Knowledge Hub Newswire

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Snapshot

These statistics reflect the Regional Knowledge Hub’s activities from its inception in March 2004 through June 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: **77** 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 June – August, 2010

**July 18-23**
**The XVIII International AIDS Conference, Vienna, Austria**

Representatives from AIHA and Regional Knowledge Hub for the Care and Treatment of HIV/AIDS in Eurasia will take part in the XVIII International AIDS conference, Vienna, Austria, and will present and disseminate AIHA/KH-developed HIV/AIDS training courses and supporting materials.

**July 20-23 (TBD)**
**Knowledge Hub Strategic Planning Meeting, Vienna, Austria**

In conjunction with the XVIII International AIDS Conference in Vienna, Knowledge Hub representatives will conduct a one-day strategic planning meeting to determine key objectives for 2010-2012 and facilitate improved coordination of the Knowledge Hub network’s workforce development mission for affiliated centers in Central Asia, Russia, and Ukraine. This meeting will bring together directors and deputy directors of Knowledge Hub-affiliated centers on HIV/AIDS care treatment from Russia, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan, as well as key international faculty members and representatives of the Knowledge Hub and GTZ.

**July 24**
**WHO Knowledge Hub Meeting, Vienna, Austria**

Conducted by WHO, this meeting will serve as a venue for each Knowledge Hub within WHO’s network to share best practices and lessons learned, 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.

### TRAININGS

**Russia**

**June 15-18**
**AIHA/KH workshop “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. Knowledge Hub staff will conduct 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 focuses on the 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...
will also be discussed by leading international and Russian HIV/AIDS experts, who will serve as faculty for the course.

Uzbekistan

July-August
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 will meet 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 will facilitate the course and present existing evidence-based materials on undergraduate HIV education that might be adapted for use in Central Asia.

Knowledge Hub in Review

These events were hosted by the Knowledge Hub or affiliated centers in March–May, 2010

Russia

March 22-24
Training on HIV/AIDS Palliative Care for Nurses, St. Petersburg

AIHA conducted a training on HIV/AIDS palliative care nursing as part of a three-step HIV/AIDS educational program for nurses. Some 19 nurses who work with infectious disease physicians at polyclinics in St. Petersburg attended the three-day event, which focused on general issues of palliative care and specifics of HIV/AIDS palliative care for nurses. Topics covered included pain assessment and pain relief issues, symptom treatment, nutrition, patient and family education, spiritual support, and prevention of burnout syndrome for caregivers. Experienced nurses from St. Petersburg and the United States served as faculty for the course.

March 29-31
II Annual Russian Congress on Infectious Diseases, Moscow

Representatives from AIHA and Regional Knowledge Hub for the Care and Treatment of HIV/AIDS in Eurasia took part in the Second Annual Russian Congress on Infectious Diseases in Moscow, presenting the HIV/AIDS courses approved for graduate and postgraduate medical education, along with AIHA/KH-developed training courses and supporting materials. Curricula and materials were disseminated to representatives from 115 medical educational institutions, 105 hospitals, and 40 governmental and non-governmental organizations during the event.

May 19-20
HIV/AIDS Case Management Database Training, St. Petersburg

AIHA conducted a two-day training on the use of its HIV/AIDS Case Management Database. This important tool is designed to facilitate greater cooperation among medical and social service organizations to improve the provision of effective, comprehensive, and integrated treatment, care, and support to people living with HIV or AIDS. Russian experts trained 32 St. Petersburg area social workers.
and psychologists on use of the database, as well as on topics including clinical interview methodology, data collection, needs assessment, and care plan development. This course is the final in a case management training series that includes basic and advanced trainings, as well as onsite mentoring.

May 19-21
**Advanced Training on Integrated Approach for Treatment of HIV/TB/Hepatitis Co-infection in Substance Users, St. Petersburg**

This training was conducted for multidisciplinary team members who have completed an onsite mentoring program on the treatment and management of HIV/TB/Hepatitis co-infection in substance users, as well as for selected TB and infectious disease specialists and narcologists involved in the provision of care for patients with triple diagnoses. The course focused on drug resistance and drug interaction issues (HIV/TB, HIV/HEP B and C), ARV side effects, ART regimen changes, and management of opportunistic infections. Faculty from Elmhurst Hospital Center in New York and Yale University in Connecticut joined leading Russian experts to train the 24 Russian specialists who took part in the training.

