

KEY FACTS ON HIV EPIDEMIC IN UKRAINE AND PROGRESS IN 2011

(pop. 45 782 592)

By the end of 2011, Ukrainian authorities had reported a cumulative total of 170 444 HIV cases to the WHO Regional Office for Europe and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC); 27 485 developed AIDS, 8 898 of whom died. For the year 2011, 17 336 HIV cases, 4 115 AIDS cases, and 634 deaths among AIDS cases were reported. The rate of newly diagnosed HIV infections in 2011 was 38 per 100 000 population, which is one of the highest rates in the region. 55% of new HIV cases in 2011 were male.

Of the newly reported cases with information about transmission mode in 2011 (99%), 59.8% were infected through heterosexual contact, 38.4% through injecting drug use, 0.8% through sex between men and 1.0% through mother-to-child transmission. The percentage of people who inject drugs among new HIV cases with a known route of transmission has decreased significantly (from 84% in 1997 to 38.4% in 2011). In 2009 second generation surveillance was used for the first time to study HIV prevalence among inmates. Results show that in 2009 HIV prevalence among inmates was 15% (13% – 17%). The number of cases reported as heterosexually transmitted is increasing year by year and is currently the predominant transmission mode. High rates of HIV prevalence among pregnant women signal further rapid development of the epidemic among the general population.

In total, 1 115 mother-to-child transmission cases have been reported in Ukraine, including 169 in 2011.

Taking undiagnosed infections into account, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the WHO estimate that 230 000 (180 000 – 310 000) people were living with HIV in Ukraine at the end of 2011 and that 22 000 people died from AIDS-related causes during 2011.

In Ukraine, HIV testing is offered free of charge and 3 247 002 people were reported to be tested for HIV in 2010. As of 2010, partner notification was mandatory, but not anonymous.

Tuberculosis continues to be the most widespread AIDS-related disease in Ukraine; it was diagnosed in 62.5% of new AIDS cases in 2011.

At the end of 2010, 110 401 people living with HIV were enrolled in medical HIV care in Ukraine. In 2003, only 37 persons were receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART); as of December 2010, this number had increased to 22 697 individuals being treated at 365 ART providing facilities (53% were male). The estimated ART coverage based on 2010 WHO guidelines was 13% (11%-16%).

As of 1 January 2012, there were 1 667 sites of needle and syringe exchange programmes (NSEP) in Ukraine (including pharmacies, where it is possible to receive needles and syringes free of charge), which operated in 27 regions. The average number of syringes distributed per injecting drug user was reported to be 75.3 in 2011.

Sources:

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