



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information please contact:

Alexandru Voloc, MD, MPH, MSL
AIHA Country Director for Ukraine
Tel. +380-98-4344-718
Email. avoloc@aiha.com

AIHA Conducts Blood System Equipment Validation Training in Ukraine

CDC-supported project continues efforts to strengthen Ukraine's capacity to ensure access to safe, sufficient blood supply through targeted training and technical assistance

Washington, DC, September 25, 2014 — Working in close collaboration with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Ministry of Health of Ukraine, along with the Ukrainian National Children's Hospital "OHMATDIT" of the Ministry's Department of Transfusiology, the American International Health Alliance (AIHA) conducted a "training of trainers" workshop on equipment validation September 15-19 2014 in Kyiv.

Part of AIHA's CDC-supported Project to Strengthen Blood Transfusion Services, this five-day workshop was facilitated by AIHA technical expert Dianne Geary, MT(ASCP)SBB, from Stanford Medical Blood Center in Palo Alto, California, USA. Its objective was to provide guidance on the validation of equipment in blood establishments, which may affect the safety and quality of blood components. Validation of all processes, procedures, equipment, and reagents is a part of quality management system.

Ms. Geary provided didactic and practical training on the validation process, covering topics such as writing a validation plan, developing test cases and how to address limitations identified during the validation, and was approved by the Kyiv City Health Administration and P.L. Shupyk National Medical Academy for Postgraduate Education.

Some 13 transfusiologists, quality managers, and other representatives from OHMATDIT, the Kyiv City Blood Center, Kyiv Oblast Blood Center, and Zhytomyr Oblast Blood Center participated in the training. Dr. Oleksandr Sergienko, Head of Scientific Department of Kyiv City Blood Center and Assistant at the Hematology and Blood Transfusion Department at P.L. Shupyk National Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education (NMAPE); Dr. Nataliya Podolchak, CDC/Ukraine Blood Safety Advisor; and Jean Stanley, MBA, MT(ASCP)SBB, CMQ/OE(ASQ), AIHA Technical Director for Blood Safety, also attended.

Access to a safe and sufficient supply of blood and related products and services, including blood transfusion, is a critical element of any health system. To ensure the quality of blood and blood products effective quality system should be in place. Blood centers should focus on enhancing practices within quality assurance, quality control and quality improvement in observation of the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines and Health Care.

With CDC support, AIHA launched this project designed to strengthen blood services in selected countries in Asia and Eurasia in December 2012. This five-year technical assistance project is funded by the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and operates within the 2011-2015 Partnership Framework to Combat HIV/AIDS between the US Government and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

###

For more information about AIHA, visit our web site at www.aiha.com.