

# Knowledge Hub Newswire

The Regional Knowledge Hub for the Care and Treatment of HIV/AIDS in Eurasia  
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### Snapshot

*These statistics reflect the Regional Knowledge Hub's activities from its inception in March 2004 through November 2008*

- Knowledge Hub courses held: **199**
- Healthcare professionals trained: **4833**
  - Russia: **2149**
  - Ukraine: **2085**
  - Belarus: **137**
  - Uzbekistan: **121**
  - Kazakhstan: **77**
  - Kyrgyzstan: **63**
  - Moldova: **62**
  - Tajikistan: **56**
  - Azerbaijan: **54**
  - 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  
December 2008 - June 2009*

## UKRAINE

**December 8-12, 2008**

**December 15-19, 2008**

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

These two trainings will complete 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. The target audience for this course is multidisciplinary teams consisting of infection disease doctor, TB doctor, narcologist and social worker. During the training they will be introduced into peculiarities of care and treatment, including antiretroviral (ART) and TB treatment, for patients with opioid dependence and on substitution therapy. The faculty will also discuss integration of services and team approach.

**February 2-6, 2009**

**Advanced ART for Adults and OI Management, Kiev**

This training will be organized for physicians, nurses, and social workers from Moldova who already

received basic ART training. The agenda will include 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.

## **RUSSIA**

**December 15-19**

### **Advanced Adult ART Training, Orenburg**

This training will be conducted in Orenburg for infectious disease specialists 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 curriculum will address ART regimens and adherence to treatment, drug resistance and drug interaction issues, ARV's side effects, ART regimen changes as well as diagnostics and management of OIs.

**February 16-20 (TBD)**

### **Advanced Adult ART Training, St. Petersburg**

This training will be conducted in St-Petersburg for infectious disease specialists 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 curriculum will address ART regimens and adherence to treatment, drug resistance and drug interaction issues, ARV's side effects, ART regimen changes as well as diagnostics and management of OIs.

**March 16-18 (TBD)**

### **Palliative care nursing training St. Petersburg**

Three-day training on Palliative Care for PLWH will be provided for 18-20 nurses that work with infectious disease doctors on the district level in St. Petersburg. AIHA plans to invite US partners to teach the course together with their Russian colleagues.

**April (a week of 6-10, TBD)**

### **HIV/TB training in St. Petersburg**

AIHA will conduct two-day training for TB specialists from St. Petersburg TB dispensaries to focus on early diagnostics and treatment of HIV among TB patients, improved care for patients with co-infection and better collaboration between TB and HIV services as well as infection control and prevention in TB/HIV settings. Faculty from the St. Petersburg city TB Dispensary, TB hospital #2 and St. Petersburg city AIDS Center will teach the course.

**April (TBD)**

### **HIV/TB training in Orenburg**

AIHA will conduct three-day training for TB specialists from St. Petersburg TB dispensaries to focus on early diagnostics and treatment of HIV among TB patients, improved care for patients with co-infection and better collaboration between TB and HIV services as well as infection control and prevention in TB/HIV settings. Faculty from St. Petersburg, Orenburg Medical Academy and Orenburg Oblast TB Dispensary will teach the course.

**April (June TBD)**

### **Workshop on Faith Based Palliative Care for PLHIV, St. Petersburg, TCS Program**

A two day workshop will be organized by the Charitable Fund *Dyaconia* in St. Petersburg with the focus on the main concepts of palliative care for PLHIV for the Russian Orthodox clergy from St-Petersburg and Leningradskaya Oblast.

**June (TBD)**

### **Training on adherence to ART, St. Petersburg**

Through the clinical sites of ATEC St. Petersburg, AIHA will conduct the second training on adherence to ART. About 20 nurses will be trained in improving adherence of patients to antiretroviral therapy (ART), in proper adherence counseling and monitoring and in strengthening the role of care providers in patient

adherence. Faculty from the City AIDS Center in St. Petersburg and St. Petersburg Pavlov Medical Academy will co-teach the pilot course.

### *Knowledge Hub in Review*

*These events were hosted by the Knowledge Hub or affiliated centers from September to November 2008*

#### **TRAININGS:**

##### **UKRAINE**

**September 8–12, 2008**

**October 13–17, 2008**

**October 20–24, 2008**

**November 17–21, 2008**

##### **Treatment of TB/HIV Co-infection for IDUs on ST, Kyiv**

These trainings started a series of Tuberculosis/HIV/Substitution Therapy (TB/HIV/ST) co-infection for injecting drug users (IDUs) training courses funded by the All-Ukrainian Network of PLWH. Multidisciplinary teams consisting of infection disease doctor, TB doctor, narcologist and social worker were introduced into peculiarities of care and treatment, including antiretroviral (ART) and TB treatment for patients with opioid dependence and on substitution therapy. They have also learned about integration of services and team approach.



**September 15–19, 2008**

##### **Advanced ART for Adults, Kyiv**

The third and final training course was held for multidisciplinary teams that should be involved in roll out of access to ART starting January 2009. Among other topics, the group discussed in depth details of delayed adverse ART reactions, treatment of extrapulmonary TB and combined antiretroviral (ARV) and hepatitis B/C therapy with pegylated interferon and ribavirin.



