Authorities and intersectoral organs.

D. Winklerová, MChem has been involved in the DG SANCO activities focused on safety of food additives and flavourings. She provides background information to the Ministry of Agriculture that adopts positions on behalf of the Czech Republic on European regulations related to nutrition and health issues and food supplementation with vitamins and other nutrients.

The heads of the respective research groups are active members of the Czech Scientific Committee for Foodstuffs.

The coordinating, monitoring and research centre for the implementation of the European Action Plan for a Europe without Tobacco and of the European Alcohol Action Plan started its activities.

H. Sovinová, MD cooperates with WHO-EURO as the national contact person for tobacco control. A report on the current situation in tobacco consumption reduction in the Czech Republic with the implementation of the European tobacco control strategy in 2002 – 2005 was submitted to WHO-EURO.

The role of smoking in morbidity and mortality and economic costs of the treatment of smoking related morbidity were analyzed.

Efficiency of the campaign targeting smokers and called Quit and Win was monitored in a 1-year follow-up study on a randomly selected sample population of 1000 subjects.

A new international study WHO/CDC Global Health Professionals Survey targeting smoking and attitudes towards this issue in health profession students was started. Participation in the EU international project focused on integrating brief tobacco interventions into GP practice continued.

A population-based study focused on smoking and attitudes towards tobacco use in a representative sample of Czech adults was in progress. The results should be available before April 2006.

The project Brief interventions for alcohol misuse was carried out in cooperation with general practitioners. Alcohol misuse screening was carried out in a sample of the adult population of the Czech Republic.

The participation in the international EU project focused on effective alcohol reduction strategies continued.

Analysis of possible impacts of alcohol advertisements on children and adolescents was in progress.

Intensive cooperation is maintained with the Ministry of Health. The Centre provides the background information for low making purposes and decision making of the Chief Public Health Officer. It submits expert opinions when required. It has become the RAPEX (Rapid Alert System for Non-Food Products) contact site in line with EU General Product Safety Directive 2001/95/EC and provides health risk assessment for commonly used articles. The Centre is the administrator of the Registry of the Chief Public Health Officer's Decisions on Food Supplements, has been involved in the creation of the Registry database in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and provides information to both health professionals and the

general public. Food safety surveillance data collected by the Public Health Authorities were processed as required by the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic.

Health promotion related activities were developed at both the national and international levels. Cooperation with the EuroHealthNet was organized by the group for coordination of EU community projects. The following projects were in progress: Getting Evidence into Practice, Healthy Ageing, Health and Social Inclusion, Alcohol Policy in a Larger Europe – Bridging the Gap, Health Professionals and Smoking Cessation in a Larger Europe, Closing the Health Gap: Strategies for Action to Tackle Health Inequalities in Europe and Implementation of Mental Health Promotion and Prevention Policies and Strategies in EU Member States and Applicant Countries. Within the last project, the Centre in cooperation with the leading Czech psychiatric clinics and the leading Czech psychiatrists and psychologists organized a national conference on mental health promotion with international participation in November 2005. The European project Getting Evidence into Practice, the objective of which is international standardization of the assessment of health promotion projects, was of great relevance to the activities of the Centre.

The Centre was involved in the assessment of the projects carried out within the National Health Programme in the Czech Republic by controlling selected health promotion projects and providing methodical guidance to the investigators. In 2005, the researchers of the Centre carried out 9 health promotion projects with nation-wide impact: Quit and Win, Prevention of Accidents on the Internet, Tasty Life, Input and Output, Health Education Guide, Health Promotion in Health Promoting Schools and their Effectiveness, Child Road Accident Prevention, Comprehensive Interventions for Pregnancy and CVD Risk Reduction through Intervention Programmes. Cooperation in the campaigns related to the projects Input & Output and Quit & Win was a priority for all of the Public Health Institutes in the Czech Republic. The range of online preventive activities was extended and a health risk assessment test has been newly available on the web pages of the National Institute of Public Health. The Centre organized health education activities on the occasion of the World No Tobacco Day and the International Non-Smoking Day. It participated in the organization of the Health Days.

Relevant health promotion activities of the Centre included the coordination of the WHO projects Health Promoting Schools and Kindergartens and CINDI programme.

The guidance and reference activities were a basis for educational events. The following workshops and courses were organized: Cosmetics Surveillance, Safety Assessment of Food Contact Products, Toy Safety Assessment and Nutrition & Immunity. The experts of the National Institute of Public Health provided education to manufacturers, importers and distributors. Smoking and I, a workshop for elementary school teachers, seminars for the staff of health promoting schools, a workshop on Quality Assurance in Microbiology Laboratories and seminars organized by the Drug Information Centre were among the traditionally successful events.

An educational programme Health Promotion was designed for non-medical health professionals pursuant to Act No. 96/2004 Dig. The programme was accredited by the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic. The series of workshops is part of the life-long education system for health promotion professionals.

Apart from workshops and courses, consulting was provided both on an individual and team basis and guidance visits were made to laboratories of the Regional Public Health Authorities and Public Health Institutes.

For-profit expert opinions were provided in the field of safety of cosmetics, cleaning agents, toys, articles for children under 3 years of age, food contact products, construction materials, home accessories and their finishes, food additives, food supplements, plant protection additives and indoor air. As many as 1753 expert opinions were provided, with the procedure including contact with the client, study of the documents submitted, extensive sample analyses and submission of a written expert opinion to the client. These activities widely contributed to a positive balance of the National Institute of Public Health in 2005.

Multiple research activities were carried out in 2005. Another alternative method, i.e. a skin tolerance test using 3D human skin models, was implemented. Exposure to halogenic hydrocarbons from non-alcohol drinks was assessed. The results of empiric surveys on well-being predictors in a representative sample of the Czech adult population were processed. Studies of behaviour health risk assessment were completed. Rerearchers of the Centre were investigators or co-investigators of several relevant grant projects, i.e. Hydrophilic polymers with bound saccharides for biological applications, Grant Agency of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Whether the prevalidated human 3D epidermis model in vitro phototoxicity test could successfully be used for toxic potency testing, Grant Agency of the Czech Republic, Psychosocial inequalities in health, Grant Agency of the Czech Republic, Psychological aspects of health behaviour in adults monitored from birth, Grant Agency of the Czech Republic, Study of antimutagenic and immunomodulatory effects of selected substances of natural origin, Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic, Analysis of the role of smoking in morbidity and mortality in the Czech Republic and quantification of economic costs of the treatment of smoking related morbidity, Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic, Comparative analysis of the behavioural components of health in school children, Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic, Modelling and experimental research into thermoinactivation, high pressure inactivation and growth of selected microorganisms, Grant Agency of the Agricultural Research National Agency, carried out in coordination with the Food Research Institute Prague and University Hospital, Hradec Králové, and Improving environmental health research and management in newly associated states – FP5/3: Fungi in the indoor environment.

The Centre continued cooperation with universities by providing both pregraduate and postgraduate training and supervision to PhD students, participating in committees for PhD thesis defence, state final examinations, entry examinations, etc. and conducting research projects. A collective monograph on psychosocial well-being was completed in 2005 as a result of cooperation with universities and fundamental research centres.

The Centre is the editor and producer of health educational materials. As a tender for print supply took place from April to December 2005, health educational publishing activities were limited. Only two out of 14 planned titles were published within a HIV/AIDS grant programme. Nevertheless, several titles were edited for publication in 2006. A video Life is Motion was made as a supplement to the campaign Input & Output. The publications and the video were distributed by the Public Health Institutes. Authors of most titles and the video were the Centre professionals. As in previous years, the Health and Immunisation Card for children and adolescents was edited and published in cooperation with the Czech Insurance Company.

As in previous years, the Centre professionals were engaged in active communication with mass media.

2.3 Centre for Quality in Health Care

Projects of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic for the promotion of quality in health care

The major tasks following from the Ministry of Health assignment included:

- a) The coordination of 8 new and 3 on-going projects in the sense of their mutual interconnection and relation to projects that have already been materialized, as well as ensuring their content in line with the requirements of international institutions.
- b) Consultations with each principal researcher.
- c) Elaboration of on-going reports on the fulfilling of projects by their researchers, assessment of the projects' contribution to health care in the Czech Republic.
- d) Elaboration of a list of potential examiners for future projects.
- e) Examination of projects submitted for acceptance in 2006.

Authorization to join activities in institutions and bureaus

Activities in institutions and bureaus following from authorization by the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic:

- Council for Quality in Health Care
- Council for Accreditation in Health Care
- Managing Committee of the Czech Quality Program

Collaboration with the NIVEL Foundation, Netherlands – project “ENQUAL”, see www.enqual.info

In question is collaboration in a research project that has been accepted in the Fifth EU Framework Program, focused on the description and classification of the quality management system in national healthcare systems with co-participation of European countries (England, Netherlands, Denmark, Poland, Lithuania, Hungary, Germany, and Czech Republic). In the Czech Republic ten hospitals are participating within the framework of questionnaires of each healthcare facility.

Participation in the international project CEEQNET, see <http://www.ceeignet.com>

The project called Unified Central and Eastern European Surveillance (monitoring system for healthcare quality and efficiency indicators) has been set going in collaboration with DG SANCO with Slovakia, Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic participating in 2004 already and successfully continuing in 2005. In consequence of the engaging in that project, Dr Bourek became member of the Health Systems Working Party – DG SANCO and at the same time was elected vice-president of that group. Dr Bourek is also chief researcher in the project CEEQNET of which the NIPH is a national partner. Within the framework of CEEQNET under the auspices of DG SANCO there was held an international workshop in Krakow in June 2005, which was attended by Dr Bourek and Dr Forýtková of the Centre for Quality in Health Care (CQHC). Dr Bourek is also member of the group Working Party Leaders, for the interconnection of WPs in the framework of DG SANCO, facilitating the monitoring of and reacting to trends (Call for proposals EC) in the area of healthcare systems.

Participation in the international project IMPROHEALTH, see www.improhealth.org

In question is a project coordinated by the Technical University in Košice within the framework of the EU program *Leonardo da Vinci* in which the NIPH CQHC participates. Five countries are participating, namely Slovakia, Finland, Sweden, Greece and the Czech Republic. In the year 2005 there have been held 3 international events of the project Improhealth, which were also attended by the head of CQHC. In January 2005, there was a meeting and workshop in the High Tatras, in May 2005 a workshop in Helsinki, and in September in Thessalonica. The main task of the project – the creation of an e-learning course aimed at improving the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of healthcare facilities – has been fulfilled in 2005 when the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic granted accreditation to the educational program for non-medical healthcare professions under the name Principles and Methods of Improving Quality of the Healthcare System.

Participation in the international project TEMPUS/MEDA

In 2005, there continued the project TEMPUS/MEDA financed by the EU program. Dr Bourek is the operations manager of the program and as such attended the January 2005 workshop of the TEMPUS/MEDA project in Egypt. Material elaborated in the course of the project shall be applied in the framework of courses and training conducted by the NIPH CQHC. Outputs of the project shall again serve as documentation for NIPH CQHC courses on management in health care. Without the two above-mentioned activities it would have not been possible (for personnel reasons) to ensure the elaboration of current up-to-date material for the NIPH CQHC courses.

Collaboration in the forming of Programs of Quality and Standards in Therapeutic Procedures

In 2005, the CQHC has widely participated in the updating of standards in therapeutic procedures for healthcare facilities as the editor of updated standards. Standards of therapeutic procedures are updated on an on-going basis 4 times a year.

Operation of the Data Centre (Quality Server)

In the year 2005, after lengthy preparations there has been put into service the Data Server. At present, there are available more than 2000 articles and abstracts totaling over 2 GB in volume. There have also taken place lengthy negotiations with the supplier of the Quality Server. At hand are outputs from international projects, quality promotion projects and other material on the activities of the CQHC (quality indicators, benchmarking, information) that shall be available on the Quality Server. Another function of the Data Centre shall be the management of courses and training, present and future that shall be conducted under the auspices of the NIPH CQHC. The objective is also to put into operation a part of the server that would serve as a registry of healthcare facilities participating in the program of communal improvement of quality in health care.

Processing of information from international events

In the course of 2005, there took place the collection and preparation of material for professionals, obtained from international institutions and conferences, that is being published on an on-going basis on publicly accessible sites, as well as on sites protected by password (material of non-public character). Active participation and processing of obtained pieces of

knowledge from the twinning project on the application of the EFQM system (Excellence Model in Health Care) – in coordination of the Ministries of Health of the Czech Republic and Finland – Stakes.

Networking

There has been successful collaboration with international institutions involved in quality (EFQM, ISQua, ESQH – Dr Bourek is member of the ESQH Steering Committee for Indicators of Efficiency in Health Care), recommended procedures (AGREE/G-I-N) and collaboration with institutions within the framework of EU programs in the field of public health (DG SANCO – Dr Bourek is deputy of the head of Health Systems Working Party DG SANCO). There have been established new contacts with organizations and individuals abroad, engaged in problems similar to those at the CQHC.

Publication activities

Preparation of posters and lectures for domestic as well as international conferences (MEDTEL, INMED, Greek Society for Healthcare Quality, Institut des Sciences de la Santé – EC Bruxelles, Meeting of Leaders of Healthcare Quality Programmes – Egypt, chapter on management of quality in health care for Georgetown University, USA), preparation of an article for *Zdravotnické noviny* (system of accreditation of healthcare facilities in the Czech Republic).

Routine running of the Centre for Quality in Health Care

Formation and updating of a directory of entities connected with quality in health care, registration and achieving of material, paperwork connected with activities of the CQHC – centre in Brno, attending correspondence with the management of the NIPH and other entities and individuals.

2.3.1. Activities of the Department for Laboratory Quality

Conceptual activities

The Department has continued to collaborate with the Ministry of Health in resolving the basic structure of quality and efficiency of healthcare services in line with the requirements of the EU, WHO and the principles of quality and safety of health care as defined by ISQua. The head of the Department has become member of the Board for Accreditation at the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic that is involved in the fulfilling of ISQua requirements on the establishing of a National Accreditation System for Healthcare Facilities.

In the accreditation program following Act No. 258/00 Dig., there took place an upgrading of texts and the mode of searching on the Department's web site regarding information for applicants for the authorization of laboratories and workers performing health risk assessments (HRA) as well as for users of services of authorized laboratories.

In the framework of the Ministry of Health project "Registry of participants in the Quality Upgrading Program in Health Care guaranteed by the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic" the Department worked on a further phase of preparations of that registry, namely

the modification of the draft of IT according to pilot registrations and remarks for selected key types of healthcare facilities, assessing and consulting bodies with the application of data from the Institute of Health Information and Statistics.

In the framework of the Ministry of Health project on healthcare quality there have continued introductory measurements of the quality and efficiency of health care, namely in the preparation of a draft of the basic set of indicators of care, their validation and evaluation. There have been prepared drafts for further stages of working on quality indicators so as the creation of indicators be spread to the area of laboratory disciplines and out-patient care.

Furthermore, in 2005 there continued collaboration with NIPH reference laboratories and the Chief Public Health Officer's Advisory Board for Laboratories, the preparation of an amendment of "Conditions for granting authorization following Act No. 258/2000 Dig., on public health protection as amended" and connected revisions of authorization directions that set the way these conditions are fulfilled.

In collaboration with the J.E Purkyne Memorial Czech Medical Association there continued preparations of clinical laboratories for the accreditation of provided quality and safe laboratory services in line with the program of registering the participants in the Quality Upgrading Program in health care guaranteed by the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic. The registry program that has begun in a pilot run in collaboration with the Czech Society for Clinical Chemistry has been joined by further professional societies of the Czech Medical Association that are members of the Board for Accreditation of Clinical Laboratories of the J.E Purkyne Memorial Czech Medical Association. The head of the Department is member of that Board and attends their regular meetings.

