

Knowledge Hub Newswire

The Regional Knowledge Hub for the Care and Treatment of HIV/AIDS in Eurasia
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Vol. 4, No. 15

Winter – Spring – Summer 2009

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Snapshot

These statistics reflect the Regional Knowledge Hub's activities from its inception in March 2004 through August 2009

- Knowledge Hub courses held: **211**
- Healthcare professionals trained: **5149**
 - Russia: **2350**
 - Ukraine: **2168**
 - Belarus: **137**
 - Uzbekistan: **121**
 - Moldova: **92**
 - Kazakhstan: **77**
 - Kyrgyzstan: **63**
 - Azerbaijan: **56**
 - Tajikistan: **56**
 - Estonia: **29**

Ukrainian physicians who have earned nationally recognized advanced professional certification in adult/adolescent or pediatric AIDS treatment through the Knowledge Hub: **294**

Knowledge Hub Calendar

*The following trainings are scheduled to take place at the Knowledge Hub or affiliated centers
September – November 2009*

RUSSIA

September 7-11, 2009

Advanced Adult ART and Management of Opportunistic Infections Trainings, St. Petersburg

This five-day seminar will complete a series of advanced trainings on ART in adults for primary care ID physicians who have previously attended Intro ART course and clinical practicum. The curricula will address advanced issues of ART and management of opportunistic infections. Accordingly, the majority of primary care ID physicians in St. Petersburg will complete the three-level training program that includes Intro ART course, two-day clinical mentoring and Advanced ART course.

September 30 - October 2, 2009

ART in Women of Reproductive Age, St. Petersburg

The first three-day advanced training on ART in women of reproductive age will be conducted for ID physicians, obstetricians, gynecologists, and neonatologists from St. Petersburg. Faculty from the City AIDS Center, Pavlov State Medical Academy and international expert from Ukraine will co-teach the

course. The curricula will address specifics of ART in pregnant women, first and second lines ART regimens, change of ART regimens, safe delivery modes in HIV-infected women, drug resistance, adherence to ART as well as contraception for PLWHA and interaction between contraceptive and ARV drugs.

September 28, 2009

Working Meeting of WHO and Knowledge Hub Regional Experts on HIV/AIDS, St. Petersburg

At this meeting, representatives from the WHO Regional Office for Europe, AIHA, KH regional experts from Russia, Central Asia and other international experts will discuss new KH strategies and approaches to make respond to HIV epidemic more effective and to improve quality of HIV/AIDS treatment and care to PLWHA in the regions basing on the regional HIV epidemic features and needs.

September, 2009

End-of-Life Palliative Care, St. Petersburg

The second group of Sisters-of-Mercy from the faith-based organization “Charitable Fund Dyakoniya” will start a 520-hour training on medical issues of palliative care at the St. Petersburg Pavlov Medical College that will enable them to contribute to the provision of care and support for PLWH.

Nine new courses on HIV/AIDS and related issues will be developed and another five will be updated and posted at the KH web site by October 27, 2009.

Knowledge Hub in Review

These events were hosted by the Knowledge Hub or affiliated centers from December 2008 to August 2009

TRAININGS:

UKRAINE

December 8-12, 2008

December 15-19, 2008

Treatment of TB/HIV Co-infection for IDUs on ST, Kiev

These two trainings completed the series of Tuberculosis/HIV/Substitution Therapy (TB/HIV/ST) co-infection for injecting drug users (IDUs) training courses funded by All-Ukrainian Network of PLWH. This course was developed for multidisciplinary teams consisting of an infection disease doctor, TB doctor, narcologist and social worker. During the training, they were introduced into peculiarities of care and treatment, including antiretroviral (ART) and TB treatment, for patients with opioid dependence and on substitution therapy. The faculty also discussed integration of services and team approach.



February 2-6, 2009

Advanced ART for Adults and OI Management, Kiev

This training was organized for physicians, nurses, and social workers from Moldova who already received basic ART training. The curriculum included ART regimens, adherence to treatment, drug resistance and drug interaction issues, side effects, ART regimen changes, diagnostics and management of Ois, consulting and other issues for social workers. Funding is provided by WHO/Euro.



April 13-17, 2009

TB/HIV Co-infection, Kiev

This training in Kiev, Ukraine, also funded by WHO/Euro, was attended by TB specialists and infectious disease physicians from Moldova.

May 12-14, 2009

ToT on Introduction to ART, Kiev

This training-of-trainers course on Introduction to Antiretroviral Therapy was organized for physicians from Kiev, Kharkiv, Khmenlytsky, and Kryvy Rig (Ukraine) who already received ART training at the HIV/AIDS Knowledge Hub.



