According to WHO Europe, the former Soviet Union is a region of high HIV prevalence, with the highest rates found in the countries of the Central Asia. The region includes Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan. The countries in this region are scaling up their response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, with a particular focus on preventing vertical transmission of HIV from mother to child (PMTCT). In 2003, the Odessa Oblast Hospital, in Ukraine, established a comprehensive PMTCT program, which has since been successful in reducing mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

The Odessa-Oblast Hospital (SOBU) is a regional hospital located in the Odessa Oblast, Ukraine. It is one of the largest hospitals in the region and serves a population of over 1.1 million people. The hospital provides a wide range of services, including obstetric and gynecological care, pediatrics, and general medicine.

The Odessa-Oblast Hospital (SOBU) established a comprehensive PMTCT program in 2003. The program was developed in partnership with the American International Health Alliance (AIHA), a non-profit organization that works to improve health care delivery in low-resource settings. The Odessa-Oblast Hospital (SOBU) was one of the first hospitals in Ukraine to implement a comprehensive PMTCT program, and it has since become a model for other hospitals in the region.

The PMTCT program at the Odessa-Oblast Hospital (SOBU) includes a range of activities, including:

- Training of healthcare providers in best practices for PMTCT, including antiretroviral therapy (ART) and other interventions.
- Implementation of a case-management monitoring system that allows providers to track patient progress and outcomes.
- Coordination with other organizations (such as UNAIDS, UNICEF, and MSF) to provide technical assistance and support.
- Collection of baseline information and project results, which is used to document and report on progress.

The Odessa-Oblast Hospital (SOBU) has made significant progress in reducing mother-to-child transmission of HIV in the Odessa Oblast. In particular, the hospital has reduced the rate of vertical transmission from 10% to 5%, and has achieved a sustained reduction in HIV transmission since 2004.

The Odessa-Oblast Hospital (SOBU) has been recognized as a model for other hospitals in Ukraine and throughout the region. The hospital has received numerous awards and recognition for its work in PMTCT, including the President’s Award for Excellence in HIV/AIDS Care.

The Odessa-Oblast Hospital (SOBU) has been successful in implementing a comprehensive PMTCT program because it has been able to work closely with partners from the local, national, and international levels to develop and implement effective interventions. The hospital has also been able to use data and evidence to inform decision-making and improve program outcomes.

In conclusion, the Odessa-Oblast Hospital (SOBU) has demonstrated that it is possible to reduce mother-to-child transmission of HIV through a comprehensive PMTCT program. Other hospitals in Ukraine and throughout the region can learn from the Odessa-Oblast Hospital (SOBU) and use their model to develop successful PMTCT programs in their own settings.