

# CDC in Ukraine



The Center for Global Health and Prevention (CDC) has been collaborating with the Ukrainian Ministry of Health (MoH) since August, 2010, when the Kiev Division of Global HIV/AIDS office opened. The main focus for the program is working with the MoH and other partners to improve the response to the Ukrainian HIV epidemic, the most severe in Europe.

## Tobacco Control

Smoking is epidemic in Eastern Europe, including Ukraine. Along with excessive alcohol consumption, smoking is the major contributor to premature death. In 2009 and 2010, CDC, along with the Ministry of Health and WHO, led the conduct and analysis of the first Global Adult Tobacco Survey in Ukraine, which found that 29 % of Ukrainian adults were currently smokers, including 50% of adult men and 11.3% of adult women. These data have helped the GOU develop a program of anti-smoking public health measures.

## Immunization

CDC works with the WHO Regional Office for Europe to provide immunization technical and laboratory assistance to the Ukrainian MoH. Although the European Region eliminated polio in 2002, there have been poliovirus importations that have led to outbreaks. To prevent an outbreak in Ukraine, CDC has provided assistance through the Stop the Transmission of Polio program and recommends continued implementation vaccination campaigns. CDC also supports Ukraine measles and rubella elimination activities by providing assistance with the analysis of epidemiologic data, surveillance reviews, and immunization program reviews. CDC, along with the WHO Regional Office for Europe, offered assistance to the MoH to respond to the current large-scale measles outbreak that includes over 5,000 cases as of March 2012. CDC will continue to provide technical assistance to ensure Ukraine remains polio-free and to help achieve measles and rubella elimination and strengthen the routine immunization program.



## Staff

- CDC office (physical presence)
- 2 U.S. Assignees
- 3 Locally Employed



## At a Glance

- Population: 45,730,000
- Per capita income: \$6,180
- Life expectancy at birth women/men: 75/64 yrs
- Infant mortality rate: 9.1/1000 live births

Source: Population Reference Bureau World Population Data Sheet, 2011



## Top 10 Causes of Death

1. Ischaemic heart disease 43%
2. Cerebrovascular disease 16%
3. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease 03%
4. Trachea, bronchus, lung cancers 02%
5. Self inflicted injuries 02%
6. Poisonings 02%
7. Stomach cancer 02%
8. Cirrhosis of the liver 02%
9. Colon and rectum cancers 02%
10. HIV/AIDS 02%

Source: WHO World Health Statistics 2006





## HIV/AIDS

Eastern Europe has had the highest increase in prevalence of any regional HIV epidemic and the epidemic in Ukraine is the most severe in the region with more than 300,000 persons living with HIV/AIDS. In collaboration with the international community, Ukraine's civil society and nongovernment organizations (NGOs) have developed a robust prevention response. In addition, the Government of Ukraine (GOU) has increased the provision of antiretroviral treatment (ART) services. The Ukrainian AIDS Center (UAC) has become the first GOU institution to join the NGOs as a Global Fund principal recipient. As a key partner agency for the U.S. President's Emergency Fund for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), CDC is building the capacity of GOU institutions by improving the information used for planning HIV control and treatment measures and improving the quality of laboratory testing. UAC staff are being trained to better fulfill their new responsibilities of collecting and using data to guide the epidemic response. CDC staff are working with GOU laboratory leadership to develop programs to improve laboratory testing and quality control guidelines. These programs are designed to expand the training of laboratory workers, improve training for the provision of ART, and improve coordination of HIV and tuberculosis services in two regions. Additional programs are being developed to make information more accessible to decision-makers that will inform policy decisions and improve prevention, care, and treatment services, including the safety of blood products.

## Impact in Ukraine

- Key laboratory leaders were trained in public health laboratory management.
- Ukrainian AIDS Center staff were given tools to take on responsibilities as new principal recipient of a Global Fund grant.
- Ukrainian health workers were trained on how to best use their data to get answers to pressing health issues.
- Data from a survey on smoking was used to pass tobacco control laws.

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