##### **RUSSIA**

**September 16-18**

##### **Training on adherence to ART, St. Petersburg**

Through the clinical sites of the ATEC in St. Petersburg, AIHA piloted a new training on adherence to ART (regional curricula developed under the Knowledge Hub initiative and piloted in other NIS countries with the participation of faculty from the ATEC in St. Petersburg). The training was also followed up on US and Russian partner initiatives in FY07 to strengthen adherence to ART strategies in St. Petersburg. Karina Denvers, the director of AIDS educational and training center, Yale School of Nursing and faculty from the St. Petersburg AIDS Center and ATEC/MAPS co-taught the pilot course. A total of 24 physicians, nurses, psychologists and social workers were trained.

**October 13-17**

##### **Advanced Pediatric ART, St. Petersburg, Ust-Izhora.**

Pediatric teams from AIHA sites attended five-day training on pediatric ART and treatment of opportunistic infections. It was an advanced course for care-teams that have previously attended the introductory course on pediatric ART. The curricula addressed ART regimens and adherence to treatment in children, specifics of OI treatment, co-morbidity management in HIV pediatric patients, advanced issues for nursing and social care for children with HIV. The course consisted of lectures,

clinical sessions and practical exercises for physicians. A total of 19 specialists from Orenburg Oblast, Samara, Togliatti and also UNICEF delegated participants from Irkutsk & Altai were trained.

## **CENTRAL ASIA**

**September 8–12, 2008**

### **Advanced ART with Training-of-Trainers (ToT) Component, Samarkand**

In collaboration with Central Asia AIDS Control Project (CAAP), Knowledge Hub provided this final training course for specialists from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan as part of development of Regional Training Center on PLWH Care and Treatment in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The training was conducted by Knowledge Hub faculty from the USA and Ukraine.

**November 17–21, 2008**

### **Advanced ART and Management of Opportunistic Infections with ToT Component**

The training took place at the St-Petersburg City AIDS Center and was funded by the Central Asian AIDS Control Project (World Bank) and Strategic Health Partnership Component (USAID). This was an advanced course for physicians that had previously attended the introductory course and on-site mentoring. The faculty consisted of Professor Goebel (Germany) and national trainers - Drs. Rakhmanova, Dr. Musatov and Dr. Stepanova. The participants were faculty from undergraduate and postgraduate medical institutes from Central Asia. A total of 19 specialists were trained.



## **TAJIKISTAN**

**September 1–5, 2008**

### **ToT training for social workers working in the field of HIV/AIDS, Dushanbe**

Two case managers from Ukraine introduced a group of Tajik social workers into basics of HIV infection, ARV treatment, adherence to antiretroviral medications. The trainees learned and practice different teaching methods: lectures, role plays, case discussions, small group discussions, and brain storming. Separate sessions were dedicated to teaching adults approaches and skills.

For more information on this section please visit

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

- Interactive education module (available only in Russian) *HAART and Opportunistic Infections* has been posted online. Produced by AIHA together with Internet project MedMir. The test is based on summaries of clinical study reports published in the top world medical journals programs.  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/ppp/index.php?id=152>
- Interactive education module (available only in Russian) *Pediatric ART and HIV* has been posted online. Produced by AIHA together with Internet project MedMir. The test is base on summaries of clinical study reports published in the top world medical journals programs.  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/ppp/index.php?id=150>
- *One-time a day HAART Schemes*, developed by A.V. Kravchenko (In Russian only)  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/aids/health/resources/99778>
- *Chronic Hepatitis C Therapy in HIV Patients*, developed by A.V. Kravchenko (In Russian only)  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/aids/health/resources/99779>
  
- 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
  - ✓ Increased Resilience to the Development of Drug Resistance with Modern Boosted Protease Inhibitor–Based Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99825>
  - ✓ High-dose amphotericin B with flucytosine for the treatment of cryptococca meningitis in HIV-infected patients: a randomized trial  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99826>
  - ✓ Predictors of Renal Outcome in HIV-Associated Nephropathy  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99827>
  - ✓ Changes in the Risk of Death After HIV Seroconversion Compared With Mortality in the General Population  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99828>
  - ✓ New heterosexually transmitted HIV infections in married or cohabiting couples in urban Zambia and Rwanda: an analysis of survey and clinical data  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99829>
  - ✓ Predictors of Renal Outcome in HIV-Associated Nephropathy  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99830>
  - ✓ Lipid and Glucose Alterations in HIV-Infected Children Beginning or Changing Antiretroviral Therapy  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99831>
  - ✓ Outcomes of Nevirapine- and Efavirenz-Based Antiretroviral Therapy When Coadministered With Rifampicin-Based Antitubercular Therapy  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99832>

- ✓ Role of co-trimoxazole prophylaxis in reducing mortality in HIV infected adults being treated for tuberculosis: randomised clinical trial  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99873>
- ✓ A Phase 2, Open-Label Study of the Safety and Efficacy of Intravenous Anidulafungin as a Treatment for Azole-Refractory Mucosal Candidiasis  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99874>
- ✓ HIV Care and the Incidence of Acute Renal Failure  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99875>
- ✓ Raltegravir with Optimized Background Therapy for Resistant HIV-1 Infection  
<http://www.eurasiahealth.org/eng/aids/health/resources/99876>

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.