May 21
**Educational Program for Sisters of Mercy on Palliative Care for Severe and Terminally Ill Patients, St. Petersburg**

A graduation ceremony was held for 21 Sisters of Mercy from the faith-based organization “Charitable Fund Dyakoniya” and volunteers from the religious community of St. Petersburg who completed a 520-hour training on medical issues of palliative care at the St. Petersburg Pavlov Medical College. This event was attended by the US Consul General in St. Petersburg, Sheila S. Gwaltney.
May 24-26
Training on Viral Hepatitis B and C and HIV: Management Strategies for Co-infected Patients, Orenburg

This new course — which was recently developed by AIHA and the Knowledge Hub and adapted by the Orenburg Medical Academy — was conducted at the Orenburg Medical Academy and focused on selected issues of managing patients with HIV and viral hepatitis B and/or C. Key topics covered included monitoring treatment efficacy, ART hepatotoxicity, and the prevention and management of side effects. Faculty from the Orenburg Medical Academy and Elmhurst Hospital Center in New York co-taught the course, which was attended by 19 healthcare practitioners.

May 26-28
Workshop on HIV/AIDS Palliative Care for Nurses, Orenburg

Palliative care experts from St. Petersburg and Orenburg conducted this 3-day training for 58 nurses who provide care to people living with HIV or AIDS in Orenburg. Topics included general issues of palliative care and specifics of HIV/AIDS palliative care for nurses, pain assessment and pain relief issues, symptom treatment, nutrition, patient and family education, spiritual support, and prevention of burnout syndrome for caregivers.

May 31 – June 04,
Training on Case Management for People Living with HIV, St. Petersburg

This Knowledge Hub training was conducted for 26 participants from Moldova, including representatives from ministries of health and social defense, faculty of the Moldova Medical University, and social and infectious diseases specialists/ Leaders and coordinators from NGOs working with people living with HIV also attended the event, which was co-taught by a team of Russian faculty from Orenburg and St. Petersburg. Training sessions focused on strengthening the knowledge and practical skills of practitioners and NGO coordinators on key medical, psychological, and social issues in managing HIV-infected people. Topics included key components of the case management process, case coordination, and strengthening collaboration between relevant healthcare and social care facilities and NGOs. Engaging and maintaining clients in the case management process, developing service plans, and tools for effective case management and assessment were also covered, as was a strength-based approach.
to improving adherence to ART. Participants also learned about key features of managing substance users, prevention of burn-out among caregivers, and elements of end-of-life palliative care and communication with patients and their families.

**Uzbekistan**

**March 15-19**  
**Training-of-Trainers Course on HIV/AIDS Nursing and Palliative Care, Tashkent**

This 5-day training-of-trainers course was conducted for 19 nurses from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan through a project for the development of the Regional Central Asian Training Center on HIV/AIDS Care, Treatment, and Support for PLWHIV in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The course focused on building teaching skills in addition to training on HIV/AIDS nursing care, the basics of HIV-infection, challenges in HIV care, improvement of adherence to ART, universal precautions in the workplace, and post-exposure prophylaxis. Two days of the training focused on specific issues of HIV/AIDS palliative care in adults and children, pain assessment and relief, symptom treatment, nutrition, patient and family education, spiritual support, and prevention of burnout syndrome for caregivers. Faculty included experienced nurses from Russia, Ukraine, and the United States.

**April 26-30**  
**Training-of-Trainers Course on Advanced Adult ART and Management of Opportunistic Infections, Tashkent**

This 5-day training-of-trainers course was conducted for 23 infectious disease physicians and faculty working at medical institutions of postgraduate education in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan through a project for the development of the Regional Central Asian Training Center on HIV/AIDS Care, Treatment, and Support for PLWHIV in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The course focused on building teaching skills in addition to training on advanced issues in ART provision and the management of opportunistic infections. Faculty included international and local experts in HIV/AIDS treatment and care.

**May 31-June 4**  
**Training-of-Trainers Course on Advanced Pediatric ART and Management of Opportunistic Infections, Tashkent**

Conducted through a project for the development of the Regional Central Asian Training Center on HIV/AIDS Care, Treatment, and Support for PLWHIV in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, this 5-day training-of-trainers course brought together 21 pediatricians and infectious disease physicians Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan to learn about key issues in the provision of ART and the management of opportunistic infections in pediatric patients. In addition to the clinical subject matter, the faculty of international and local experts in pediatric HIV/AIDS treatment and care also focused on building the teaching skills of participants.

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.