The Department further collaborates with the Office for Technical Standardization, Metrology and State Quality Control (UNMZ) and the Czech Metrology Institute in the preparation of metrology in the area of clinical and biological measurements in line with the requirements of European metrological institutions. The head of the Department is member of the Technical Commission for Chemical and Biological measurements of the UNMZ Advisory Board for Metrology.

The Department also participates in the EU project "Unified Central and Eastern European surveillance/monitoring system for healthcare quality and efficiency indicators CEEQNET". The head of the Department holds the post of country manager for the Czech Republic.

In the framework of the national quality promotion policy program the Department is participating in the preparation of the national registry of consultants in quality management systems and other managements. The head of the Department is member of the national registration organ of the Czech Board for Quality. The objective is to ensure in the registration the interests of the health care branch in resolving the quality of healthcare services.

Materialization of the authorization program following Act No, 258/00 Dig.

In the year 2005 there have been accepted 16 applications for authorization of laboratories of which 7 were applications for prolongation of validity of previously issued certifications (altogether 7x PHI, 5x joint stock companies, 3x Ltd. companies, 1x private organization). Of

the 16 applications, in 2005, two laboratories (both PHI) were granted authorization certificates, 5 other applicants did not continue in the authorization procedure, the resolving of 9 continues into the year 2006.

Furthermore, there were finalized 16 applications for authorization submitted in 2004. On the basis of an assessment of fulfilling the conditions for authorization by those laboratories, in 2005 all of them were granted certificates of authorization (7x PHI, 6x share holdings, 3x private organizations).

Within the framework of the check-up of the activities of laboratories under valid authorization they all have been tested through participation in ICT/EQA. In 16 laboratories that had been granted authorization more than a year ago, there was scrutinized the standard of issued reports concerning each authorization set, namely in view of model reports elaborated by the authorizing person.

In the year 2005 there took place preparations with other organizations of the organization of inter-laboratory comparisons – to be finalized in 2006. At the end of the year the organizing of ICT for the year 2006 has been taken over by the Department in inorganic element determinations in foodstuffs.

In the area of authorization of workers assessing health risks there has been held 1 course attended by 21 participants. Successful participation in such courses was part and parcel of the authorization procedure up to 27 Sept., 2005.

There have been accepted 17 applications of which 9 were applications for authorization certificates, and 8 applications for prolongations of their validity.

On the basis of accepted authorization applications and successful passing of tests there have been issued 8 certifications of authorization in the area of HRA, one applicant failed the test and has not continued for the present, i.e. 1 application is to continue into 2006.

The issuing of certificates of extended validity continues into 2006.

In the year 2005 the meeting of conditions of authorization for 2004 was checked up on and those results were sent to each of the authorized persons. Although there has been found a number of serious shortcomings, in 2005 no certificate validity has been terminated or certificate withdrawn.

Educational activities

The staff of the Department actively participated at a number of conferences and seminars concerning healthcare quality programs, namely in the area of assessing public health protection as well as health care and clinical laboratories. There has been deepened collaboration with the NCONZO in Brno, namely in the area of the training of workers of Public Health Institutes and Regional Public Health Authorities.

In the framework of laboratory authorization programs there have been organized training courses for those seeking authorization, for coordinators of authorization sets and for auditors.

In the framework of the program for authorization in health risk assessment there has been organized a tutorial day for authorization holders, holders of professional qualification certificates and for the representatives of Regional Public Health Authorities.

2.4 Centre of Environmental Hygiene

Expert Group for Water Hygiene + National Reference Centre for Drinking Water

The predominant activity of the NRC is the providing of expert opinions, statements and consultations on problems of hygiene and analytics of drinking water and water for recreational purposes. In the year 2005 there have been issued more than 180 viewpoints, the number of personal and telephone consultations and information for various organizations and individuals was in the order of thousands. Within the framework of expert assessment of the safety to health of products and chemical substances intended for contact with drinking water, there have been assessed 60 products. The expert Group has conducted 12 rounds of inter-laboratory comparative tests for laboratory analysis of water, and within that framework there have been for the first time in the Czech Republic prepared tests for the evaluation of water sensorics.

Considerable effort has been devoted to the preparation of new legislation (amendments of decrees on drinking water and products intended for contact with drinking water) and new technical standards (within the framework of collaboration with *Hydroprojekt*). There have been elaborated new methodological instructions and recommendations of the NRC (five in all – e.g. on microcystine and blue algae, on parasitic protozoa in water, on rapid methods of microbiological analysis, on home water filters, etc.). Over the year, trained staff of the Expert group, in the role of auditors and chief auditors, has participated in the authorization of several laboratories (sets A1 – A4), participated in authorization courses for the assessment of health risks, and in testing applicants for authorization in risk assessment.

Among the traditional activities there belong, e.g. the ensuring of Program II in the Monitoring System (SMZSOŽP) and in the Nationwide Monitoring of Water Quality, or the elaboration of an annual report on the state of recreational water for the European Commission. Among novel activities in 2005 there can be presented, e.g. the preparation of a report on drinking water quality for the EU, or the introduction of a method for the determination of new hazardous substances in drinking water (MTBE, certain pharmaceuticals, halo-acetic acids).

There have been arranged 3 seminars, 2 tutorial days, and 3 study sojourns for about 425 people. The staff of the Expert Group has presented 70 lectures at various seminars and conferences in the Czech Republic and abroad, and published several dozen articles in the professional literature. The NRC has its currently updated internet site for the professional as well as the lay public.

As regards research activities conducted within the framework of research intentions and that supported by an AVČR grant, there can be presented the continuation of research in the seroprevalence against cryptosporidia in relation to differing water quality (applying current sera). There has been successfully finalized the European project „Web-based European Knowledge Network on Water“ initiated in 2002. There has been submitted a new application for an international research project in the framework of the 6th Framework Program. The TECHNEAU project has been approved, commencing January 1, 2006.

Expert Group for Ambient Air Hygiene

Professional activities lie foremost in the elaboration of expert standpoints, in the assessment of health risks, in legislative activities, training, providing consultations, and inter-

branch collaboration in expert groups. A significant part plays the coordination of the subsystem of the MZSO project of Monitoring of the Indoor and Outdoor Ambient Air in Relation to Population Health, and the evaluation of obtained results. Expert report activities included health risk assessments, expert evaluations, and a number of measurements of the outdoor and indoor ambient air.

Among laboratory activities there can be included organizationally and professionally demanding activities such as:

- the organization of programs of qualification testing – in 2005 it was the 9th already;
- the development of an equivalent screening method of PAH sampling in the ambient air;
- the development of QA/QC procedures in gas calibration laboratories.

There continued activities connected with problems of the indoor environment (ambient air). In that area covered by Decree No.6/2003 Dig., there have been materialized several expert reports and elaborated a draft of a methodological instruction for the strategy of sampling in the indoor ambient air, and methods of measuring ambient air quality (determinations of NO₂, CO, O₃, fractions PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} of suspended matter, volatile organic compounds, formaldehyde, ammonia). For the MZSO Subsystem there has been elaborated a project of a pilot study of measuring indoor environment quality in schools, and for the needs of the public health service there have been presented several communications in the framework of training and courses.

On-going components are methodological activities and postgraduate education for the whole of the public health service. There have been organized 3 seminars/consultation days; the staff of the Expert group held more than 30 lectures at various seminars and conferences in the Czech Republic and abroad and published 4 articles in professional journals. The Expert group has a currently updated internet site for the professional as well as the lay public.

Under research there can be included

- finalization of 5-year project supported by a grant from the Ministry for the Environment of the Czech Republic (R&D – Characterization of the population load in small settlements due to ambient air noxae and bio-aerosol pollution of the ambient air) (principal investigator: NIPH);
- elaboration of final report on subproject “Population Health and Exposure Levels” within a project supported by a grant from the Ministry for the Environment: R&D – Determination of the effectiveness of measures for the limiting of ambient air pollution on the basis of lowering the negative effects of pollutants on components of the environment and on human health (principal investigator: Ekotoxa Opava);
- elaboration of final report on subproject “Analysis of Risks and Impacts on Human Health” within a project supported by a grant from the Ministry for the Environment: R&D 740-06-01 Research on the source of particulate matter in exposed regions for programs of improving ambient air quality (principal investigator: TESO Prague);
- in collaboration with the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute and the Czech Academy of Sciences Institute of Chemical Processes there has been obtained a 3-year grant for R&D SM/9/86/05: “Study of the Origin of Secondary Particles from Gaseous Precursors and their Share in the Overall Immission Load” in which the NIPH is one of three co-investigators, the first year having been finalized and successfully peer reviewed;

- in collaboration with the Geophysical Institute (Czech Academy of Sciences) and the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute there has been obtained a 4-year grant for the project “Magnetic Properties of Solid Atmospheric Fall-out and their Relation to Environmental Pollution” in which the NIPH is one of three co-investigators;
- there has been elaborated a project for Norwegian Funds: “Creating Promotion Tools for Controlling Ambient Air Risks for Child Health Protection”.

Expert Group for Soil and Waste Hygiene

Major activities comprise the elaboration of expert reports and viewpoints, and the providing of consultations on problems of waste. In question is foremost risk assessment in waste management, the assessment of various technologies for the decontamination of hazardous waste, the liquidation and redevelopment of old ecological burdens, etc. Within the framework of expert assessments of safety to health, among other things, there have been evaluated 28 samples of products and agents, 8 decontamination technologies, and 3 final reports on risk analysis. Laboratory activities have been mainly focused on microbiological analyses of soil, sludges from waste water treatment plants, treated biowaste, and the ecotoxicological testing of building materials. There have also been conducted chemical analyses of the soil. For selected waste commodities, in connection with the Waste management Plan of the Czech Republic, there has been elaborated a draft of measures for minimizing health risks.

An important component of the group’s activities was the continued project “System of Monitoring the Environmental Impact on Population Health, subsystem VIII – Health risks of contamination in urban agglomerations”.

The Expert Group participated significantly in the preparation of new legislation, e.g. of a draft of the Ministry of Health decree on conditions of deposition of waste on dumping grounds and terrain surface formation, and of the draft amendment on waste bringing entrustment to elaborate the decree on biological procedures of processing biodegradable waste, of the draft of the Ministry of health decree on management of waste from healthcare facilities, of the draft of Ministry of Health decree on electric appliances waste, of the draft of the Ministry for the Environment methodological instruction on the storage of equipment containing PCBs, etc.

An on-going component of the group’s activities is methodology and postgraduate education. In the framework of that, there have been held 2 tutorial days, study sojourns, and a 3-day course on the assessment of hazardous properties of waste materials. The group’s staff have held over 50 lectures at various seminars and conferences, domestic and abroad, and published in professional journals. The laboratory is a consulting workplace for dissertations and doctor’s theses. They collaborate in the Ministry of Health grant-supported project SM/9/86/05 “Study of the influence of secondary particles from gaseous precursors and of their share in the overall immission load”.

The reference laboratory has participated the 9th year already in international ring tests in soil analysis conducted by the Department of Soil and Nutrition Science, Wageningen Agricultural University, as well as in the verification of microbiological methodologies within the framework of project FP6-Horizontal-HYG, SSPI-CT-2004-513660: Horizontal Standards on Hygienic Microbiological Parameters for Implementation of EU Directives on Sludges, Soils and Treated Biowastes. They also participate in FP6-IMPEL-Consideration of Human Health through IPPC.

Expert Group – Indicators of Health

Within the framework of the monitoring project No.VI – Evaluation of the Health Status, there has been evaluated the first part (9 cities) and materialized the second part (16 cities) of the second stage of the HELEN study establishing the relationships between health, lifestyle and the living environment (an overall evaluation is to follow in the year 2006), the results having been presented at the nationwide conference on Monitoring Population Health held in Milovice.

In 2005, the processing of routine statistical data included the updating of data on the incidence of malignant tumors, the indicators having been processed in a lesser range and at the level of former district cities. There has been made a comparison of selected health indicators in the Czech Republic with those in the countries of the EU.

Within the framework of materializing the IGA MZ NJ/7386-3 grant-supported project “Risk factors in the origin of bad posture in school-age children – prevalence of diseases of the locomotor apparatus: there have been finalized analyses of the data obtained. The results were presented at the conference “Monitoring Population Health” held in Milovice, at the conference “Ostrava days of Child and Adolescent Hygiene”, at the conference “Healthy Children and Youths” (Masaryk University, Brno), at the conference “Role of Motoric Activities in the Lives of Children and Youths” (Faculty of Physical Education and Sports, Charles university), and published in the journal “Praktický lékař” (General Practitioner), No.11/2005. In December 2005, at the NIPH there has been held a nationwide seminar “Application of the results of the Grant-supported project in the materialization of the Program ‘Health 21’”.

The group participated in the subproject “Population Health and the Exposure Level” in the framework of R&D 740/01/02 “Determining the Effectiveness of Measures for Limiting Ambient Air Pollution on the Basis of Lowering the Negative Effects of Pollutants on Components of The Living Environment and Human Health”. For the evaluation of population health there have been selected several indicators reflecting the mortality, hospitalized morbidity and birth weight of newborns.

Within the framework of Monitoring, project No.III – Health Consequences of the Disturbing Effects of Noise, in 2005 there have been conducted measurements of noise in selected basic localities of 19 cities in the Czech Republic. Furthermore, there has also been evaluated the estimated relative risk of damage to health by night-time noise in contiguous localities that closely border the basic ones. The monitoring results have been presented at the nationwide conference “Monitoring of Population health” held in Milovice. In the framework of expert activities there have been assessed 3 studies on noise from the point of view of the health consequences of noise in the affected population.

In 2005, within the framework of the Centre of Environmental Hygiene there has continued the international prospective cohort study HAPIEE (Health, Alcohol and Psychosocial factors in Eastern Europe) of which the NIPH is the coordinating centre for the Czech Republic, in which there are participating the Institutes of public Health in Jihlava, Hradec Králové, Kroměříž, Liberec, Ústí nad Labem, and the Public Health Authority Ostrava (Karviná-Havířov).

Data collection from all the cities has been finalized in June 2005. Data purification was carried out at the NIPH.

Within the framework of the study, since January 2005, there was conducted in parallel yet another questionnaire survey focused on cardiovascular diseases that included the verification of myocardial infarctions at GPs and/or hospitals.

Furthermore, the NIPH has participated and shall still participate in the preparation of another international project “Quality of Life in the Ageing Population” that has begun in September 2005, and shall be a continuation of the present HAPIEE study.

Expert Group and NRL for Genotoxicology

Activities of the NRL included methodology, expert consultations with field workplaces, the providing of standard culture media for genotoxicological workplaces at public health institutes, and the training of their staff. In the course of 2005, three people have completed a one-week study sojourn. The Expert Group prepared cytogenetic samples for inter-laboratory comparative tests in which 11 genotoxicology workplaces took part, including 2 in Slovakia.

The Laboratory of Atomic Absorption Spectrometry regularly participates in international ring tests. The expert group also carries out expert activities.

In the framework of Monitoring Population health – subsystem V, there have been selected 4 regions (Prague, Liberec, Ostrava, Zlín) for the sampling of blood and urine in blood donors at blood transfusion stations, as well as of breast milk in primiparae. From each region there have been taken 100 samples in each matrix, while most analyses are being carried out at our workplace. A tutorial day was held for the participating workplaces.

The expert Group for Genotoxicology is coordinating and organizing the 4th WHO International Comparative Study at the National Level focused on the follow-up of levels of persisting organic substances in breast milk. More than 30 countries are participating in the study.

Our workplace has been included in an integrated project in the 6th Framework Project „Public Health Impact of Long-term, Low-level Mixed Element Exposure in Susceptible Population Strata“ that shall begin in March 2006. The year 2005 was devoted to preparations of the project in which more than 30 partners worldwide shall be participating.

Finalized has been the grant-supported project R&D/740/5/03 „Ambient Air Pollution and Health Protection“ in which we have participated as co-researchers. Over the year, 4 control days have taken place focused on the fulfilling of the project and on its results.

