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### Improving access to health services in vulnerable communities affected by war

The ability to consistently and reliably access medical testing and care is paramount for ensuring population health and wellness. When essential services such as diagnostic testing are suddenly unavailable, the consequences can be dire. The war in Ukraine has had a significant and devastating impact on healthcare and access to essential care needed to save lives and improve health. Consequently, lack of access to diagnostic testing has decreased identification of high risk individuals with chronic diseases, including heart disease and diabetes. Notably, the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that an approximately 10,000 deaths have occurred due to heart disease and stroke in Ukraine since the war started.



From left to right: Olena Yanchinska, Anna Konyk, Viktoriia Honcharenko, Iryna Mandzyuk, Liudmyla Kostiuk

To help improve access to care, Escolab Medical Laboratory implemented several social initiatives. The initiatives facilitated and coordinated medical tests for Ukrainians in need of standard diagnostic testing, including glucose, iron, liver function tests, cholesterol, ABO blood typing, thyroid-stimulating hormone, prolactin, lipid profile, and more. Many of these tests are available free of charge or at reduced costs to those in need. As a result of the social initiatives, more than 90,000 Ukrainians had been provided with free medical analyses, which also raised awareness on the importance of prevention and early detection of diseases, even during times of war.

For their leadership and collaborative efforts, this integrated clinical care team received 2024 UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence awards Recognition of Distinction. Congratulations to Anna Konyk, Chief Marketing Officer, Iryna Mandzyuk, Chief Product Officer, Olena Yanchinska, Chief Production Officer, Liudmyla Kostiuk, Head of the Bacteriological Laboratory, Viktoriia Honcharenko, Public Relations and Communication Manager.

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