



**Implementing a priority national  
health care project  
in Russian Federation  
(HIV prevention and treatment)**

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*4 - 5 October 2006*

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# **HIV in Russian Federation**

**By 16.08.2006 the Russian Federal Research and Methodology Centre for AIDS Prevention and Control had registered:**

**HIV cases - 348,787,**

**children born to HIV-infected mothers – 14,988,**

**HIV diagnosis was confirmed in 925 children, other children proved to be non-infected or are monitored by health care providers.**

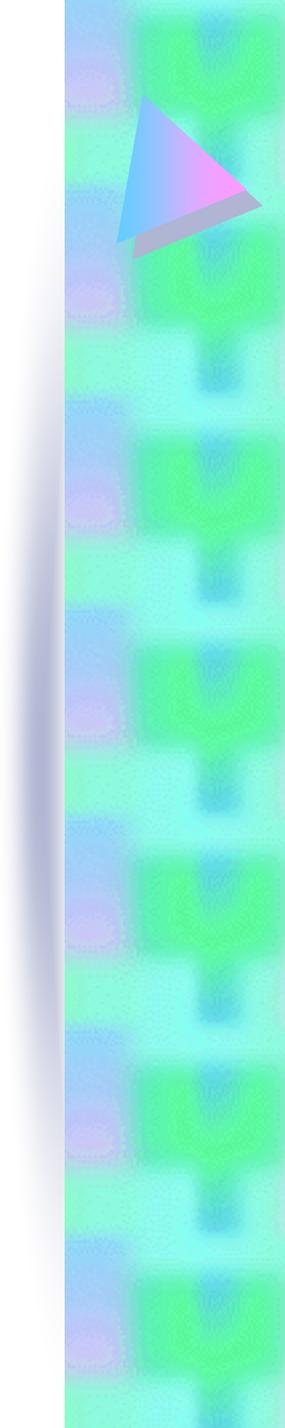
**AIDS cases diagnosed – 1,902,**

**including AIDS cases among children - 211**

**Died of AIDS – 1,354, including 139 children**

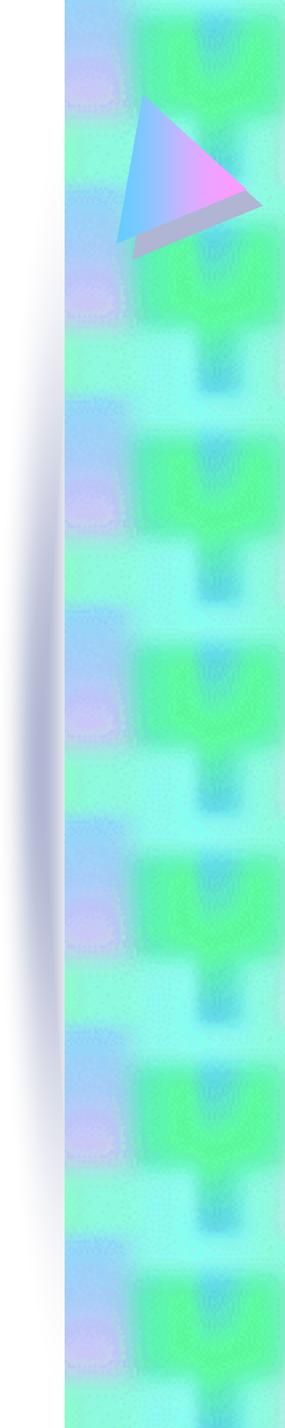
**People living with AIDS - 548, including 72 children**