In the course of the year there have been prepared 2 new IGA MZ ČR grant-supported projects. Both have been accepted with investigation to begin January 2006. The objective of the first one is the determination of mercury and methylmercury in the hair of a selected population in the Czech Republic as a bio-indicator of exposure to mercury; the other one is concerned with the retrospective follow-up of levels of indicator PCB congeners and selected chlorinated pesticides in the serum of the Czech population over the period of 1970 – 1996.

Another important activity is the elaboration of expert opinions on GMOs from the point of view of potential health risks.

2.5 Centre of Occupational Medicine

The Centre's activities follow, on the one hand, from the Statute of the NIPH and valid legislative norms, and on the other, from the tasks outlined in the National Action Plan of Workplace Safety and health Promotion, from the national strategy "Health 21", from international strategies and projects (WHO, ILO) and grant-supported projects allotted by grant agencies, domestic and from abroad.

From year to year, the staffing of the individual activities is becoming more and more difficult. Over the past 20 years the number of staff members of the Centre has fallen by almost a half. The discrepancy between the mounting tasks and the decreasing numbers of workers is being ongoingly resolved through increased efforts of the Centre's key members. The activities of the Centre of Occupational Medicine are covered by 7 expert groups and the secretariate. Seven reference units operate within the framework of the expert groups.

Research and Expert Activities

On an on-going basis, the Centre has carried out consultation and expert activities covering the whole branch of occupational medicine, that including occupational hygiene, occupational physiology and psychology, toxicology and occupational diseases. As in previous years, there predominated namely consultation activities for the Ministry of health, public health organs, employers, trade unions and other organs of the state administration, as well as for entrepreneurs. There have been carried out measurements and corresponding analyses and evaluations of obtained results, elaboration of expert opinions (171), processing of safety certificates (230), and assessments of workplaces for purposes of job categorization (16). In the year 2005, proceeds from paid expert activities have amounted to 1800 ths. CZK.

In the year the Centre continued in the providing of diagnostic health care reimbursed by health insurance companies as well as against direct payments. At the beginning of the year there were in force agreements on the providing of health care with six health insurance companies (OZP, VOZP, ČNZP, Coalfield Fraternity Treasury Insurance company, ZP Metal Alliance, and ZP ŠKODA) for activity item 205 – investigation of pulmonary functions. However, at the close of the first half of the year, the VOZP revoked the agreement between us. In the year 2005 there have been carried out 4428 operations totalling 545 994 points. The staff of the Centre elaborated 3 forensic expert reports concerning occupational diseases.

The Centre of Occupational medicine has been responsible for the co-ordination and assessment of results in the fulfilling of the task set by the Chief public Health Officer, "Control over Workplace Preventive Health care". The Centre provided the Ministry of Health with personal, telephone and e-mail consultations, and processed peer review on submitted materials (15). Information databases and systems have been provided on an on-going basis, as well as analyses of notified occupational diseases from the National Register of Occupational Diseases (35).

The Working Group for Exposure Limits and categorization of the centre of Occupational Medicine at the NIPH, have negotiated 11 PEL and NPK-P. They prepared documentation for the revision of exposure limits for a group of ketones and acetates. Besides that there has been assessed the risk for 4 newly registered substances (ADTA, Betain, Norpol E 3149, ZOL-4). Documentation has been prepared for negotiations regarding the inclusion in the list of active biocidal substances of one biocide product following EU Directive No.1048/2005.

The Centre's staff has participated in the Assessment of new technologies and processes in connection with GMOs. In the year 2005 there have been assessed 45 applications and notifications concerning the handling of GMOs.

The staff of the Centre has participated in the verification of the conditions for the appearance of occupational diseases due to overburdening, and provided a number of consultations for workplace physicians as well as for public health organs on investigation procedures in the individual types of occupational diseases.

Legislation and Health Policy

A considerable part of the working capacity of the the Centre's staff was used for the preparation of documentation for the executive management at the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic. There have been elaborated remarks on legislative amendments that were being prepared, as well as drafts of text adaptations.

There has continued collaboration in harmonizing with European legislation, work in the Technical Norms Commission (TNK) for harmonization in the area of personal protection equipment and ergonomics (remarks of the norms commission on new standards, collaboration in the preparation of a new ISO norm for assessment of excessive unilateral burdening, etc.).

Workers of the Centre have participated in the amendment of Government Decree No. 178/2001 Dig. as amended in Govt. Decree No. 523/2002 Dig. in which are set the conditions of protection of employee health at work, that has been finally issued as Govt. Decree No. 441/2004 Dig.

Workers of the Centre have likewise participated in the draft of a new govt. decree replacing Govt. Decree No. 502/2000 Dig. as amended, on the protection of health against unfavorable effects of noise and vibrations, whereby there are transpones European directives 2002/44/EU and 2003/10/EU into the Czech legal code. Further, the Centre has been participating in the elaboration of an amendment of Decree No. 108/2001 Dig. in which there have been set requirements on the premises and operation of schools, preschool facilities, and certain school facilities – the amendment was issued as Decree No. 410/2005 Dig. The staff has also elaborated remarks on the govt. decree in preparation that concerns jobs, activities and technical equipment capable of endangering employees to a greater degree, prerequisites for specialized qualification, accreditation and examinations for specialized qualification and for professional qualification.

Further, there has been discussed the implementation of Act No. 95/2004 Dig. on conditions for acquiring and acknowledgement of professional qualification and specialized qualification for performing the profession of physician, stomatologist, and pharmacist, and of Act No. 96/2004 Dig. on conditions for acquiring and acknowledgement of qualification to perform non-medical healthcare professions and for the performing of activities connected with providing health care and on amendments of related rulings.

Very exacting was work on amendments, commentaries and remarks on further legislative norms that are closely connected with this discipline. There have been submitted remarks to amendments of regulations through which is implemented Act No. 356/2003 Dig. on chemical substances and chemical products and on amendments of certain other laws (Decree No. 109/2005 Dig. by which is amended Decree No. 221/2004 Dig.; of Decree No. 389/2005 Dig. by which is amended Decree No. 222/2004 Dig.; of Decree No. 460/2005 Dig.

by which is amended Decree No. 231/2004 Dig.; of Decree No. 369/2005 by which is amended Decree No. 232/2004 Dig.; of Decree No. 12/2006 Dig. by which is amended Decree No. 426/2004 Dig.; and of Decree No. 449/2005 Dig by which is amended Decree No. 443/2004 Dig.).

There have also been elaborated remarks to other amendments of Act No. 258/2000 Dig. on public health protection and amendments of certain related laws as last amended. From the point of view of the centre, in question were namely §§ 30 – 34 concerning noise and vibrations, and consequent Govt. Decree No. 502/2002 Dig. on the protection of health against unfavorable effects of noise and vibrations as amended, by which the requirements on protection against noise and vibrations is implemented. (The full text of Act No. 258/2000 Dig. on public health protection and on amendments of certain related laws as later amended, has been consequently decreed under No. 471/2005 Dig.) Besides that there have been elaborated remarks on amendment of Act No. 120/2002 Dig. on conditions of placing biocidal products and active substances on the market and on amendments of certain related laws as last amended.

There was being put into practice Methodological Instruction of the Ministry of Health No. 1/2005 Bull. Min. Health, on the procedure of determining PEL and NPK-P substances not listed in Govt. decree No. 178/2001 Dig., by which there are set the conditions of employee health protection at work, as last amended.

The staff of the centre has also participated in preparations of a draft of the decree on short-term work with asbestos, and on an on-going basis there are being collected proposals of amendments for another amendment of Govt. decree No. 178/2001 Dig. as amended in Govt. Decree No. 523/2001 Dig., by which there are set conditions of employee health protection at work (being amended namely in the part on exposure limits, increasing the number of substances for which limits have to be determined).

There has continued work on a draft of the act on accident insurance, a draft of the act on health care, and proposals of related decrees.

Very close collaboration of the Centre's staff continues with the Ministry of Health's Register of Chemical Substances Department in resolving problems connected with chemical substances and products.

Within the framework of the remarks procedure on proposals of new legislation, the centre has participated in preparations of documentation for the content of preventive physical examinations in persons exposed to selected factors in the working environment (asbestos, offensive allergens).

At the Centre of Occupational Medicine there are peer-reviewed norms that have any relationship to problems of health protection. The electronic file has 18001 peer-review reports of Czech norms. Over the past year, 1231 new entries on revisions have appeared. They cover the whole area of problems worked on at the NIPH and a considerable part of the problems of safety at work and fire protection.

There has markedly advanced work on the publishing of peer reviews of the most important technical standards and legislative regulations on the NIPH website.

Prof. M. Cikrt, M.D., D.Sc., continued as member of the Govt. Council for Safety and Protection of Health at Work. Workers of the Centre (5) have participated in the activities of certain Standing committees of the Council (Standing Committee for Education and research; Standing Committee for Legislation; Standing Committee for the assessment and Control of

Work Risks, Occupational Medical Care and Rehabilitation). Activities have been focused foremost on the fulfilling and preparation of tasks of the National Action Plan “Safety and Protection of Health at Work” and on the preparation of new legislation – foremost the labor code.

Through the Standing committee of the Govt. Council for Safety and Protection of health at Work there has been brought to bear a remark towards the government draft on employee accident insurance. The draft counts with the abolition of Govt. Decree No. 290/1995 Dig., in which there is a list of occupational diseases, and (the draft) takes over that list as Annex No. 1. Thereby there would markedly be rendered more difficult any eventual amendment of the list on any potential appearance of the need of such amendments in connection with advances in knowledge in the given area or due to harmonization with EU or ILO model lists. We have therefore suggested the list of occupational diseases to remain at the level of Government decree. As far as the list should become a component of any Act, we have pointed out the necessity of its prior up-dating because in the wording of 1995 it already departs from current pieces of knowledge in several respects. Our observation has been submitted as an amendment by MP Mr. A. Michalík in the framework of the second reading of the draft in Parliament on January 31, 2006.

International collaboration

The centre is a WHO Collaborating Centre for Occupational Medicine. The centre has been actively participating in the Program of Worldwide research in Occupational Medicine “WHO Collaborating Centres Work Plan 2001-2005” to which it contributed four projects. That program has ended in 2005. Within the framework of preparations of a new WHO Global Network of Collaborating centres Work Plan 2006-2010, on an appeal of the WHO/HQ we have offered two projects: (1) Lung Function Reduction Associated with Different Levels of Occupational Exposure to Asbestos Particles, and (2) Czech National Occupational Health Profile – Indicators of exposure and of Health Outcomes. Inclusion of the plans in the WHO Work Plan shall be decided on at the WHO Collaborating Centres Meeting to be held June 8-9, 2006, in Stresa, Italy.

In the year 2005 there has continued the implementation of the EUROSTAT/EODS system in the Czech Republic. The EU Statistical Bureau EUROSTAT has accepted the grant-supported project “Implementation of EODS Methodology for Collection of Data on Occupational Diseases in the Czech Republic”, the researcher of which is the centre of Occupational Medicine, and its guarantee is the Czech Bureau of Statistics.

The Centre is also a national contact point in the International program of chemical Safety (IPCS). In the framework of that entrustment it actively participates in the preparations and assessment of documents of the program (EHC, CICAD). Moreover, it signed up for work on the IPCS project “Harmonization of Approaches to the Assessment of the Exposure Risk to Chemical Substances”.

Ing. V. Stránský has actively participated in the Technical Progress Commission at the EU, Luxemburg.

There has been processed material for the European Trade Union Technical Bureau for Health and Safety (TUTB) in Brussels concerning problems of the occurrence and prevention of diseases of the locomotor system in the Czech Republic; that also included a discussion on valid European legislation as well as recommendations.

There has continued collaboration in the framework of the program “Working Life and EU Enlargement”, on procedure unification in assessing stress at work, and in the preparation of working methods in that area in EU countries.

In the year 2005 the Centre of Occupational Medicine has actively joined the European campaign “Stop to Noise” announced for EU countries by the Safety and protection of Health at Work HQ in Bilbao. Aside of numerous organizational activities (e.g. training of workers in safety and protection of health at work) there has been prepared and in collaboration with the Research Institute of Safety at Work issued the publication “Dangerous Noise”. At the same time, there have begun preparatory stages of the European campaign for the year 2006 “Adolescent Labor”.

In the course of 2005 workers of the centre of Occupational Medicine have been expressing their standpoints in regard to documents and participated in discussions for their final versions for international organizations and international projects (WHO, ILO, European Agency for Safety and Protection of Health at Work, TUTB, IFCS IPCS).

Job categorization and the system of monitoring health and the environment

In the system of monitoring health and the environment, all the tasks of Subsystem VII “Health risks of working conditions and their consequences” focused on the relationships of the working environment and health (Job Categorization, National Register of Occupational Diseases, and the Register of Occupational Exposure to Carcinogens – REGEX).

Workers of the Centre, members of the Council of the Public Health Service Information System Register “Categorization of Jobs and Workplaces”, have collaborated in the further development of the system. On an on-going basis there has been carried out an updating of data in the system following amended legislative measures, as well as the inclusion of newly investigated PEL and NPK-P in numerical code catalogues. Vast consultations have been provided to workplaces in the field, for the Ministry of Health, and workplaces at the NIPH.

In the year 2005, there has been constituted the Occupational Diseases Register Council, a member of which is a representative from the centre. There have been created new forms for reporting occupational diseases and impending occupational disease hazards to the National Register of Occupational Diseases that are in line with valid legislation (Act No. 156/2004 Dig.), and annexes to the standpoint of the organ carrying out the verification of the appearance of conditions for occupational diseases. Besides the printed version, there have been made electronic templates of those documents. At the Centre there has also been created a draft of Binding Instructions of the Institute of Healthcare Information and Statistics to the National Register of Occupational Diseases that integrated the shares of occupational diseases centres as well as of the organs conducting the verification of conditions of the occurrence of occupational diseases. The material has been approved by the Council of the Register and was distributed to all parties involved.

In the Register of Occupational Exposure to Carcinogens (REGEX) data are being updated once a year. The number of exposed subjects in the REGEX database, compiled on the basis of regional data at the NIPH, as of November 31, 2005, amounted to 4315 persons representing 6223 entries. As against the previous period, there have been successfully included a further two administrative Regions – Prague and Liberec. Besides the printed version there have been made electronic templates of those documents. At the Centre there has also been created a draft of Binding Instructions of the Institute of Healthcare Information

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Health 21

In the framework of materializing the *Health 21* program “Protection of the Health of the Working Population and the Maintaining and Improvement of its Working Capacity”, activities of the Centre are focused foremost on motivating employers and the management of enterprises towards participation in tasks of Safety and Health Protection at Work.

There has been elaborated a handbook “*Criteria of the Quality of Health Promotion at the Workplace with a Commentary*” that has been published on websites of the Centre of Occupational medicine, of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic, and in the Safety and protection of Health at Work web gateway (BOZPinfo), as well as in the AHEM series in issue No. 2/2005. This handbook serves the introduction of workplace health promotion and evaluation of enterprises promoting health. Among its components is also a *Self-assessment Questionnaire* for the rapid evaluation of the quality of care for employee health in the relevant organization. The handbook elaborated on the basis of international cooperation with the European Network of Workplace Health Promotion (ENWHP) with whose consent the text has been translated and supplemented with a commentary. The Czech version of the *Self-assessment Questionnaire* has been placed on the ENWHP website.

In February and March, 2005, we have turned to 54 enterprises with a request for collaboration in the evaluation of the *Criteria* and their applicability in practice. Forty-four of them have been awarded the certificate *Safe enterprise*. To our call for collaboration there replied 29 enterprises of which 9 were willing to participate in the workplace health promotion project. In April, 2005, the Czech Ministry of health announced the first year of the competition “*Health Promoting Enterprise of the Year*” (2005), the guarantee of which is the NIPH. Ten enterprises in which there had been conducted audits in collaboration with workers of Regional Public Health Administrations and Public Health Institutes have entered the competition.. On the basis of a final evaluation, 9 of the enrolled companies have been appreciated as *Health Promoting Enterprise* of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd categories. The second year of the competition has been announced in November, 2005. In 2005 there have commenced preparations for the educational course *Health Promotion at the Workplace*, that shall take

place in six one-day sessions from April through October 2006. In November 2005, there has been created a separate *Workplace Health Promotion* section on the website of the Centre of Occupational Medicine, wherein aside of methodological material, there is also published current information on that topic.