RUSSIA

December 15-19, 2008

Advanced Adult ART and Management of Opportunistic Infections Training, Orenburg

The first advanced ART training for infectious disease specialists, who previously attended AIHA's training on initiating ART in adults and the two-day skills strengthening mentoring program at the local AIDS Center, was conducted in Orenburg. Twenty ID specialists from Orenburg and Orenburg Oblast were trained. The curricula addressed ART regimens and adherence to treatment, drug resistance and drug interactions, ARV side effects and ART regimen changes as well as diagnostics and management of OIs. The faculty included one national expert from St. Petersburg's State Medical University/City AIDS Center; the rest of the faculty members were from Orenburg State Medical Academy, the Orenburg Region AIDS Center and the TB dispensary.



February 16-20, 2009

Advanced Adult ART and Management of Opportunistic Infections Training, St. Petersburg

This seminar started a series of advanced ART trainings for primary care infectious disease specialists in St. Petersburg, who have already attended AIHA's training on initiating ART in adults and the two-day skills strengthening mentoring program at the local AIDS Center. The curricula addressed second line ART regimens and adherence to treatment, drug resistance and drug interaction issues, side effects of ARVs, change of ART regiment as well as diagnostics and management of OIs. One day of this training was devoted to early diagnosis, treatment and prevention of TB in HIV-positive patients. Twenty five ID physicians attended the seminar.



April 8-10, 2009

Training on adherence to ART for nurses, St. Petersburg

The three-day training on adherence to ART for nurses was conducted in St. Petersburg. The course focused on improvement of patient adherence to ART, proper adherence counseling and monitoring, and on strengthening the role of nurses in adherence improvement. Faculty from the City AIDS Center taught 22 nurses that work with infectious disease doctors on the district level, fourteen of whom have previously attended a training on basics of HIV-infection and tolerance building and, thus, completed the two courses of the three-level educational program for nurses.



April 21-23, 2009

ART in Woman of Reproductive Age, Orenburg Region

The first three-day training on ART in women of reproductive age was conducted for 21 specialists: ID physicians, obstetricians, gynecologists, and neonatologists from Orenburg, Orsk, Novotroitsk and Gai, Faculty from the Orenburg State Medical Academy, Orenburg Oblast AIDS center and AIHA expert from

Odessa co-taught the course. Nineteen of the training participants have already completed generic course on PMTCT and the advanced clinical training on PMTCT. The curricula addressed first and second lines ART regimens, change of ART regimens, adherence to ART, drug resistance, ART side effects as well as contraception for HIV-infected women and interaction between contraceptive and ARV drugs.



May 19-21, 2009

Integrated approach to the treatment and management of co-infections HIV/TB/Hepatitis in substance users, St. Petersburg

The new three-day seminar on integrated approach to the treatment and management of co-infections HIV/TB/Hepatitis in substance users took place in St Petersburg. The Deputy Director USAID and senior US government representatives in Russia, Russian local officials from the City Health Care Committee, Rector of the Pavlov State Medical University and the head of the St. Petersburg AIDS Center participated in the open ceremony. Eighty four professionals from St. Petersburg and Orenburg ID, TB, and substance abuse treatment services, St. Petersburg Pavlov State Medical University, Medical Academy of Postgraduate Study and community based organizations, and Orenburg State Medical Academy attended the training.

The course focused on treatment of HIV/TB/Hepatitis co-infections in substance users and improvement of collaboration between ID, TB and addiction treatment services in providing care to patients with multiple diagnoses. The main topics included epidemiological aspects of co-infections HIV/TB/Hepatitis in substance users; etiology and psychosocial aspects of alcohol and drug dependence, specifics and gender aspects of treatment and care for PLWH with multiple diagnoses; ART for pregnant IDU women; interaction between ARVs, illegal drugs, and alcohol; and improvement of patient adherence to ART. Course consisted of lectures, practical sessions with discussion of clinical cases and group work on improvement of cooperation between ID, TB and Dependence treatment services.



Innovative teaching methods and approaches were used such as training of multidisciplinary teams, integration of different services, introduction in to case management, involvement of community based organizations and other. International experts from Elmhurst Hospital Center and Yale University, along with Russian faculty from federal and local institutions co-taught the seminar. This seminar was included in the postgraduate CME within the St. Petersburg Pavlov State Medical University (SPbSMU) with further provision of SPbSMU certificates.

May 19-21, 2009

Training on case management, St. Petersburg

The three-day training in case management (CM) was conducted for 28 participants - social workers and physicians from 13 district social services, AIDS Center, Botkin infectious diseases hospital and substance abuse treatment services of St. Petersburg and case managers Orenburg Oblast AIDS Center. Topics included basic knowledge of HIV-infection and ART, principles of CM, and CM tools for improvement of patient adherence to treatment. US expert in CM and local faculty co-taught the course.

After completion of this training, a one-day training on specific issues of CM was conducted for 12 potential trainers from Orenburg AIDS Center, St. Petersburg district social services, Botkin Infectious diseases Hospital and St. Petersburg AIDS Center. This training emphasized on training techniques and interaction skills.