**10,760 HIV-infected patients died for reasons not related to HIV.**



# **HIV in Russian Federation**

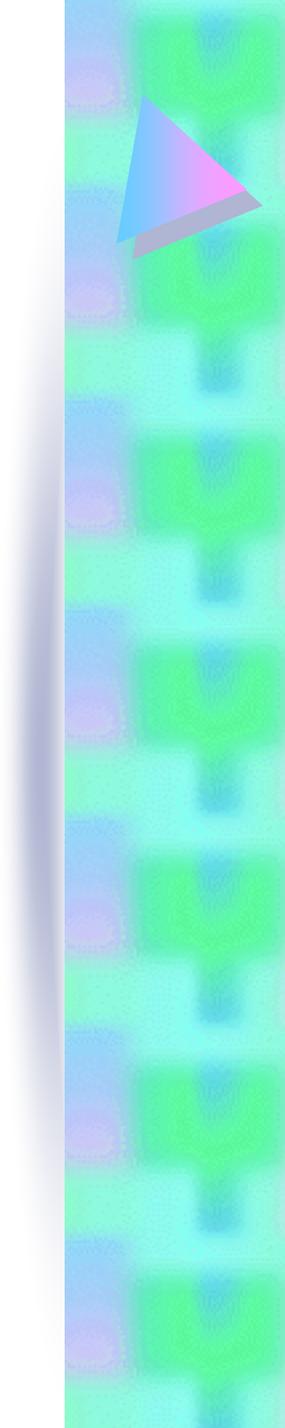
**38,997 new cases of HIV were registered in Russia in 2005. In the first 6 months of year 2006, 15,634 new HIV cases were identified, which is 18% less than at the same time last year. On the whole, the number of new cases has decreased in the past 5 years; however, it still remains very high.**



# **HIV in Russian Federation**

**HIV prevalence in RF increased by nearly two times from 2001 to 2005, thus totaling 231 per 100,000 among the whole population and 400,0 per 100,000 within the 15-49 age band (as of year 2005).**

**The estimated number among 15-49-year-olds was 1,050.0 per 100,000.**



# **HIV in Russian Federation**

**HIV is unevenly spread within the country. Around 60% of all registered cases are concentrated in 10 out of 89 RF areas: St Petersburg (30,115), Sverdlovsk District (28,496), Moscow District (27,978), Moscow (25,968), Irkutsk District (20,230), Chelyabinsk District (15,742), Orenburg District (14,764), Leningrad District (10,246), Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous District (9,861).**

**All these regions are urban or predominantly urban.**

# **HIV in Russian Federation**

**79% HIV patients were first found to be seropositive at the age of 15 to 30.**

**Most new cases of transmission are still through intravenous drug use (in 2005, 66.0% of the cases with known transmission routes). At the same time, between 2001 and 2005 the number of transmissions through unprotected heterosexual contacts grew from 6.0% to 30.0% nationwide (50.0% in 40 regions).**

**Women accounted for 70.0 – 75.0% of HIV patients infected through sexual contact.**

**35.0% HIV patients are in the penitentiary system.**



# **International initiatives targeted at combating the HIV epidemic and improving access to antiretroviral (ARV) therapy (2005 - 2006)**

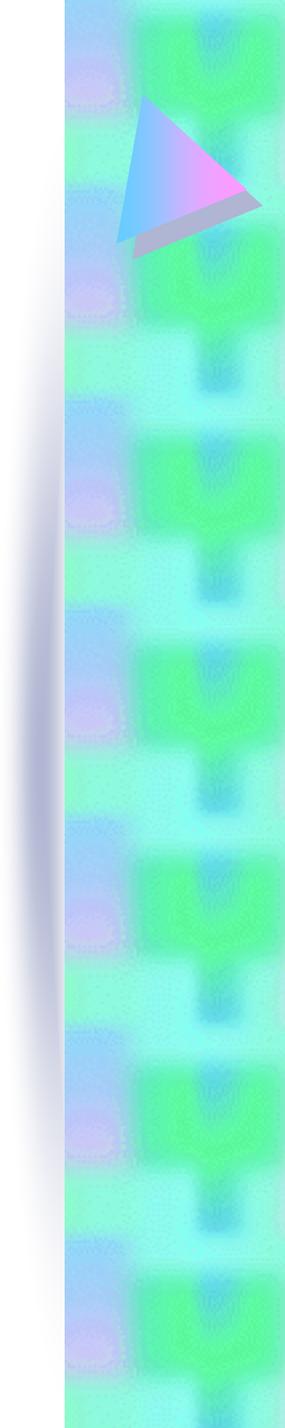
**Implementation of major international projects in Russia due to**

