

## IN THIS ISSUE:

Snapshot – Knowledge Hub activities to date, in numbers

Knowledge Hub Calendar – Find out about training workshops and other upcoming events

Knowledge Hub in Review – Learn about recent activities

### Snapshot

*These statistics reflect the Regional Knowledge Hub's activities from its inception in March 2004 through August 2010*

- Knowledge Hub courses held: **237**
- Healthcare professionals trained: **5768**
  - Russia: **2806**
  - Ukraine: **2169**
  - Uzbekistan: **211**
  - Belarus: **138**
  - Moldova: **118**
  - Kazakhstan: **95**
  - Kyrgyzstan: **73**
  - Tajikistan: **72**
  - Azerbaijan: **57**
  - Estonia: **29**

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

- Ukrainian: **294** physicians
- Russian: **66** physicians and **22** nurses

The Knowledge Hub offers more than 40 courses on a broad range of HIV-related care and treatment topics.

Fourteen new and/or updated courses were developed in 2008-2009 and posted on the Knowledge Hub's web site in 2009-2010. These include:

#### New Courses:

- Integrated Approach in Treatment and Management of HIV/TB/Hepatitis Co-Infection in Substance Users
- Three-Step HIV/AIDS Program for Nurses
- Case Management: Patients Adherence to ART (for social and medical workers)
- Integrated Care Model for PLWHA
- Training-of-Trainers Course: HIV/AIDS for Social Workers
- Support of Sexual and Reproductive Health in People Living with HIV
- Organ and System Complications in Patients with HIV-Infection
- Laboratory Diagnostics of Opportunistic infections and Monitoring of HIV Treatment Quality
- Viral Hepatitis C and B and HIV: Management Strategies for Co-infected Patients

#### Updated Courses:

- Advanced Pediatric ART and Management of Opportunistic Infections
- PMTCT
- Advanced Adult ART
- HIV/AIDS Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users
- Management of HIV and TB Co-Infection

Ten of these courses have been developed with support from the WHO Regional Office for Europe.

### *Knowledge Hub Calendar*

*The following trainings and events are scheduled to take place  
at the Knowledge Hub or affiliated centers  
September – November, 2010*

#### **Belarus**

##### **October 4-6**

##### **Advanced Adult ART and Management of Opportunistic Infections for multidisciplinary team, Minsk**

This three-day training will be conducted by AIHA and the Knowledge Hub with support from the EU-BLR WHO Country Office. Some 20 infectious disease physicians and nurses from Belarus will be trained in advanced issues of adult ART and management of opportunistic infections for provision of comprehensive care and treatment to PLHIV based on a multidisciplinary approach.

##### **October 7-8**

##### **Adherence to ART, Minsk**

This two-day training will be conducted by AIHA and the Knowledge Hub with support from the EU-BLR WHO Country Office. Topics covered in the course include methods of improving ART adherence among specific patient populations, such as injection drug users (IDUs), pregnant women, adolescents, and children. Some 20 peer counselors, social workers, and volunteers from Belarus will attend this training.

#### **Uzbekistan**

##### **October 18-19**

##### **Working Meeting on Issues of Postgraduate Education in Central Asia, Tashkent**

AIHA and the Regional Knowledge Hub for the Care and Treatment of HIV/AIDS in Eurasia will provide technical assistance for this working meeting, which is being conducted through the "Development of the Regional Training Center (RTC) on Care and Treatment of HIV/AIDS for Central Asia" project with support from the Central Asian AIDS Control Project and World Bank. With the objective of strengthening the provision of HIV/AIDS treatment and care by improving postgraduate education opportunities available to healthcare professionals, leading medical academies and universities in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan are working on the adaptation of three HIV/AIDS courses previously developed by the Moscow State University of Medicine and Dentistry in Russia. Representatives from AIHA and the Moscow State University of Medicine and Dentistry will facilitate the meeting, which will serve as a forum for detailed discussions about implementation of three courses in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, two courses in Tajikistan, and one in Kazakhstan.

##### **October 19-22**

##### **Evidence-based Practice Workshop, Tashkent**

A four-day advanced training on evidence-based practice will be conducted at the Learning Resource Center established by AIHA at the Central Asia Regional Educational Center for PLWH Treatment and Care through the Central Asia AIDS Control Project (CAAP). Some 20

faculty members from undergraduate and postgraduate medical education institutions in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan that are involved in this project will participate in the training. Trainees will be provided with an overview of the main aspects of evidence-based practice, including forming a focused clinical question, tools and strategies to search for evidence, ways of evaluating the evidence found, its implementation into practice, and evaluation of the results.