Authorization

In the year 2005, workers of the centre have actively participated in the preparation of authorization sets (10) and in the coordination of authorization as well as in the check-up of workplaces (13).

Sampling of gaseous noxae in the working environment

In the year 2005, there has been successfully finalized the process of authorization of the first subject in the private sector. In the framework of NIPH activities there have been assessed, standard operation procedures in the sense of sets H11 and H12, and audits have been conducted directly in laboratories. The laboratories of the joint-stock company Spolana Neratovice have been authorized to sample and analyze for a total of 11 industrial chemical noxae that penetrate in gaseous form into the workers' breathing zone.

Levels of particulate matter, microclimate illumination of the indoor environment of buildings

In the year 2005, there have been conducted audits of sets B5, B6, B8 in four subjects.

Detection and measuring of vibrations and noise

From the beginning of the year 2005, at the NIPH vibrations laboratory there are being conducted interlaboratory comparative tests for noise and vibrations in the working environment, for authorization applicants and accredited laboratories. Workers of the NIPH have participated in the preparation of expert documentation for an amendment of conditions for granting authorization in the general section as well as specifically for sets G1 – G111. On an on-going basis there take place consultation activities for the needs of the Centre of QC in Laboratories (in question is namely the resolving of contentious results of audits) and for authorization applicants.

Determination and measuring of illumination in the working environment

In the year 2005, there have been carried out audits in four subjects, namely of sets H5 (Czech-Moravian Mines Co., Public health Institute České Budějovice, Public Health Institute Ústí nad Labem) and H6 (Public Health Institute Ústí nad Labem).

Occupational physiology and psychology

There has continued work on authorization in the3 area of occupational physiology and psychology. There have been carried out 3 expert audits including comparison measurings that ended up in the issuing of authorizations and there has been prepared one repeated audit. Much effort has been devoted to consultation activities for workplaces that are preparing for authorization (preparation of a manual on quality and standards, fulfilling specific conditions, etc.).

Research

Likewise in 2005, there was being prepared documentation and the elaboration of applications for grants (around 8 annually). There have been elaborated final and on-going reports of grant-supported projects from IGA MZ ČR (9), GAČR (6), MŠMT (2), health promotion projects (1), and international projects (4) (see Annex 2). Results of research projects were published in domestic professional journals as well as abroad, and presented at national and international conferences and seminars.

Significant and relatively frequent were also peer-reviewing activities in the assessment of IGA, GAČR, GAUK, of Masters and Doctors theses, and contributions to domestic journals and from abroad. Fifteen of the centre's staff have participated in those activities.

Education and training

Workers of the centre have participated in pre- and post-graduate training not only in occupational medicine but also in other disciplines (neurology, general medicine, toxicology, public health, etc.) namely in the form of lectures and courses. The Centre provides practicals for students of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Faculties of Medicine – Charles University, the Faculty of Natural Sciences – Charles University, the Faculty of Humanities Studies – Charles University, the Faculty of Forestry and the Environment – Czech Agricultural University, and the Higher Healthcare School. Experts of the centre have participated as consultants in student Diploma theses for the state exam in preventive medicine at the 3rd Faculty of medicine – Charles University, at the Czech Technical University (Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Faculty of Electrical Engineering), and Masters and Bachelors exams in toxicological analysis at the Faculty of Natural Sciences – Charles University, and participated in guiding doctorate theses.

The Centre, along with the society of occupational Medicine – Czech J.-E. Purkinje Memorial Medical Association, held regular seminars which took on another form in 2005 and were changed into all-day tutorial days. Workers of the Public Health Administrations and of the Public Health Institutes were called on to present queries on topics for discussion. Those tutorial days bear the character of postgraduate educational activities, and from the year 2006 shall be rated with credits or certificates that have been allotted for physicians by the Czech Chamber of Medicine, and for non-medical healthcare workers by the Czech Society of Occupational Medicine – Czech J.-E. Purkinje Memorial Medical Association, or some other organizations that have been included by the Ministry of Health in the list of professional associations and societies that have the right to confirm the inclusion of educational activities in the credit system of life-long education and training. In the year 2005 there were 6 tutorial days with 1160 attendants. Their topics were: (1) Exposure to selected physical factors in the working environment, (2) Occupational physiology and psychology, (3) Information systems in occupational medicine, (4) Measuring and assessment of exposure to chemical substances in the working environment, (5) Job categorization and preventive physical examinations, and (6) Novel chemical substances and new technologies.

Together with professional societies the centre also took on the organization of and provided the program of traditional activities: 20th Teisinger Days of Industrial Toxicology, 29th Beno's Day, and 28th Day of Industrial Neurology.

There have been arranged two innovation courses for toxicologists from the Regional Public Health Administrations and from Public Health Institutes that shall continue in 2006.

Workers of the centre held lectures at educational and informative courses for workers in the production sphere (e.g. fiber composites, paints), in the educational sphere (courses of toxicology for secondary school teachers), and requalification courses for occupational safety technicians conducted by the Research Institute of Occupational Safety – NIVOS.

In collaboration with the Public Health Institutes and Regional Public Health Administrations, workers of the Centre of Occupational Medicine have participated in providing the professional content of seminars concerning the working environment and health protection.

The Centre has participated in the organization of the seminar “*Alternative Methods for Testing Chemical Substances and Mixtures of Them*” that shall be repeated in 2006. In question was the interpretation of *in silico* calculation methods (QSAR) and validation criteria for the approval of their application for legislative ends.

In the framework of the education of healthcare and other professionals, the staff of the centre of occupational medicine has participated as lectures at the Institute of Postgraduate Studies in Health Care (IPVZ) as well as at the National Centre of Nursing and Other Healthcare Professions (NCONZO). They have also participated in seminars of the Department of Occupational Diseases at the 1st Faculty of Medicine – Charles University, in educational activities of the Czech Chamber of Medicine, in seminars of the Society of Technic and the Environment, the Czech Chamber of Authorized Engineers and Technicians, the Czech Asthma Initiative, and the Czech Technical University. The staff has occasionally participated in seminars organized by other professional societies and companies (Research Institute of Safety at Work, the Aerosol Society, etc.) or producers of measuring instruments (in 2005 a seminar of the British firm SKC held at the NIPH in Prague). Some workers of the Centre have participated in the preparation of seminars for authorization applicants.

In the year 2005, neither public education activities have been neglected. Workers of the Centre appeared in nation-wide programs of *Czech Television (ČT)* and *TV Nova*, the Czech Radio – *Radiožurnál* (5x), popularizing pieces of scientific knowledge. They have also participated in the preparation of articles requested by the daily press.

Within the framework of life-long education, workers of the Centre of Occupational medicine attended conversation language courses as well as training at the institute of Postgraduate Studies in health care (IPVZ) in Prague. In the year 2005 one female physician has successfully finished specialization studies in occupational medicine. Several workers (7 secondary school graduates) have commenced post-GCE specialization studies in occupational hygiene laboratory methods by the passing of which they shall attain specialized qualification for performing the profession of healthcare technician in public health laboratory methods. Twelve other professionals and 3 physicians have commenced postgraduate studies at the IPVZ in Prague.

Information sources

Job Categorization, the National Register of Occupational Diseases, REGEX

These databases that are an important source of information and the significance of which exceeds the scope of NIPH activities, are also discussed in another part of this report (“Job categorization and the system of Monitoring Health and the Environment”)

The Register of Occupational Diseases: Workers of the Centre of Occupational medicine provide the organization of data collection, their processing, checking of completeness and quality, and the elaboration of reports on the occurrence of occupational diseases and endangerment by occupational disease in the Czech Republic, that are published on the internet as well as in professional journals and in operational analyses of problems worked on in projects. At present, collaboration with Eurostat is in progress.

REGEX: There is being studied the analysis of the incidence of malignant neoplasia and mortality as well as the overall mortality of people exposed to carcinogens. On an on-going basis there are being prepared analyses for the needs of workers in organs of public health protection. Stressed is the checking up on the quality of data. Workers of the centre of Occupational medicine are directing the REGEX project, are ensuring the organization of data collecting and the compilation of a national-wide database.

Job Categorization: The share of the centre is foremost in the carrying out of analyses of nationwide data for the needs of the Ministry of Health and organs of public health protection.

The internet gateway BOZPinfo

In the year 2005 this internet gateway has become fully operational. Workers of the Centre of occupational medicine have a significant share in that information source. That site is focused on occupational safety and health protection in the Czech Republic, enables the user to have direct contact with the NIPH, and in the column *Questions & Answers* it brings current information on occupational safety and health for users from the enterprise sphere, the state administration, the entrepreneur public namely from small and medium-size enterprises, as well as for students and the general public. Through that site there is direct information from Europe provided by the National Information Centre of Occupational Safety and Health Protection (so-called Focal Point of the Czech Republic). For that site we have prepared several thematic review articles, each time focused at a topic of the week.

Other information sources

On an on-going basis there is being created a database of PEL chemical substances and a database of expert reports in the area of chemical safety. Currently, that database includes 5469 data files that contain a several times greater number of expert opinions on diverse chemical products and in recent years of safety certificates. Besides that there has been created a database of reviews of Czech technical norms, which currently includes 17 875 reviews. Annually there are being added around 1200 reviews.

At the centre is the editorial board of the journal České pracovní lékařství (Czech Occupational Medicine).

2.6 Centre of Food Chain Hygiene

Profile of activities

The fundamental task of the Centre, defined at its instituting, are activities of healthcare experts in health protection and health promotion on the borderline between health care and the area belonging to agricultural and other experts, as had been recommended by the WHO in 1978, already. Like in previous years, the CFCH has focused its activities on the problems of food safety and applied nutrition practically in all segments of risk analysis. The analysis of health risks proceeded within the framework of research. Health risk management was being materialized foremost through the assessing of applications for approval of novel type foodstuffs and genetically modified organisms at the national level and at the level of services for the European Commission, as well as through participation in working out legislation and by technical support of decision making of the organs of state administration (foremost at the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic, and in certain cases also at the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic) in specific cases (expert support and control activities). Communication on health risks was materialized namely in the form of collaboration in education (teaching at universities and within the framework of training the staff of organs of public health protection), through collaboration with the media (e.g. commentaries published in the daily press or on the radio and TV, as well as news items for the Czech Press Agency ČTK through the Scientific Committee for Foodstuffs). A significant part in communicating with the public was the creation of its own web site for experts (team web for managing cases of RASFF, GMO and PNT) as well as for the general public (e.g. presentations by the Scientific Committee for Foodstuffs or results of the monitoring of the dietary exposure of the population in the Czech Republic). The number of graduated staff fluctuated between 25 and 31, including the technical support and administrative apparatus. To that relatively low number of workers there has also been adapted the scope of professional activities. Of the traditional activities on a long-term basis there predominated namely the national program of surveillance of the dietary exposure of humans within the framework of monitoring population health and consequent research and expertise activities. However, attention has also turned to other important research activities. In the area of microbiological diagnostics of pathogens in foodstuffs, research was focused on culturing and molecular biology methods and on the typing of epidemiologically important pathogens (salmonellae, wisteria, campylobacter). In the field of novel type foodstuffs and of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) there continued laboratory work focused on the introduction of diagnostic methods for new cases of GMO approved or notified within the Czech Republic and in the EU. There have also continued vast activities connected with the organizing of the agenda of the so-called Scientific Committee for Foodstuffs for which the Centre ensures a logistical hinterland and the heads in the Centre participate in the preparation of most of its documents destined for the Coordination Group for Food Safety at the Czech Ministry of Agriculture, as well as for the general public in the Czech Republic and abroad (<http://www.chpr.szu.cz/vedvybor/vvp.htm>). Membership of the Czech Republic in the EU means an ever increasing scope of activities ensuring the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) for organs of public health protection. The Centre has formed an information system for organs of public health protection (so-called team web) on a regular basis evaluating reports to and from the RASFF, and in cases relevant for the organs of public health protection in the Czech Republic affords professional consultation for the Ministry of Health and the National Contact point for RASFF in the Czech Republic (risk evaluation and

primary drafts of health risk management). Important was also the work of leading experts of the Centre focused on the preparation of policy documents covering foodstuff safety. (documentation for standpoints of the Czech Republic in decision making at the UE level). Significant effort has been devoted to the training of present and new workers of the Centre, namely in connection with the fulfilling of requirements following from Act No. 96/2004 Dig., requiring the registration of healthcare workers performing their duties without supervision. The ensuring of the working capacity of the Centre is ever more complicated in view of the growing mobility namely of younger workers who then fulfill without difficulty the prerequisites of practice and specialized education.

Effect of quality control on the organization of work

In the year 2005 the Centre worked as an accredited unit according to the Czech and European standard ČSN EN ISO/IEC 17025 and is valid till 2009. Maintaining the system of quality, the continuous requirements on quality at work and discipline along with average pay leads to a continuous turnover in the younger staff of the Centre. That has both a positive and negative impact. It facilitates a gradual reorganization of the team, however, the Centre is losing experienced workers who are then lacking in drawing up expert reports and in advanced research. That leads to increased labor costs in the framework of costly training programs and lowers the working capacity of the team. Newly coming graduates lacking practical working habits and frequently even with gaps in their professional knowledge, are not capable of independently working on tasks within time limits that the present situation calls for.

The Centre's most important fields of professional and research activities in 2004

The activities of the Centre are financed not only from the budget allotted to the NIPH, but also to a significant degree from purpose-bound sources such as national programs and projects (e.g. Monitoring of Population Health), as well as through national and international grants (3 grants). Among the most important areas of professional and research activities in the year 2005 can be named the following:

In the field of monitoring the dietary exposure of humans there continued the third research stage. The task had been distributed over a two-year period (2004 – 2005) in which there was to be carried out the modeling of the dietary exposure itself and the characterization of the health risk. Sampling was conducted in collaboration with public health institutes at 12 localities in the Czech Republic. Besides our own analytical activities, some samples have been analyzed in other national laboratories and abroad. In the monitoring program, besides exposure of the Czech population to chemical substances, also other parallel projects have been worked on, namely major bacterial pathogens in foodstuffs, presence of important toxigenic microscopic fungi and their toxins, and detection of transgenes in selected foodstuffs on the market in the Czech Republic.

Concerning nutrition epidemiology, data processing has begun within the framework of the First National Study on Individual Food Consumption based on a repeated 24-hour recall. The results were first applied in health risk assessment in the system RASFF, then in the preparation of documentation for the standpoint of the European Bureau for Food Safety (e.g. for the evaluation of exposure to certain POPs), as well as in research aimed at the probability modeling of population exposure to chemical substances in the Czech Republic.

As regards novel foodstuffs and genetically modified organisms (GMO), the year 2005 was significant foremost in the marked increase of tasks at the EU level. Over the year 2005 experts of the Centre have prepared documentation concerning 75 cases notified in the EU countries. There has been established a new information system (the team web) which collects all information on assessed cases. The system of work has been evaluated positively (systematic, open) by several other EU member countries.

In the field of microbiology there have continued studies on problems of toxinogenic micromycetes. Data have been produced concerning the incidence of deoxynivalenol and other mycotoxins. In the area of detecting bacterial pathogens in foodstuffs there continued the introduction and verification of certain molecular biology methods in diagnostics. Hundreds of isolates have been analyzed in the course of the year 2005. Routine work included the typing of salmonellae, listeriae, and the follow-up of resistance to antibiotics in those pathogens. Activities in the field of microbiology have been specified more clearly in the annual reports of two reference laboratories (the NRC for Microscopic Fungi and their Toxins in the Food Chain, and the NRL for Listeriae in Food Chains) that are functioning at the Centre.

