Integrated TB/HIV project for drug users in Kazakhstan

Accelerating the implementation of collaborative TB/HIV activities in the WHO European Region

16-17 July, Vienna, Austria
Preconditions

- High TB rate
- Increasing number of MDR cases
- Increasing number of HIV cases
- Concentrated epidemic - of IDUs infected HIV
• HIV significantly increases risk of active TB in patients with latent infection
• HIV significantly increases risk of TB re-infection
• TB is the main cause of death among HIV positive people
• In Kazakhstan – TB is diagnosed in 45.8% of HIV cases; 32% of deaths among HIV patients is associated with TB
Expected results

- Effective model of psychosocial assistance to patients with co-infection is set up
- TB prevention measures among PLWHA, key groups (IDU, SW)
Project focus:

– Awareness
– Early diagnosis
– Decrease default rate
Target group

- TB/HIV patients on post-hospital phase
- PLWH, IDU, SW
- Clients family members
- Communities
Needs assessment

• Limited access to health services
• Social disadaptation of patients
• Stigma and discrimination
• Lack of easily accessible and relevant information about risks of TB/HIV ways of transmission and prevention
Multi-disciplined team

- patient
- social worker
- lawyer
- psychologist

Assistance and TB therapy make difference only if done by team of specialists!
Member’s roles

Psychologist,

to support and monitor therapy adherence,

• psychosocial counseling of patients and his close relatives or friends

• intensive interactive and individual counseling

• facilitation of group discussions and support groups
Member’s roles

- **Social worker:**
  - Analyzing patients life style and his/her needs to ensure adherence to the treatment.
  - Working with patient’s families to ensure support
  - Counseling, support in diagnostics (x-ray, HIV test)
  - Social assistance in the form of food parcels, and hygienic kits
• **Member’s roles**

**Lawyer:**

– Advocating for the interests and rights of the patients, aimed to create favorable atmosphere, where the rights of our patients and their families are protected and encouraged

– Legal advice and guidance of patient.
Stigma and discrimination

– Client participation in planning and implementing campaigns targeting HIV and HIV related stigma.
– Raising awareness about forms, reasons and impact of stigmatization and discrimination among general population
– Conducting information campaigns on raising awareness and knowledge about HIV and TB
THANK YOU!