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Abstracts

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Clinical characteristic of HIV-infection and factors associated with staying in care among HIV-positive women who injected drugs in Ukraine

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Background: There is morbidity indices increase of HIV-infection and AIDS with the women-patients of reproductive and able-bodied age prevalence in Ukraine. The negative tendency of the recent years is the increase of sexual transmission significance and the growth of persons beyond the risk groups among the firstly diagnosed HIV cases. However, Ukraine's distribution epidemic is seen to be fueled by women who injected drugs and cases of HIV among this category making up nearly 60% of new HIV infections.

Materials & Methods: Retrospective observational study was conducted to analyze the clinical finding, immune state and factors associated with retention in care in 180 HIV-infected women who were observed in Poltava regional AIDS Center in 2016-2017. Potential risk factors associated with dropout were identified by using multivariate logistic regression models. Patients who missed two or more HIV clinic appointments over the past year or non-attendance for 6 months were considered as unengaged in care. SPSS version 22.0 was used for statistical analysis.

Results: Late HIV-infection diagnostics has been established to occur in the region. Opportunistic diseases have been diagnosed in 90 % of primary medical care recourse: tuberculosis (45,0%), fungal (47,8%), viral (30,0%), bacterial (29,4%) and parasitic infections (11,7%), which develop with CD-4 lymphocytes level > 350 cells/μl in 18,7 % of examined persons. The risk for discontinuing in care was significantly higher in women who inject drugs and those who diagnosed during the pregnancy (OR=1.6, 95% CI 1.1- 1.8; OR=1.9, 95% CI 1.5-2.3). Retention in care among women who inject drugs was best predicted by involving patients in opioid replacement therapy (OR=1.1, 95% CI 1.0- 1.1), social support (OR=1.4, 95%CI 1.0- 2.1) and evidence of severe

opportunistic infections including tuberculosis (OR=1.2, 95% CI 1.1- 2.8), herpes zoster (OR=0.5, 95% CI 0.3- 0.8).

Conclusions: The main factors associated with staying in care among HIV-positive women in Ukraine were good access to opioid replacement therapy, social support, appearance of HIV clinical complications including tuberculosis and herpes zoster.