In the area of analytical chemistry there continued work in the diagnostics of the occurrence of acrylamide in various kinds of foodstuffs. This method is being applied on an on-going basis in the monitoring of dietary exposures, and in the course of the year 2005 there has been introduced and developed a method for fatty acid determination, that should contribute to resolving the problems of omega-3 fatty acid intake as well as of that of *trans*-fatty acids in the population of the Czech Republic. In collaboration with extramural companies, there have been carried out determinations of TCDD-effect substances and the so-called PBDE in selected samples of foodstuffs represented in the consumer food basket. There have also been conducted analyses of the glycoalkaloid content in potatoes (solanine, chalconine), and in the course of the year 2005 there have been presented results of the probability assessment of exposure and potential acute risk to health in sensitive children at the national and international levels.

In 2005, workers of the Centre have in all published 59 articles as authors and co-authors, including articles in scientific journals with an impact factor. Leading experts of the Centre have actively participated in a number of conferences and seminars, national and abroad.

Systemic and methodological support of organs of public health protection at the international level

The Centre is a contact point of the organs of public health protection for the rapid alert system for foods and feeds (RASFF). In the year 2005, the Centre received 89 RASFF reports from the EU, and assessed 46 reports submitted from the Czech Republic in to the RASFF system. At present, the overall volume of work represents paperwork for one staff worker who communicates daily in the system and ensures the archiving of all the material. The risk assessment procedure has been standardized. A team web for the filing of all cases has been put in operation.

The Centre includes the Task Force for Novel Foodstuffs and Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs). They also co-ordinate the activities of other experts at the NIPH. Over the year 2005 there have been elaborated 69 on GMOs and 75 expert opinions on PNT. Workers of the Centre participated in the activity of the EU Working Group for Novel Food

(CAAAFAB). Besides that they also represent the Czech Ministry of Health in the so-called Czech Commission for GMO at the Czech Ministry for the Environment, and participate in its laboratory activities also by contract. The workers of the centre have also been entrusted to represent the Czech Republic in the Task Force for Safety of Novel Foods and Feeds at the OECD in Paris.

At the Centre in 2005, there continues to have its seat the so-called Scientific Committee for Foodstuffs (SCF) established by Government Decree No. 1320/2001. The Centre has been entrusted with creating a background for it. In the course of the year 2005 the SCF continued to put forth a number of public materials (cross-sectional documents in the field of food safety) and elaborated a number of standpoints to submitted queries.

In the year 2005 the Centre continued at its job as WHO Contact Point for Food Safety. Besides supplying information from the WHO, through the RASFF information system for organs of public health protection, the Centre has taken over the dissemination of safety information from the WHO warning system (Infosan), e.g. concerning bird flu and food safety.

In the area of education, workers of the Centre continued in participating in the system of preparing so-called authorization sets following Act No. 258/2000 Dig. on a long-term basis, workers of the Centre are also heads and members of commissions for the assessment of health risks of chemical and biological agents in foods and feeds. At the Centre there have been defended two Doctors' Theses in 2005. In parallel several students from different universities prepared their theses for a degree. Also study visits by secondary school students have been taking place regularly.

2.7 Department of Biostatistics and Informatics

By January 1, 2005, the Department had 16 employees and 2 of these were part-time, retirees Eva Švandová, MS, PhD (0.500 time) and Zdeněk Roth, ME, PhD (0.406 time). Vladislav Jakubů (0.1 time) has joined the staff since April 1, 2005. Marie Hynčicová (0.875 time) retired on October 31, 2005. As a result, the staff decreased to 14.006 positions. By December 31, 2005 both of the retired statisticians left, another statistician started working part-time and consequently, the statistics team has become critically small. At the beginning of 2006, the sum of positions reached 12.538.

The main activities of the informatics team included the computer network administration, development and protection, building and operation of servers, providing service to users and purchasing IT products. The statistics team collaborated with researchers and grant investigators in the field of application of statistical methods for data processing and preparation of publications. They also provided consultations to researchers from the NIPH, Public Health Service and other health care settings. Furthermore, the DBI staff were involved in the creation and operation of selected nation-wide registries.

The DBI statisticians were involved in the following projects and tasks: Selected demographic data processing; Statistical analysis of air pollution and related problems with 3D pollution modelling; Skin irritability assessment; 3D emission burden estimate in smaller settlements based on the time-space data modelling from short-term measurements by mobile stations; Estimate of dynamics of local burden of moulds in a small settlement based on assessment of data from repeated microbiological measurements; Assessment of preventive health care provided by the employer; Comparative study of the standard and alternative laboratory methods for detection of selected groups of microorganisms; Creation of a statistical model for dimethylamine exposure assessment; Assessment of PCB in breast milk; Preparation and continuation of another year of the HELEN study; Study of indoor pollution measurement; Study of poor posture in school children; Software and data adjustment for the noise monitoring subsystem; Toxoplasmosis incidence data processing; Anthropometric survey in children focused on growth curves for e.g. breast-fed children or children with growth disturbances; Creation of statistical models for monitoring growth in children; Statistical analysis in the study of immunotherapeutics; Friend virus infection in mice; Draft method for assessment of general mortality associated with influenza epidemics; Assessment of food analyses carried out by the Public Health Service in the Czech Republic; Monitoring inflammation parameters in patients with occupational bronchial asthma; Adjustment of software for recording physiological function in toxicological experiments and health promotion projects; HIV/AIDS monitoring project in the Czech Republic; HIV/AIDS prevention questionnaire survey data processing; Software creation for assessment of food consumption distribution; Processing questionnaire survey data from health promoting schools; and Workload survey data processing. The DBI organized regular intramural workshops in the field of mathematical statistics.

In 2005, the DBI staff were involved in publication and lecturing activities and designed software tools for various research projects. They provided poster and Power Point presentations of results for the NIPH researchers. They designed and manufactured electronic tools for the needs of the NIPH. They participated in the preparation of the celebration of the 80th NIPH foundation anniversary.

Furthermore, the DBI staff were involved in the operation of the EpiDat2005 software system and EpiDat2006 design, technical solution to the participation of the Czech Republic in the Basic Surveillance Network (EU project), design and operation of the NRL AIDS information system and the serum bank operation and control. They also participated in activities of the advisory board for informatics of the Chief Public Health Officer of the Czech Republic, including design and administration of the registries operated within the Coordination Centre for Sectoral Health Care Information Systems (Job categorization, Acute respiratory infections (ARI), Pandemics and EpiDat data transfer).

The informatics team participated in the central purchase of all hardware and software including installation and modification of the latter on an individual basis, provided basic PC maintenance services and operation consulting. The licence programme within the MICROSOFT SELECT agreement was used when purchasing software. NIPH computers continued to be audited for software license compliance according to Government Resolution No 624/2001.

Administration of the NIPH computer network and servers, including the operation and development, was also part of DBI activities. The DBI team managed the access to the Internet, i.e. the operation of the mail, web and antivirus protection servers and stations. It also created and updated the INTRANET and central INTERNET pages. In view of the threat posed by the global network, a new security system, consisting of the Fortinet Gateway Security FGS 300A tool, providing network security services including antivirus protection and full filtering of the contents, and also of a newly created demilitarised zone with a MS Windows 2003 server for the use of the Brightmail programme to filter mail for viruses and spam, was put into operation.

The informatics team also provided administration and maintenance services for several network applications, the time and attendance system, security system, legal information programme ASPI, wage and personnel administration programme and insurance company reporting programme DOSITECH. In 2005, the NIPH computer network was further enlarged to include the newly rehabilitated part of building 5 and building 20. The DBI staff also provided technical background for multimedia presentations at the workshops and conferences organized by the NIPH.

In 2005, the DBI staff were involved in the following grant projects:

- NR 7866-3 (Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic): Analysis of smoking related morbidity in the Czech Republic in 2002 and quantification of its economic costs (investigator H. Sovinová, MD)
- IGA MZ ČR NJ/7435-3 (Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic): Risk assessment for mixtures of chemicals – methods for mathematical and statistical analysis (investigator Assoc. Prof. M. Tichý, MSc, ScD)
- GA ČR 305/03/1169 (Grant Agency of the Czech Republic): Models for risk estimate of mixtures of chemicals – using QSAR analysis (investigator Assoc. Prof. M. Tichý, MSc, ScD) of the
- IGA MZ ČR NR/7843-3 (Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic): Monitoring of the HIV/AIDS incidence and spread in the Czech Republic (investigator M. Brůčková, MSc, PhD)

- IGA MZ ČR NR/8283-3/05 (Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic): Toxoplasmosis in HIV positive patients and related risks – cohort study 1988-2007 (investigator P. Kodym, MSc, PhD)
- IGA MZ ČR NJ/7386-3 (Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic): Risk factors for poor posture in school children, prevalence of locomotor diseases (investigator J. Kratěnová, MD)
- PPZ HH 9056: Health promotion at health promoting schools and its efficacy (řešitel M. Havlínová, MPhil, PhD)
- IGA MZ ČR 7857-3 (Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic): Child's growth and its evaluation, social inequities and other factors that influence growth (investigator Jana Vignerová, ME, PhD, from DBI)
- GA ČR 406/03/1168 (Grant Agency of the Czech Republic): Psychosocial health determinants (investigator Assoc. Prof. V. Kebza, MPhil, PhD)
- IGA MZ ČR NJ 7564-3 (Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic): Biological monitoring and health risks from occupational exposure to MDI (investigator V. Stránský, MChem, PhD)
- project Monitoring inflammation parameters in patients with occupational bronchial asthma (investigator J. Lebedová, MD)

2.8 Scientific Information Centre

In 2005 the Scientific Information Centre (SIC) provided public library and information services mainly to the users of the network Public Information Services in the Health Sector, Public Health Service, other healthcare professionals and the public. Furthermore, the SIC staff provided library, information, retrieval, translation, editing, photographic and reprographic services to the NIPH researchers and other professionals as summarized on the SIC website at <http://www.szu.cz/svi/index.html>.

SIC carried out activities related to the finished regular library stock revision (writing off discarded items and offering these to other libraries) and library stock protection. In view of the limited space available and accidents that occurred in the library storerooms, the historical part of the stock as well as the journal stock had to be moved.

SIC continued to provide access to full text and professional reference databases within the projects of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and Ministry of Health (i.e. to full text databases of the following publishers: Elsevier Science, Springer, Wiley, Proquest, EBSCO and reference databases CAB Abstracts, FSTA, OVID, ESPM and Knovel); the citation databases Web of Science and Journal Citation Reports were made accessible through the portal Web of Knowledge in the course of the year. In line with the respective terms, these databases were promoted, their users were trained on an individual basis, journal collections were completed and duplicate accesses were controlled.

An application for the project Information sources for the creation of healthy environment and public health promotion was submitted and the project was started within the program Development of Public Information Services in the Health Sector. The project is focused on promotion of the creation of the „Golden Fund“ of foreign periodicals, mainly in the field of toxicology, with archives as guarantors. Other objectives were to improve interlibrary loan services and promotion of digital processing of large-format graphic documents, among others, using a professional colour A3 scanner. The equipment was supplied and put into service before the end of 2005. Its operation in other technological modes will be tested and routine operation of document digitalization and document delivery service (DDS) will be started in the following period. Within this project, SIC as a participating library joined the Virtual Polytechnic Library, an electronic document delivery system.

In the course of the year, the operation of a new module KPwin WWW-OPAC providing better comfort to users of online access to library catalogues was tested.

The SIC staff were involved in the preparation of commemoration of the 80th foundation anniversary of the National Institute of Public Health, by taking part in digitalization of historical documents, preparation of posters and installation of exhibitions on the grounds of the National Institute of Public Health.

Library activities

The library stock was systematically supplemented with the entire domestic book and journal production in the relevant fields and selected titles from other countries. The annual acquisitions amounted to 2,472 library items, while 3,607 library items were discarded based on periodical revision of 2004 and the total library book stock was 88,579 library items by December 31, 2005. The library was subscribed to 305 journals of which 147 were Czech and 158 originated from other countries. The latter were entered on an ongoing basis into the comprehensive catalogues of the National Medical Library and the National Library of the Czech Republic. The purchases for the library stock, including access to electronic journals

and databases, amounting to 4,967 thousand CZK were covered from the SIC budget, grants awarded to NIPH and funds for the development of the Public Information Services in the Health Sector.

A total of 30,265 library items were borrowed. As many as 1,177 interlibrary loan requests and international interlibrary loan requests (including the SUBITO service) for the journal article photocopies from the NIPH staff were met. The NIPH library answered 796 requests from co-operating libraries. Rapid Information Contents Service was provided from 11 journal titles to 11 organizations. A total of 65,921 photocopies were made by the library.

Two extensive citation analyses were carried out to meet the needs of editorial boards of the journals Central European Journal of Public Health (CEJPH) and Epidemiology, Microbiology and Immunology (EMI). A total of 1,394 reference citations were checked and revised to comply with the applicable standards within editing work on final reports of the research plans and CEJPH.

Documentation, retrieval and translation services

In 2005, 1,421 retrievals (including 595 citation retrievals) were performed, 159 of which were continuous. Ten retrievals were farmed out to extramural providers.

Based on reports and excerption from scientific journals, 593 records of works of the NIPH authors were collected for the NIPH Bibliography 2003/2004, available in electronic form at the SIC website. As many as 128 records were reported to the Information Registry of Results (acronymed RIV in Czech) that makes available publication data related to research and development projects and research plans supported by public funds. For the ILO - CIS Bulletin, 17 annotated references of articles with abstracts in English were submitted. A total of 1,846 articles from 5 dailies were processed for the database of daily newspaper monitoring. The outputs from the database were used not only at the NIPH but also within the Healthy Cities electronic conference and were displayed on a daily basis at the healthcare server www.zdrav.cz.

As many as 1,036 pages of papers, posters, agreements and letters were translated, mostly into English, and 831 pages submitted in English were revised, i.e. 1,867 pages in total were processed. Language consultations were provided to the NIPH staff on an ongoing basis.

Activities of the Section of Journal Editing and Photo Documentation

The journal Acta hygienica, epidemiologica et microbiologica (AHEM) has been issued for the Public Health Service. Four AHEM issues appeared in 400-500 copies, with a supplement issue dedicated to the 80th foundation anniversary of the National Institute of Public Health. AHEM full texts are available at the SIC website. Four regular issues of the Central European Journal of Public Health appeared in 400 copies. The SIC performed a part of the editing activities and provided the subscription services and promotion addressing new subscribers. CEJPH was newly included into the Elsevier Science Scopus reference and citation database, Thomson-ISI Biological Abstracts database and Biosis Previews database. CEJPH electronic abstracts and indexes were made available online and full texts of papers were delivered in digitalized form on request.

Other SIC ongoing activities included distribution of journals and legal deposits, order processing, obligatory supply service for non-periodical publications and farming out such services as printing, binding of books and journals, photo documentation and document



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digitalization. A total of 1081 standard pages of texts were edited. The photo documentation service produced 125 negatives and 23 slides, 286 blow-ups and 706 digital photographs.

The SIC copy service made 231,255 copies.

3 PUBLICATION ACTIVITIES

The NIPH publication activities 2005 were regularly processed by the Scientific Information Centre and entered into the NIPH personal bibliography database. In 2006, the respective part of the records is going to be reported to the database of the VaV (Research and Development) Information System, more precisely to the Information Registry of Results (acronymed RIV) archiving and making available data on publication activities related to research and development projects and plans supported by public funds of the Czech Republic.

As many as 503 bibliographic records of works published in 2005 were processed (those from 2004 were progressively completed to total 584 records).

Table 1 shows numbers of publications by centres in 2005 (11 publications resulted from cooperation of authors from two or more centres).

Forty-nine out of 276 papers accepted for publication appeared in 42 high-impact journals. Twenty abstracts from conferences and other meetings were published in 12 high-impact journals.