### **October 25-27**

#### **Basic Training on Searching for Medical Information on the Internet, Tashkent**

This training course for medical and non-medical care providers from the new Regional Central Asian Training Center on HIV/AIDS Care, Treatment, and Support for PLWHIV in Tashkent will focus on teaching participants the basics of searching for medical information online, including various evidence-based resources for finding information about HIV-infection and related problems. Different searching tools and strategies, as well as exercises to improve practical skills in Internet usage will be stressed.

### ***Knowledge Hub in Review***

***These events were hosted by the Knowledge Hub or affiliated centers  
in June – August, 2010***

### **July 18-23**

#### **The XVIII International AIDS Conference, Vienna, Austria**

Representatives from AIHA's Regional Knowledge Hub for the Care and Treatment of HIV/AIDS in Eurasia took part in the XVIII International AIDS conference in Vienna, Austria, where they shared information about related capacity-building programs, training courses, and other informational products. At an exhibit organized in cooperation with other regional knowledge hubs in Europe and Africa, AIHA also gave a presentation on its activities, achievements, and key training materials. Two new books recently translated into Russian — “Medical Management of HIV Infection 2009-2010” (J. Bartlett and J. Gallant) and “HIV Medicine 2009” (J. Gallant) — were presented by the authors, along with representatives from ViiV Healthcare, which supported the translations.





On July 19, at a special satellite session titled “The Added Value of a Regional Mechanism to Respond to Country Needs in Eastern Europe and Central Asia,” representatives from the three WHO and GTZ-supported Knowledge Hubs in Eurasia presented their lessons learned and discussed the potential of further collaboration to improve HIV/AIDS care in the region. AIHA Regional Director Inna Jurkevich presented the Care and Treatment Knowledge Hub’s regional mentoring approach for quality improvement in a presentation “Sustaining Quality and Coverage while Assuring Country Ownership and Leadership.”



## **July 20**

### **Knowledge Hub Strategic Planning Meeting, Vienna, Austria**

In conjunction with XVIII International AIDS Conference in Vienna, the Regional Knowledge Hub for the Care and Treatment of HIV/AIDS in Eurasia conducted an Advisory Board meeting that brought together the directors or deputy directors of Knowledge Hub-affiliated centers on HIV/AIDS care and treatment from Russia, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan, along with key international faculty and Knowledge Hub representatives. Selected experts have extensive direct experience providing training through the Knowledge Hub for the past 3-5 years and understand the needs of regional care providers. At this meeting, strategic direction and coordination of Knowledge Hub workforce development mission for affiliated centers in Russia, Ukraine, and Central Asia through 2012 were defined.

## **July 24**

### **WHO Knowledge Hub Meeting, Vienna, Austria**

Conducted by WHO, this meeting served as a venue for each Knowledge Hub within WHO’s network to share best practices, as well as to agree on mechanisms and objectives for enhanced collaboration among the greater network, which includes Knowledge Hubs in Eastern Europe and Africa. Representatives from each Knowledge Hub presented their lessons learned and key results on technical support and capacity development. WHO presented its HIV/AIDS

Strategy for 2011-2015 along with its priority activities for the remainder of 2010, key recommendations, and steps for the future.



## Russia

June 15-18

### Organ and System Complications in Patients with HIV Infection, St. Petersburg

WHO and GTZ are supporting the efforts of AIHA and the Regional Knowledge Hub for the Care and Treatment of HIV/AIDS in Eurasia to continue scaling up dissemination of 10 newly developed training courses. On June 15-18, 2010, Knowledge Hub staff conducted in St. Petersburg the course "Organ and System Complications in Patients with HIV Infection," for 19 clinical HIV/AIDS leaders and faculty from medical institutions of postgraduate education from Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. This course focused on management of the most common opportunistic diseases and organ and system complications afflicting patients living with HIV, including respiratory, gastrointestinal, and central nervous system conditions, as well as complications related to kidneys, skin and mucous membranes, and the cardiovascular system. HIV and lymphoproliferative diseases and mental disorders were also discussed by leading international and Russian HIV/AIDS experts, who served as faculty for the course. Dr. Irina Eramova, Senior Medical Officer from the WHO Regional Office for Europe, Department of Infectious Diseases attended this seminar. She provided participants with the current WHO HIV policies and directions and made an announcement and comments on the recently released WHO recommendations on treatment, prevention and infant feeding in the context of HIV (2009).



## **Uzbekistan**

**August 17-18**

### **Central Asian Regional Meeting of the Technical Expert Group on Undergraduate HIV Education, Tashkent**

Two representatives of the leading medical academies and universities in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan met in Tashkent to discuss development of materials for an elective course on HIV for undergraduate students. Representatives of AIHA and the Moscow Medical Academy in Russia facilitated the course and presented existing evidence-based materials on undergraduate HIV education that might be adapted for use in Central Asia.