May 19, 2009

End-of-Life Palliative Care, St. Petersburg

Nine Sisters-of-Mercy from the faith-based organization “Charitable Fund Dyakoniya” completed a 520-hour training on medical issues of palliative care at the St. Petersburg Pavlov Medical College that will enable them to contribute to the provision of care and support for PLWH.

June 29-30, 2009

Training on adherence to ART for nurses, Orenburg

The two-day training on adherence to ART for nurses focused on improvement of patient adherence to ART, proper adherence counseling and monitoring, and strengthening the role of nurses in adherence. Faculty from Orenburg State Medical Academy and Educational Institutions for nurses trained 22 nurses who provide care for patients with HIV-infection. For five participants it was the second course they completed within the three-level educational program.

August 24-28, 2009

Advanced Adult ART and Management of Opportunistic Infections Trainings, St. Petersburg

The second five-day advanced ART training was conducted for 20 primary care ID physicians, who have already attended Intro ART course and clinical practicum in St.Petersburg. The curricula addressed second line ART regimens and adherence to treatment, drug resistance and drug interaction issues, side effects of ARVs, change of ART regiment as well as diagnostics and management of OIs. One day of this training was devoted to early diagnosis, treatment and prevention of TB in HIV-positive patients.



For more information on this section please visit

www.aidsknowledgehub.org > What the Knowledge Hub does > Training Courses, or follow the link: www.aidsknowledgehub.org/view/trainings/all.

HIV/AIDS Resources

Primary funding for EAKN is provided by the
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)



Useful links to HIV/AIDS-related information and evidence-based research

The EurasiaHealth AIDS Knowledge Network (EAKN) is a special initiative to identify key resources related to the care and treatment of HIV/AIDS and adapt and translate them for use by health professionals in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. The EAKN Library consists of a core set of textbooks and guidelines that have been developed by the world's leading experts on HIV/AIDS. As these materials are updated in English, EAKN updates the Russian-language versions maintained on its Web site. In addition to the core set of key documents, the EAKN Library includes a variety of HIV/AIDS information resources, including patient education materials, articles, and abstracts.

Among the most recently added or updated documents are:

- HIV/AIDS awareness and risk behavior among students in Semey, Kazakhstan: a cross-sectional survey
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/health/resources/100006/>

- Qualitative Analysis for the Assessment of Social Implications of HIV and Identification of Advocacy Priorities in Uzbekistan
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/health/resources/100005/>
- Vulnerability assessment of People Living with HIV in Ukraine
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/health/resources/100004/>
- Vulnerability assessment of People Living with HIV in Georgia
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/health/resources/100003/>
- Living with HIV/AIDS in Eastern Europe and the CIS
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/health/resources/99999/>
- Twelve article reviews, prepared by the Internet project MedMir.com, which is aimed to provide Russian speaking medical professionals with timely, comprehensive and relevant clinical information in the form of the Russian language summaries of clinical study reports published in the top world medical journals
 - ✓ A Case Series of 104 Women Infected with HIV-1 via Blood Transfusion Postnatally: High Rate of HIV-1 Transmission to Infants through Breast-Feeding
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99984>
 - ✓ Initiation of HAART at higher CD4 cell counts is associated with a lower frequency of antiretroviral drug resistance mutations at virologic failure
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99983>
 - ✓ The Association of HIV Susceptibility Testing With Survival Among HIV-Infected Patients Receiving Antiretroviral Therapy <http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99982>
 - ✓ HIV Testing in a High-Incidence Population: Is Antibody Testing Alone Good Enough?
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99981>
 - ✓ Risk of Developing Specific AIDS-Defining Illnesses in Patients Coinfected with HIV and Hepatitis C Virus With or Without Liver Cirrhosis
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99980>
 - ✓ Late HIV Testing – 34 states
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99958>
 - ✓ Early Antiretroviral Therapy Reduces AIDS Progression/Death in Individuals with Acute Opportunistic Infections: A Multicenter Randomized Strategy Trial
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99957>
 - ✓ Immune Reconstitution Inflammatory Syndrome in HIV-Associated Cryptococcal Meningitis: A Prospective Study
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99956>
 - ✓ A phase II randomized trial of amphotericin B alone or combined with fluconazole in the treatment of HIV-associated cryptococcal meningitis Amphotericin B plus fluconazole for HIV-associated cryptococcal meningitis
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99955>
 - ✓ Non-AIDS-defining deaths and immunodeficiency in the era of combination antiretroviral therapy
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99954>
 - ✓ Is HIV Becoming More Virulent? Initial CD4 Cell Counts among HIV Seroconverters during the Course of the HIV Epidemic
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99953>
 - ✓ Rifamycin-Resistant Mycobacterium tuberculosis in the Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy Era: A Report of 3 Relapses with Acquired Rifampin Resistance following Alternate-Day Rifabutin and Boosted Protease Inhibitor Therapy
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99952>

The EAKN Library is continuing to translate various publications, reviews of the latest articles from the leading peer-reviewed magazines, and recent abstracts from medical conferences.