The bibliographic records of the NIPH publication activities of 2005 and those added for 2004 will be available in electronic form as the NIPH Bibliography 2004/2005 of the journal *Acta hygienica, epidemiologica et microbiologica* at <http://www.szu.cz/svi/ahem.html>.

Numbers of publications by centres in 2005 (by March 13, 2006)

		CEM	CHŽP	CPŘ	CŘKZ	CZŽP	CPL	OBI	KŘ, SVI	Total
Journal paper	CR	114	28	12	0	15	40	16	1	226
	Other countries	20	1	5	0	5	16	3	0	50
Abstract in a journal	CR	0	1	0	0	2	3	2	0	8
	Other countries	6	3	6	0	3	3	1	0	22
Monograph	CR	3	4	0	0	1	0	3	0	11
	Other countries	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Proceedings article	CR	25	45	18	1	9	6	6	1	111
	Other countries	24	3	12	3	6	4	1	0	53
Chapter in a monograph	CR	3	1	3	1	0	2	1	0	11
	Other countries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	CR	145	79	33	2	27	51	28	2	367
	Other countries	51	7	23	3	14	23	5	0	126
Total		196	86	56	5	41	74	33	2	493

Explanatory notes:

CEM	Centre of Epidemiology and Microbiology
CHŽP	Centre of Environmental Health
CPŘ	Centre of the Hygiene of Food Chains
CŘKZ	Centre for Quality Control and Management in Healthcare
CZŽP	Centre of Health and Living Conditions
CPL	Centre of Occupational Health
OBI	Department of Biostatistics and Informatics
KŘ	Office of the Director
SVI	Scientific Information Centre

4 ANNUAL ECONOMIC REPORT 2005

The annual economic report 2005 is elaborated pursuant to Decree 323/2005 of August 12, 2005.

a)

- Name: National Institute of Public Health
- Based in: Šrobárova 49/48, Praha 10, Postal code 100 42
- Registration number: 75010330
- Address: Šrobárova 49/48, Praha 10, Postal code 100 42
- Phone: 267 081 111
- Fax: 272 744 354
- E-mail address: zdravust@szu.cz
- Website address: www.szu.cz

b)

- Established: pursuant to the provision of Article 86 of Act No. 258/2000 on public health protection and amendments to related acts
- Name of the founder: Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic

c) Organizational structure is given in Annex 1.

d) Basic personnel data

1. Distribution of employees by age and sex, by December 31, 2005

age	men	women	total	%
under 20 years	0	0	0	0
21 - 30 years	19	64	83	11.7
31 - 40 years	20	79	99	14.0
41 - 50 years	36	115	151	21.4
51 - 60 years	73	190	263	37.3
61 years and more	59	51	110	15.6
total	207	499	706	100.0
%	29.3	70.7	100.0	x

2. Distribution of employees by education level and sex, by December 31, 2005

Achieved education level	men	women	total	%
elementary	3	14	17	2.4
trainee	44	35	79	11.2
trainee graduate	1	4	5	0.7
grammar school graduate	5	19	24	3.4
secondary school graduate	29	211	240	34.0
extension studies graduate	1	13	14	2.0
university graduate	124	203	327	46.3
total	207	499	706	100.0

3. Average gross monthly pay by December 31, 2005

	CZK
Average gross monthly pay	17 952,-

4. Data on recruitment and termination of employment in 2005

	No. of employees
Recruitment	215
Termination of employment	249

5. Length of employment by December 31, 2005

Length of employment	No. of employees	%
5 years or less	318	45.1
up to 10 years	198	28.0
up to 15 years	63	8.9
up to 20 years	48	6.8
more than 20 years	79	11.2
Total	706	100.0

e) Data on the property of the National Institute of Public Health by December 31, 2000
(in CZK)

Premises	259 531 222.59
Estates	73 083 046.55
Apparatuses and other equipment	413 173 919.82
Software	22 032 448.46
Precious metals	1 269 421.89
Small tangible property	138 933 784.77
Art works and objects	116 722.00
Total	908 140 566.08
Borrowed property	8 286 203.29

All property of the National Institute of Public Health has been used economically.

The depreciation procedures used are given in Annex 3 – Supplementary information to the final accounts 2005, p. 2.

The National Institute of Public Health has an easement – location and operation of a power transformer station on the ground of plot No 3960, cadastral office, Vinohrady – Pražská energetika Ltd., Praha10, Na hroudě 19, registration number 60193913, for a period of 30 years – Easment Agreement V3 11122/1996.

Claims are listed in Annex 2 – Accounting statements 2005, p. 8 and in Annex 3 – Supplementary information to the final accounts 2005, p. 7.

Sum of claims after due date: 983 196.78 CZK

Securing these claims:
execution of a decision, bankruptcy, liquidation

Sum of claims on debtors in bankruptcy: 143 030.25 CZK

Sum of claims that are the subject of legal dispute:
subject of legal dispute 0, subject of a trial 983 196.78 CZK
(currently, disputes have been concluded and the corresponding claims have been exacted)

Sum of claims submitted for settlement: 0.00 CZK

List of claims submitted in the bankruptcy proceedings:

Invoice No.	Company	sum in CZK	note
62/91	CHIRANA	4 816,-	bankruptcy in progress
85/91	ELEKO	8 000,-	bankruptcy proceedings cancelled as a result of the compliance with the resolution to distribute the estate
827/91	TESLA	2 943.14	54.86 CZK obtained from bankruptcy proceedings, bankruptcy proceedings

1121/91	ZD HROZENKOV	40 000,-	cancelled as a result of the compliance with the resolution to distribute the estate
1295/92	VUGI BRNO	34 009,-	bankruptcy proceedings cancelled as the bankrupt's estate is insufficient
894/93	PEDRO TRADE	20 260,-	bankruptcy in progress
1256/93	PLAZMA	4 488,-	bankruptcy proceedings cancelled as the bankrupt's estate is insufficient
1336/93	CEILING DOCTOR	9 000,-	bankruptcy proceedings cancelled as the bankrupt's estate is insufficient
1376/93	ZD Šlapanov	10 033,-	bankruptcy not adjudicated
1641/93	FATIS	9 848,-	as the bankrupt's estate is insufficient
1734/93	CEILING DOCTOR	4 500,-	bankruptcy in progress
1889/93	KOMERCIUM	8 469.20	bankruptcy in progress, for cash drain
			bankruptcy not adjudicated
			as the bankrupt's estate is insufficient
			bankruptcy in progress, 177.80 CZK obtained, bankruptcy proceedings cancelled as a result of the compliance with the resolution to distribute the estate
2313/93	AQUA FRESH	4 069,-	bankruptcy proceedings cancelled as the bankrupt's estate is insufficient
2842/93	CENTROGLOB	91 668.90	1 331.10 CZK obtained from bankruptcy proceedings, removed from the Business Register
5329/93	RADOS	12 270,-	bankruptcy in progress
179/94	CVS	5 000,-	bankruptcy in progress
344/94	ACIS	534,-	bankruptcy proceedings cancelled as the bankrupt's estate is insufficient
447/94	BARVY A LAKY	11 916,-	bankruptcy in progress, the execution of the decision is cancelled as the bankrupt's estate is insufficient
1426/94	YOU	6 267,-	53,- CZK obtained from bankruptcy proceedings, 1500,- CZK obtained from Stoklasa, decision executed at Stoklasa's place, no notice received from the court so far
2272/94	PARFIA	20 000,-	bankruptcy in progress
2323/94	ŠEVČÍK	15 863.30	86.74 CZK obtained from bankruptcy proceedings, the court was addressed for help, but the bankrupt's address is invalid
2434/94	SALIMO	530,-	bankruptcy proceedings cancelled as the bankrupt's estate is insufficient
2764/94	VEMA	1 996.33	3.67 CZK obtained from bankruptcy proceedings, bankruptcy proceedings cancelled as a result of the compliance with the resolution to distribute the estate
2805/94	ŠKÁRA	2 260,-	bankruptcy proceedings cancelled as the bankrupt's estate is insufficient
2917/94	TESPO	1 600,-	bankruptcy proceedings

			cancelled as a result of the compliance with the resolution to distribute the estate
3196/94	CHEM.PRODUKTY	11 850,-	0 CZK, address invalid
3673/94	INTER HOME	7 694,-	98 CZK, bankruptcy in progress
			bankruptcy proceedings cancelled as the bankrupt's estate is insufficient, checked personally, address invalid
333/95	CATRIA	1 500,-	bankruptcy proceedings cancelled as the bankrupt's estate is insufficient
493/95	ŠKVÁRA	699.39	10.61 CZK from bankruptcy proceedings, bankruptcy proceedings cancelled as a result of the compliance with the resolution to distribute the estate
527/95	MANOBO	2 087.80	12.20 CZK obtained from bankruptcy proceedings, the bankrupt's estate is insufficient Execution of the decision suspended, address invalid
1564/95	EKOD	14 503.10	366.90 CZK obtained from bankruptcy proceedings, action against guarantor brought in 2003
2824/96	BEVI	317,89	5.11 CZK from bankruptcy proceedings, bankruptcy proceedings cancelled as a result of the compliance with the resolution to distribute the estate
10277/96	MEDIEKOS	6 700,-	bankruptcy in progress
2295/99	ČKD ENERG.	4 210,-	314,- CZK obtained from bankruptcy proceedings
Total		143 030.25	sum recovered 2 067.66 CZK

Commitments are listed in Annex 2 – Accounting statements 2005, pp. 10–11 and in Annex 3 - Supplementary information to the final accounts 2005, p. 7.

f) Data of the annual final accounts are given in Annex 2 – Accounting statements 2005

g) Data evaluation and analysis:

1. The National Institute of Public Health is a contributory organization, not requested to itemize obligatory indicators and to take budgetary measures.

2. Profits are given in Annex 2 – Accounting statements 2005, p. 13

3. The state budget covers 83 % of activities of the National Institute of Public Health, see Annex 2 – Accounting statements, p. 13

4. The contribution to the personnel costs was 133 878 thousand CZK as the limit from the total contribution. During the year, the contribution was increased by 2 074 thousand CZK to meet the 8 % increase in the wage scale for health care professionals effective since September 2005 and amounted to 135 952 thousand CZK.

The allowable volume of funds for personnel costs amounted to 147 130 082 CZK. The unused part of the allowable volume of funds for personnel costs amounted to 11 190 825 CZK.

The funds accounted for payment of or covering personnel costs were used up to 141 582 328 CZK including funds received for specific purposes. Of this, funds used up for personnel costs amounted to 135 939 257 CZK.

Extrabudgetary sources – funds to cover personnel costs (in CZK)

Research projects	Received funds to cover personnel costs	Funds used to cover personnel costs	Funds not used
Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic	3 119 000	3 039 934	79 066
Grant Agency of the Czech Republic	480 000	477 938	2 062
Ministry of the Environment	153 800	153 800	-
Academy of Sciences	23 000	23 000	-
Ministry of Agriculture	325 000	325 000	-
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	135 000	135 000	-
Internal projects in total	4 235 800	4 154 672	81 128
Foreign research projects in total	1 488 399	1 488 399	-
Total	5 724 199	5 643 071	81 128

The funds provided by the Internal Grant Agency and the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic which were not used, i.e. 79 066 CZK and 2 062 CZK, respectively, were given back to the grant agencies.

Contribution to the other personnel costs from the founder was 80 000 CZK. A total of 79 340 CZK was used up from the contribution for the other personnel costs. A total of 593 985 CZK was used up from the special purpose funds intended to cover the other personnel costs.

Extrabudgetary sources – overview of the funds intended to cover the other personnel costs (in CZK)

<i>Research projects, sponsor donations</i>	Amounts paid for the other personnel costs
Internal Grant Agency – monitoring HIV/AIDS prevalence and spread in the Czech Republic	30 000
Internal Grant Agency – Toxoplasmosis HIV positive patients and related risks: cohort study 1988-2007	48 000
Grant Agency of the Czech Republic - Psychosocial inequalities in health	10 000
Ministry of the Environment – Study of formation of secondary particles from precursor gases and of their role in the total emission burden	20 000
Reducing health damage caused by alcohol, brief intervention by general practitioners	160 000
Internal projects in total	268 000
Foreign research projects in total, sponsor donations	325 985
Total	593 985

The number of employees planned for 2005 was 667. The average number of employees for the period studied totalled 657.24. The number of employees was controlled during the year to allow the long-term planned 2 % reduction in 2006 again.

5. The major feature of the research activities of the National Institute of Public Health is a multifactorial approach to health protection issues as reflected in the results of various grant projects.

Research in the fields of occupational and environmental health protection and prevention of diseases contributes significantly to the improvement of work capability and well-being. Rapid and reasonable implementation of research results into practice can prevent important economic losses at the national level. Identification of cause-effect relationships and mechanisms of occupational and environmental health risk provides possibility for early intervention and health hazard prevention.

Among the major research objectives are data collection, identification of health hazards, study of the dose-effect relationship and exposure to pollutants, health risk assessment for the exposed population, identification of vulnerable population groups and causes of differences in susceptibility, updating of background information and health risk assessment methods for factors of occupational and environmental exposure as a basis for the proposal of safety limits and procedures for occupational and environmental health risk reduction.

A good scientific value is documented by the numbers of publications in high impact journals and communications presented at both national and international events.

Research and development costs funded from the state budget

Noncapital investment costs	Grant in CZK	Used up in CZK	Amount remitted back to the state budget
Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic	10 459 000	10 247 391.57	211 608.43
Grant Agency of the Czech Republic	1 529 000	1 497 526.16	31 473.84
Academy of Sciences	269 000	269 000.00	0.00
Ministry of Agriculture	1 295 000	1 289 908.00	5 092.00
Ministry of the Environment	380 000	380 000.00	0.00
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	901 000	892 164.22	8 835.78
Total	14 833 000	14 575 989.95	257 010.05

Research and development costs funded from the state budget and provided by the principal investigator to the National Institute of Public Health as a coinvestigator

Noncapital investment costs	Grant in CZK	Used up in CZK	Amount remitted back to the state budget
Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic	1 284 000	1 248 451.50	35 548.50
Grant Agency of the Czech Republic	1 128 000	1 128 000.00	0.00
Ministry of Agriculture	550 000	544 901.00	5 099.00
Ministry of the Environment	2 962 000	2 921 352.50	40 647.50
Capital investment costs	Grant in CZK	Used up in CZK	Amount remitted back to the principal investigator
Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic	600 000	600 000.00	0.00

Numbers of projects and grants awarded from the state budget or other sources, if any

grant agency	Number of projects - investigator	Number of projects - coinvestigator
Internal Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic	15	7
Grant Agency of the Czech Republic	4	3
Academy of Sciences	-	1
Ministry of Agriculture	-	4

Ministry of the Environment	1	2
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	2	-
Total	22	17

6. Funding of the property reproduction programmes included in the programme funding information system

Project name: National Institute of Public Health, Prague – equipment for environmental health monitoring

Registration number: 235 334 0201

The awarded grant was used to purchase the following accessory instruments: microscope scanner for pollen monitoring, automated pourer for the available mercury analyzer and incubator for specific analyses.

The awarded grant of 314 thousand CZK was almost entirely used up, the remaining amount of 414.68 CZK was remitted to the state budget.

Project name: National Institute of Public Health, Prague - surface scanner

Registration number: 235 021 0204

The grant awarded within the programme „Development and renewal of the material and technical basis of health care training and education“ was used to purchase a surface scanner for the Scientific Information Centre as previously required. The new scanner will be time-saving for librarians, will provide new potential for interlibrary resource sharing and document delivery service to and will be used for archiving documents from the library collection.

The grant was almost entirely used up, the remaining amount of 691,- CZK was remitted to the state budget.

7. The National Institute of Public Health is not a provider of grants and recoverable financial assistance.

8. Summary of the used up funds for programmes or projects cofunded by the European Union

EU project name	Used up funds
Leonardo da Vinci - IMPROHEALTH	135 287.18 CZK
PECO	105 344.70 CZK
Health promotion	32 279.00 CZK
Development of 2nd generation expert systems for toxicology - COPERNICUS	38 693.34 CZK
WEKNOW	287 131.07 CZK
INCO - COPERNICUS	127 588.00 CZK
EURO HIV	2 953.80 CZK
PREVIS	697 722.54 CZK
Safe foods	423 616.99 CZK
Tick-borne encephalitis cCASHh	462 793.93 CZK
STREP - EURO	242 302.48 CZK
CEEQNET	492 003.86 CZK
MEN NET	65 640.23 CZK
Health Professionals and Smoking Cessation in Europe	115 501.34 CZK
BOVAC	1 768 357.41 CZK
NOMIRACLE	237 224.60 CZK
PHASE II	26 030.00 CZK
FIBELLC	157 160.75 CZK
FOOD - PCR	48 857.95 CZK
Implementation of Mental Health	26 173.91 CZK
DIEPLY	143 974.00 CZK
ETHREAT	45 986.81 CZK
AMAY	151 991.06 CZK
BEN RHM	171 999.20 CZK
Total	6 006 614.15 CZK

Of the total volume of the used up funds a loan was provided from the reserve fund of the National Institute of Public Health amounting to 222 084.36 CZK to cover costs incurred in the fulfillment of the agreement-based tasks resulting from EU projects.

9. Cooperation with other countries

International projects in progress in 2005:

5th, 6th EU framework programme: 8

5th, 6th EU framework programme: started in 2005: 2

Public Health Programme/DG SANCO: 15

Public Health Programme/DG SANCO – started in 2005: 6

Programmes EC/ DG: 11

Programmes EC/ DG – started in 2005: 2

WHO: 5

Other international programmes: 7
Other international programmes started in 2005: 1

Total: 57

Membership of the National Institute of Public Health in international organizations:

Name: The International Society of Behavioural Medicine

Fee: 1 €

Justification: the collective membership for a token payment entitles to reduced conference fees

Name: EuroHealthNet

Fee: 2 000 €

Justification: The international net of health promotion agencies arranges international contacts, cooperation on EU projects and forwards the EU electronic newsletters Health Highlights and Health Action Memo.

Name: IUHPE-International Union for Health Promotion

Fee: 200 €

Justification: The IUHPE looks for partners for projects, provides information on health promotion and arranges subscription to the journal Promotion and Education.

Name: Network of supranational WHO/IUATLD (International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease) reference laboratories

Fee: 0 €

Justification: Participation in international studies and quality controls (QC)

Name: European Biological Resource Centres Network, EBRCN

Fee: 0 €

Justification: International exchange of information, promotion of the collection

Název: European Cultures Collection Organisation, ECCO

Fee: 0 €

Justification: International exchange of information, promotion of the collection

Name: World Federation for Culture Collections, WFCC

Fee: 0 €

Justification: International exchange of information, promotion of the collection

Membership of experts of the Ministry of Health (National Institute of Public Health) in EU working groups:

Černá Milena, Prof. MD, ScD

EC Technical Working Group on Biomonitoring - Implementation Group

Gajdoš Petr, ME

Within the Czech Standards Institute (ČNI) a member of the group CEN/BT WG 176 „Construction products: Assessment of release of dangerous substances“, involved in the development of EU legal standards

Jedlička Jaroslav, MD, PhD.

A member of the EU expert team called "Think Tank on HIV/AIDS", developing recommendations for EC on further steps to be taken in HIV/AIDS prevention

Jírová Dagmar, MD, PhD

1. European Commission:

Working Group on Cosmetics

Standing Committee on Cosmetics

2. ECVAM (European Centre for the Validation of Alternative Methods) JRC Ispra:

Scientific Board

3. European Council:

Board of Experts on Cosmetics

Kožíšek František, MD, PhD

1. Representative of the Czech Republic in the „Article 12 Drinking Water Committee“ at EC (DG Environment)

2. Expert involved in the „Expert group on a European Acceptance Scheme for construction products in contact with water intended for human consumption“ at EC (DG Enterprise

3. Head of an intersectoral working group (Council for Health and the Environment) on the development of the national objectives in line with the Protocol on Water and Health (WHO/UNECE)

Kříž Bohumír, Assoc. Prof., MD, PhD

1. EC Working Group CESE – focused on think-tank and research issues and implementation of results into routine surveillance

2. EC Working Group Epidemiological Surveillance and Control of Communicable Diseases - ESCON – involved in proposals, approval and implementation of elements of surveillance in EU

3. Participation in the group of delegations of EU member states focused on the common approach at the meetings of delegations of the signatories of the UN „Convention on the non-proliferation of biological weapons“ (BWC)

4. Participation in the EUVAC project focused on harmonization of approaches to the prevention of infections by vaccination in EU

5. Working Group of the ECDC project „Revision of case definitions“

6. Working Group of the ECDC project „Epidemic intelligence“

Kubínová Růžena, MD and Vít Michal, MD, PhD

1. EC Working Group – implementation of the European Environmental Health Action Plan

2. DG ENVIRONMENT – Working Group for the Preparation of a Pilot Study of Biological Monitoring in Europe

3. EEHC - European Environmental and Health Commission - Copenhagen

Kubínová Růžena, MD

1. EC Working Group (ECHI - European Community Health Indicators)

2. DG SANCO – Implementation of the Environmental Health Information System
3. EC Technical Working Group on Biomonitoring - Implementation Group

Kýrová Veronika, MC

1. EU Working Group on GMO-free Food
2. EU Novel Food Working Group - CAFAB

Maloňová Helena, MC

1. EC - Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health – Plant Protection Group - control of pesticide residues
2. EU Council - Working Party on Agricultural Questions - Pesticide Residues Group
3. Codex Alimentarius Working Party - Pesticide Residues

Ostrý Vladimír, DVM, PhD

1. EU Novel Food Working Group - CAFAB
2. EU Working Group on GMO-free Food

Ruprich Jiří, Assoc. Prof. DVM, PhD

1. EU Novel Food Working Group - CAFAB
2. EU Working Group on Food Contaminants
3. EU Working Group on GMO-free Food

Řehůrková Irena, MS, PhD

EU Working Group on Food Contaminants

Visiting fellows from the Czech Republic:

University graduates - physicians	151
University graduates - nonphysicians	148
Secondary school graduates	34
Total:	333

Visiting fellows from other countries:

University graduates	11
Secondary school graduates	0
Total:	11

10. Costs incurred for the participation in international conferences and similar events in 2005 amounted to 565.6 thousand CZK.

Costs incurred for business trips to other countries in 2005 amounted to 4 890 thousand CZK.

Fellowships in other countries are valuable for keeping up with the latest trends in research, presentation of the National Institute of Public Health in other countries, maintaining close contacts with experts in other countries, familiarization with advanced methods in the field of health protection and application of new advances in the Czech Republic.

Other important benefits are familiarization with EU legislation, harmonization with EU regulations and defence of the position of the Czech legislation on the international forum. Important is the participation of experts from the National Institute of Public Health in

negotiations and meetings of the preparatory committees and other coordination meetings organized by EC since it allows their direct involvement in the creation of international documents.

11. The National Institute of Public Health as a contributory organization is not subject to Article 47 of Act No 218/2000 on budgeting rules and amendment to some related acts (budgeting rules), in the wording of Act No 482/2004.

12. In 2005, the National Institute of Public Health performed no economic activities (see Annex 2 – Accounting statements 2005, pp. 12-13 and Annex 3 - Supplementary information to the final accounts 2005, p. 8)

13. The pre-tax profit of the National Institute of Public Health in 2005 was 14,944.00 thousand CZK, income tax was 3,50000 thousand CZK, extra income tax was –920.78 thousand CZK. The post-tax profit amounted to 12, 364.78 thousand CZK. A major contribution was obtained from sales of services, exceeding the approved budget by 13, 853.66 thousand CZK (see Annex 2 – Accounting statements 2005).

h) The major recipients of services are:

1. Health insurance companies: General Health Insurance Company (VZP), code 111; Army Health Insurance Company of the Czech Republic, code 201; Metallurgy Employee Insurance Company, code 205; Branch Health Insurance Company of Employees in Banks, Insurance Companies and the Building Industry, code 207; Škoda Employee Insurance Company, code 209; Health Insurance Company of the Ministry of Interior, code 211; Coalfield Fraternity Treasury Health Insurance Company, code 213; Metal-Aliance Health Insurance Company, code 217; Czech National Health Insurance Company, code 222.

2. Expert reports and opinions: private, commercial and foreign companies and individuals that have the safety to health of products of common use, cosmetics and healthcare products, foodstuffs and additives in foodstuffs, the indoor environment assessed in laboratories; legal entities and individuals in the area of hygiene of soil, water, ambient air, and genetic toxicology; producers and importers of disinfectants, insecticides and rodenticides; public health laboratories, the blood transfusion service; laboratories of the private healthcare sector; healthcare, school and social care facilities.

3. Qualification testing: state and private laboratories effective in the area of measuring or public health protection and clinical microbiology and parasitology, that are interested in proving the quality of their results through the program of inter-laboratory comparative testing, i.e. external quality assessment organized by the NIPH following ISO/IEC Guideline 43.

4. Authorization: state as well as non-state laboratories, or individuals who are entrepreneurs that wish to prove their professional aptitude in the area of measuring or investigation in public health protection in line with the requirements of Act No.258/2000 Dig.; individuals who wish to conduct health risk assessments following Act No.258/2000 Dig.

5. Diagnostics: field laboratories

6. Other: healthcare facilities, domestic and from abroad, using certified material.

i) see NIPH website - www.szu.cz

- j) The NIPH is a contributory organization, is no administrator of any chapter, and therefore does not proceed under article 3, letter g) of Act No.218/2000 Dig. on budgetary rules and amendments of related laws, as amended in Act No.482/2004 Dig., nor is it such under which belongs the state fund.

Annex 1: see organizational structure on page 3

Annex 2: Account statement for the year 2005

(the annex is presented on http://www.szu.cz/Menu1/zprava/ucetni_vykazy.pdf)

Annex 3

Supplementary information to account statement for the year 2005

Accounting methods applied

The accounting unit keeps accounting in line with Act No.563/1991 Dig. on book-keeping, following regulation No.505/2002 Dig., and in the spirit of Czech book-keeping standards No.501 to No.522.

The book-keeping methods applied by the accounting unit are based on the presumption that the accounting unit shall uninterruptedly be continuing in its activities and that there shall not occur any fact that should limit it or prevent it in continuing in those activities in the foreseeable future as well.

The arrangement and designation of items in the book entries of gains and losses and their content delimitation and ways of value assessing applied in one accounting period was in conformity with the above-mentioned regulations and book-keeping standards while the accounting procedures were adjusted according to legislation valid for the year 2005.

Applied ways of value assessing and book-keeping of fixed assets, supplies, commitments and claims

In line with regulations §§ 24 a 25 in the act on book-keeping, and in harmony with the subsequent executive directive, the accounting unit assesses the value of property, supplies, commitments and claims as follows:

- tangible assets except stock supplies, excepting tangible assets created through own activities: by purchase costs;
- tangible assets except stock supplies, created through own activities: according to own expenditures;
- stock supplies, excepting supplies created through own activities: according to purchase costs;
- stocks created through own activities: according to own expenditures;
- monetary funds and (revenue) stamps: according to their face value;
- shares, securities and derivatives: according to expenditure on procurement;
- claims at origin: according to their face value; on procurement against payment or deposit: according to expenditure on procurement; commitments: according to their face value;
- intangible assets except claims, excepting intangible assets created through own activities: according to expenditure on procurement;
- intangible assets except claims, created through own activities: according to own expenditures;
- gains of animals bred: according to own expenditures;
- property in cases of payment-free procurement (except monetary funds and stamps), or property in cases when own expenses for its creation through own activity cannot be determined: according to the reproduction procurement price.

In the estimation of related expenses in the procuring of property, stock supplies and claims the accounting unit proceeds in line with §§ 26 to 29 of decree No. 505/2002 Dig.

Material on stock is kept by mode A, on a separate account there is in the form of a deviation registered and liquidated the VAT to the stocks, that could not have been claimed in the VAT return for reasons of freed activities and reduction of the input by a coefficient.

By mode B there is accounted overhead material and material used up in experiments and laboratory tests.

The accounting unit registers as stocks of own production copies of the professional journal it publishes, records are kept in mode B.

Claims and commitments in foreign currency are calculated in CZK according to exchange rates at the Czech National Bank pertaining to the day of materialization of each accounting case.

The accounting unit has not created in the year 2005, nor has it as of December, 2005, created any statutory adjustment provisions concerning receivables following Act No. 593/1992 Dig. on reserves for determining the taxable base of income.

The accounting unit has no assets the value of which should be assessed by their real value in the sense of § 27 in the act on book-keeping.

Rebate procedures applied

Long-term immaterial and material property, delimited following §§ 7 a 8 in Decree No. 505/2002 Dig., is written off by the accounting unit equally over their set service life.

The set periods of depreciation by the accounting unit are as follows:

<i>Kind of property</i>	<i>Rebate period</i>
1 – Computer technique, office machines	4 years
2 – Passenger cars, tractors, (+ laboratory exceptions)	6 years
3 – Laboratory apparatuses, other machines and equipment	8 years
4 – Furniture, (+ laboratory exceptions)	12 years
5 – Buildings (new)	20 years
6 – Buildings (old), distribution mains, communications	85 years
7 – Software	5 years

Procedures of creating and using reserves and anticipated expendables

The accounting unit in the 2005 accounting year did not create nor had as of December 31, 2005, any legal reserves following Act No. 593/1992 Dig. on reserves for determining the income tax base.

The accounting unit was creating anticipated amounts up to December 31, 2005, for the expected accounting of services in as up to the date of the final accounting report the amount of expended costs was not known. The price fixing was based on information from the administrative unit on the state of gas and electricity meters as of December 31, 2005, and the prices of energy in force for the year 2005.

Inventory results – accounting of inventory differences

The accounting unit in harmony with §§ 29 to 30 of the act on book-keeping. Made an inventory of property and commitments, including a physical inventory of property. The inventories were carried out in line with the Director's Order No. 12/2005 of June 6, 2005.

Inventory differences found:

1. Difference – 018 – Low-value intangible assets, Software

Surplus:

1 pc costing 59 000.00 CZK

Inventory No. 82088 ASPI – purchased by the NIPH in past years, accounting and assets register 11/05

2. Difference – 028/2 – Precious metals

Natural weight losses due to burning – 4.08 g in all, depreciation of registered assets 10/05

3. Difference – 028/3 – Low-value tangible fixed assets, low-value fixed assets register
9 pcs of total cost 9 732.00 CZK

Inventory Nos. 53023, 40656, 34118, 60986, 51715, 33541, 33544, 33545, 33547

Diminutions commission No. 2/05, depreciation accounting and assets register 12/05

4. Difference – 028/4 – Low-value fixed assets

Surplus:

1 pc costing 3 800.00 CZK

Inventory No. 77713 Copying machine Canon – gift to NIPH, accounting and assets register 11/05

1 pc costing 14 875.00 CZK

Inventory No. 77726 Cabinet under sink – NIPH purchase KPF 21903/05, accounting and assets register 11/05

5. Difference – EVI – Low-value assets

1 pc costing 880.00 CZK

Inventory No. 64993 – Diminutions commission No. 2/05, depreciation of registered assets 12/05

Surplus:

1 pc costing 1 893.00 CZK

Inventory No. 76954 Coat stand, NIPH purchase KPF 22078/05, assets register 11/05;

1 pc costing 2 000.00 CZK

Inventory No. 76968 Printer HP DJ 610C, gift to NIPH, assets register 11/05.

Inventory differences were billed in harmony with accounting procedures.

Justification of eventual minus amounts/items in the balance sheet

Beside corrections/adjustments, a minus balance is only in the final account balance 262 – Incoming money, corresponding to the time lapse between deposit and drawing of money and the receipt of bank statements pertaining to transfers between the individual accounts in the bank. The balance is in keeping with accounting procedures.

Entering into books of account of the financially not covered fixed assets renewal fund following § 34 para 9 of Decree No. 505/2002 Dig. and the Czech Accounting Standard 521

The accounting unit, as of December 31, 2005, has no fund of fixed assets renewal not covered financially, and therefore has not applied any procedure following § 34 para 9 of Decree No. 505/2002 Dig. and the Czech Accounting Standard 521.

Other important information regarding the accounting statement

In the accounting statement there has been entered into the book of account an estimate of the accounting unit's tax obligations for the year 2005 amounting to 3 500 000 CZK, namely in entry MD 591/D 341.

Review of all subsidies/grants and accounted contributions provided in 2005

	<i>Amount (thš CZK)</i>	<i>Drawing from ČNB (CZK)</i>	<i>Levies on accounting (CZK)</i>
Non-investment subsidies - total	329 279	328 300 633.96	978 366.04
of which are:			
a) targeted subsidies provided by Min.Hlth ČR	13 486	12 764 644.01	721 355.99
of which are:			
Anti-drug policy	300	299 921.00	79.00
VLI	300	300 000.00	0.00
HIV/AIDS	11 158	10 457 996.95	700 003.05
Healthcare programs OZP	300	294 525.00	5 475.00
National Health Program (PPZ)	928	913 753.06	14 246.94
EU	500	498 448.00	1 552.00
b) subsidies for running of organization	300 960	300 960.00	0.00
c) non-investment means provided by Internal Grant Agency Min.Hlth. ČR – total	10 459	10 247 391.57	211 608.43
of which: wages/salaries	2 724	2 651 934.00	72 066.00
other employee expenses	78	78 000.00	0.00
d) non-investment means for research	0	0.00	0.00
e) other non-investment grant means (aside of Min.Hlth.)	4 374	4 328 598.38	45 401.62
Investment subsidies - total	384	382 894.32	
Of which:			
a) systems investment subsidies (916)	384	382 894.32	
of which:			
§ 3551 SZÚ – surface scanner	70	69 309.00	
§ 3551 SZÚ – apparatuses for Monitoring	314	313 585.32	
b) individual invest. subsidies from account 908	0	0.00	
10903	0	0.00	

The PHARE program

1. Leonardo da Vinci (provider: Technical University in Košice) - in 2005 drawn have been 135 287.18 CZK of non-investment means. In 2003 the NIPH had received financial means amounting to 166 815.67 CZK.
2. Measuring instrumentation and auxiliary appliances (provider: Ministry for the Environment) of a total value of 3 131 107.79 CZK. In 2003 that had been procured at the Min. for the Environment.

Review of all subsidies and accountable contributions received in 2005 by the NIPH as co-researcher in grant-supported projects

	<i>Amount (ths CZK)</i>	<i>Drawing from ČNB (CZK)</i>	<i>Levies on accounting (CZK)</i>
Non-investment subsidies – total	2 962	2 921 352.50	40 647.50
of which:			
a) non-vestment means provided by the Internal Grant. Agency MZ ČR – total	1 284	1 248 451.50	35 548.50
of which: wages/salaries	395	388 000.00	7 000.00
other employee expenses	0	0.00	0.00
b) other non-investment grant means (aside of Min.Hlth.)	1 678	1 672 901.00	5 099.00
Investment subsidies – total	600	600 000.00	
of which:			
investment subsidy from IGA	600	600 000.00	

Use of own means

The NIPH has used its own means of the fixed assets renewal fund for purchasing investment items in 2005 totalling in ths CZK:

- a) from rebates: 34 527.28 ths CZK
- b) from donations: 668.24 ths CZK
- c) other (specify): 0.00 ths CZK

Total value of all donated long-term property

Total value of all donated long-term property at the NIPH: 20 498.39 ths CZK, of which was received in 2005: 0.00 ths CZK.

Total value of donated low-value fixed assets

Total value of donated low-value fixed assets at the NIPH: 334.96 ths CZK, of which was received in 2005: 24.80 ths CZK.

More detailed specification of donated low-value fixed assets in 2005:

Printer HP DJ 610C	2 000.00 CZK
Computer AE Professional P II	19 000.00 CZK
Copy machine Canon FC-220	3 800.00 CZK

Use of reserve fund

In the year 2005, the NIPH used the reserve fund as follows (data in ths CZK):

a) to cover poorer economic results	0.00 ths CZK
b) to cover sanctions	0.00 ths CZK
c) to renew the fund of circulating assets.....	0.00 ths CZK
d) to cover poorer econ. results prior to force of Act No.218/2000 Dig.	0.00 ths CZK
e) to replenish the fixed assets renewal fund (with founder's consent)	0.00 ths CZK
f) financial donations and financial means provided from abroad ...	9 251.88 ths CZK
Total drawing of reserve fund in the year 2005	9 251.88 ths CZK

Review of ownership interest

The NIPH has no ownership interest in other entities.

Levies from on proceeds from sale of immovables

In 2005 there have been soled no real-estate assets.

Additional levies on rent of state property

In roce 2005 there have been transferred to the account of the Ministry of health no additional levies regarding past years.

Other levies

See Tables under item No. 9.

Savings on budget means

Transfer of financial means at the close of 2005, to the reserve fund of the founder:

In connection with Government Decree No. 273/2005 of March 9, 2005, item III. para.1b) and § 47 of Act No. 218/2000 Dig. of June 27, 2000 on budget rules and on amendment of certain related acts, we have submitted an application for the transfer to the reserve fund of chapter 335, of financial means designated for the financing of fixed assets renewal for 2005, that had not been drawn on.

1) project: "NIPH Prague – reconstruction of building No. 8 /former boiler house/ into administration and workshop premises"
registration No.: 235 012 0202

A transfer of means amounting to 4 567 ths. CZK and the facilitation of drawing that amount in 2006 have been applied for.

2) project: "NIPH Prague – procurement of equipment for BL3-level laboratories"
registration No.: 235 223 0201

A transfer of undrawn means of 4 250 ths. CZK and the facilitation of drawing those means in 2006 have been applied for.

That systems subsidy could not be drawn on for reasons of late registration of the project. The NIPH received the decision on the registration of the project in the ISPROFIN information system on December 23, 2005.

Overall proceeds from health insurance companies

In the year 2005, 26 132 075.49 CZK have been booked as proceeds from health insurance companies, of which:

- a) accounted for over the year: 26 132 075.49 CZK
- b) accounted for in the form of anticipated amounts: 0.00 CZK

Claims

The overall amount of claims as of January 1, 2005, and as of December 31, 2005, is presented in the following Table.

	<i>As of Jan. 1 (CZK)</i>	<i>As of Dec. 31 (CZK)</i>
Overall amount of claims *)	7 322 899.09	11 112 003.05
of which: a) towards health insurance companies	4 236 389.86	7 659 150.74
b) not reimbursed for foreign nationals from countries not having agreement on reimbursement for care		0.00
c) not reimbursed claims towards health insurance companies for other (homeless) subjects		0.00
d) total amount of defunct claims in 2005		42 398.00
of which: health insurance companies		0.00
foreign nationals		0.00
Other		42 398.00

*) Presented is the final balance of accounts 311, 316 and 335, i.e. without claims towards the state and without received advance payments.

Commitments

Total amounts of commitments as of January 1, 2005 and as of December 31, 2005, are presented in the following Table.

	<i>as of Jan. 1 (CZK)</i>	<i>as of Dec. 31 (CZK)</i>
Total amounts of commitments **)	501 258.13	4 586 198.57
of which: a) unpaid for non-investment invoices	501 258.13	1 251 187.72
b) unpaid for investment invoices	0.00	3 310 436.70
c) commitments towards health insurance companies	0.00	0.00

**) Presented is only the final balance of accounts 321 and 325, i.e. without commitments towards the state, from levies on salaries, towards employees, and without provided advance payments.

Current account balance

As of December 31, 2005, the NIPH has on its current account (without financial means of separate funds)

a total of	17 174 414.59 CZK
- of which the account at ČNB	16 971 200.40 CZK
- account at KB	203 214.19 CZK

Materialized advance payments

a) for non-investment consignments and work

As of December 31, 2005, the NIPH has the following materialized advance payments for non-investment consignments and work (amounts in CZK):

<i>Recipient of non-investment advance payment</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Provided on</i>	<i>Reason</i>
Pražská teplárenská	1 400 000	Dec.15, 2005	Heat supply by contract
PRE	669 559	Dec.16, 2005	Supply of electric energy
Pražské vodovody a kanalizace	6 620	Nov.15, 2005	Supply of water
Pražská plynárenská	237 000	Oct. 7, 2005	Supply of gas
RNDr. Brychta	50 000	Nov.14, 2005	Elaboration and submitting of income tax return 2005

b) for investment consignments and work

As of December 31, 2005, the NIPH does not have any advance payments for investment consignments or work.

Review of individual economic activities and results

In roce 2005 the NIPH had no economic activities.

Loans

The NIPH in the year 2005 nor as of December 31, 2005, has no unrepaid loan (returnable financial assistance).

a) review of outstanding commitment towards the national budget

<i>Obligation</i>	<i>Amount in CZK</i>
Undrawn subsidy means from the national budget	978 366.04
Of which:	
a) targeted subsidies provided by the Ministry of Health	721 355.99
b) non-investment means provided by IGA Czech Min.Hlth.	211 608.43
c) other non-investment grant means (aside of Min.Hlth.)	45 401.62
Undrawn subsidy means from chief grant-supported project researchers	40 647.50
Of which:	
a) non-investment means of IGA Czech Min.Hlth.	35 548.50
b) other non-investment grant means (aside of Min.Hlth.)	5 099.00

Amounts to be returned to the national budget and chief researchers are recorded in separate analyses of account 325 3 and shall be returned in line with valid rules of financing management.

Review of all external audits in the years 2004 and 2005

In the years 2004 and 2005 there took place the following audits focused on the managing of economics and financing:

1) An audit of financial means from the national budget provided from the Czech Ministry of Health for preparations of the Czech Republic's membership in the EU, that has been carried out by the NKÚ over the period from December 1, 2003 to February 17, 2004.

An apparatus that had been procured erroneously for non-investment means has been designated as a tangible fixed asset and included in the depreciation plan.

2) An audit of drawing financial means provided by IGA of the Min. Health for work on project reg. No. NI/6796-3, that was carried out by the Control Branch of the Min.Hlth. over the period from July 16, 2004 to August 26, 2004.

In order to prevent erroneous drawing of means, there has been issued Information and Instructions of the ETN No. 04/2004 "Drawing of targeted financial means – grants".

3) An audit on whether there has arisen any obligation of levies for breaching budgetary discipline in the managing of financial means provided from the national budget – targeted financial means for work on project NI/6796-3, that has been carried out by the Bureau of Finances for Prague 10 (FÚ) over the period from October 25, 2004 through November 9, 2004 on an impulse from the Ministry of Health.

The FÚ decreed a levy of 43 828 CZK, that having been settled November 29, 2004.

There has also been ordered a penalty of 39 162 CZK, that was settled December 22, 2004. The NIPH filed an appeal against that, not having received any reply yet.

4) An audit on the keeping with employer-employee legal regulations (i.e. Act No. 1/1991 Dig. on employment as amended, and Act No. 65/1965 Dig. the Labor code as amended), that has been conducted by the Labor Bureau of the Capital City Prague, branch office in Prague 10, on July 29, 2004.

The audit found that the NIPH had made a lower mandatory levy for one vacant job for the handicapped.

The thus accumulated arrears of 24 482 CZK for the year 2003 was immediately defrayed.

The Labor Bureau levied a penalty of 3 000 CZK. The NIPH filed an appeal against that in October 2004, receiving a ruling in August 2005 on the rejection of the appeal, and the penalty was defrayed on August 16, 2005 and handed over to the damages and losses commission.

5) An audit of the accuracy and completeness of the submitted VAT income tax return for August 2004, that was conducted by the Bureau of Finances for Prague 10 from October 21, 2004. In consequence, on February 10, 2005, there has been issued an order as to the VAT[^] for August 2004 in the amount of 71 244 CZK. In as the NIPH levied the VAT in the amount of 71 872 CZK, the surplus payment was accounted against routine levies in 2005.

6) An audit of targeted financing of science and research supported by IGA of the Ministry of Health, that has been carried out by the Control Branch of the Ministry of Health over the period from December 22, 2004 through February 28, 2005. The NIPH was checked up on as co-researcher in project NI 7109-3/2002; no errors have been found.

7) An audit of insurance for social security and the contribution to the national employment policy, medical care insurance and fulfilling of tasks in pension insurance, that has been conducted by the Prague administration of social security from February 14, 2005 through February 18, 2005.

In two cases there has been found an erroneous daily accounting calculation basis resulting in arrears of financial maternity aid amounting to a total of 4 834 CZK. The due arrears have been transferred to the personal accounts of the workers affected.

8) In the period from March 3, 2005 through April 15, 2005, the Financial Directorship for the Capital City Prague conducted a financial audit of the managing of means from the national budget and of the drawing of subsidies granted in the years 2003 and 2004.

On June 6, 2005, there have been filed objections which have been acknowledged as being justified in part, and have been resolved by a Supplement to the Protocol. The NIPH appealed against it and has not received any ruling yet.

9) An audit of the drawing and utilization of subsidies, the purposefulness of acknowledged costs following the decision in project No. NL7295-3, conducted by the Branch of Control of the Ministry of health in the period from September 7, 2005 through October 21, 2005, at the Palacky University in Olomouc. The NIPH was checked up on as co-researcher; the NIPH filed a statement regarding the drawing, having received no response yet.

10) An audit of targeted financial means for the financial covering of project No. NL 7567-3/2003, that has been carried out by the FÚ for Prague 10, in the period from June 1, 2005 to October 31, 2005, found no fault.

11) An audit of the drawing and utilization of subsidies, the purposefulness of acknowledged costs following a decision of project NJ7387-3/2003, conducted by the Branch of Control of the Ministry of Health in the period from July 27, 2005 through October 31, 2005.

12) An audit of targeted financial means for the financial covering of project No. NJ 7387-3/2003, that was carried out by the FÚ for Prague 10 in the period from October 18, 2005 through November 24, 2005.

For the year 2003 the FÚ decreed a levy obligation of 5 197.50 CZK that was paid on December 19, 2005. For the year 2004 the levy obligation was 35 356.50 CZK. The amount of 35 000 CZK was defrayed on July 18, 2005, already; the NIPH settled the remaining amount of 356.50 CZK on December 21, 2005.

To prevent any erroneous drawing of means, there has been issued Director's Order No. 16/2005 "Measures to eliminate shortcomings in the materialization of grant support activities".

Expenses for official trips abroad

In the year 2005, expenses for official trips abroad totalled 4 890.00 ths. CZK, of which trips abroad in the framework of grant-supported projects amounted to 1 795.96 ths. CZK.

Average converted number of employees

The average converted number of employees at the NIPH as of January 1, 2005, was 647.149, and as of December 31, 2005, that was 648.409.

Wages means

	<i>limit (ths. CZK)</i>	<i>drawn (ths. CZK)</i>	<i>saving (ths. CZK)</i>
Wages means total	136 032.00	136 018.00	13.40
Of which: Salaries and wages	135 952.00	135 939.26	12.74
Other personal costs, incl. indemnities	80.00	79.34	0.66

Application of rewards fund

The fund has not been used in 2005.

Wages costs

The wages costs in the year 2005 in major activities are presented in the following Table (in ths. CZK)

<i>Costs breakdown</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>From subsidy of establisher, incl. IGA Min.Hlth.</i>
Overall wages costs in major activities	142 255.65	138 748.53
Of which:		
Wages costs for salaries	141 582.33	138 591.19
Wages costs for other payments for work performed	648.97	132.99
Indemnities	24.35	24.35