- World Bank loan - \$46.8 million;**
- Global Fund grants – Round 3 and 4 (\$88.0 million and \$120.0 million respectively).**

# **Russian initiatives targeted at improving access to antiretroviral (ARV) therapy (2005 - 2006)**

**Significant changes have taken place in the attitude to the HIV/AIDS problem at the presidential, governmental and parliamentary levels:**

- Security Council Session on HIV/AIDS (September 2005);**
- Parliamentary hearings in the RF State Duma (February 2006);**
- Session of the State Council Presidium (April 2006);**
- President Vladimir Putin referred to HIV as a strategic threat to Russia's social and economic growth;**
- Discussions within the framework of the G8 summit in Saint Petersburg (June 2006).**

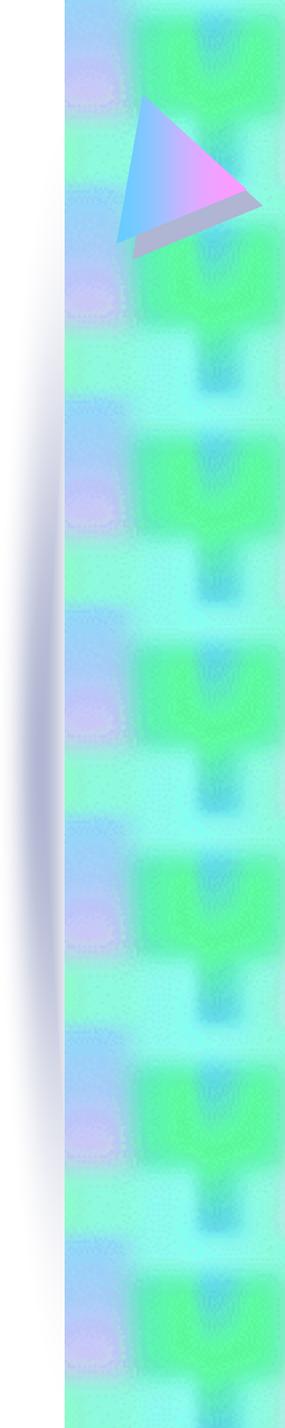


# **Russian initiatives targeted at improving access to antiretroviral (ARV) therapy (2005 - 2006)**

**The resolution on establishing the RF Governmental Council for HIV/AIDS Control Decision and elaborating the national strategy for combating HIV was made.**

**Issues of ART accessibility to all patients in need of it, including IDUs and prison inmates, are being discussed.**

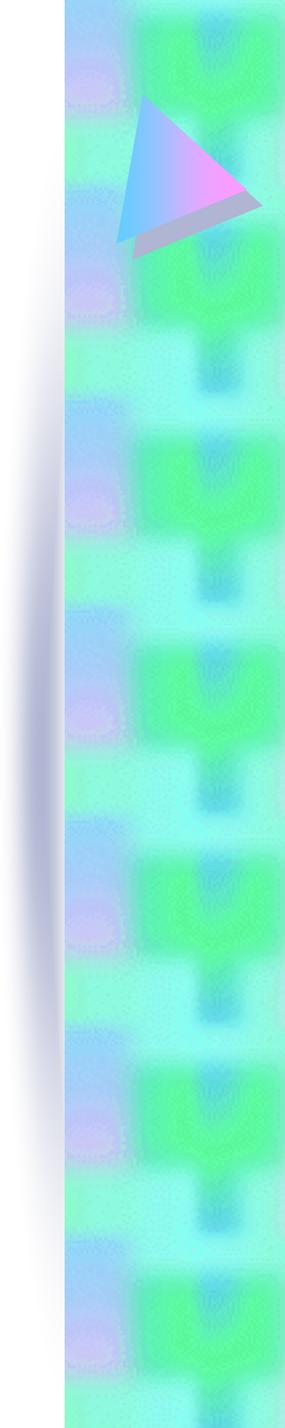
**It is planned to start treatment of 15,000 patients in 2006 and 30,000 patients in 2007.**



# **What has been done?**

## **(Federal level)**

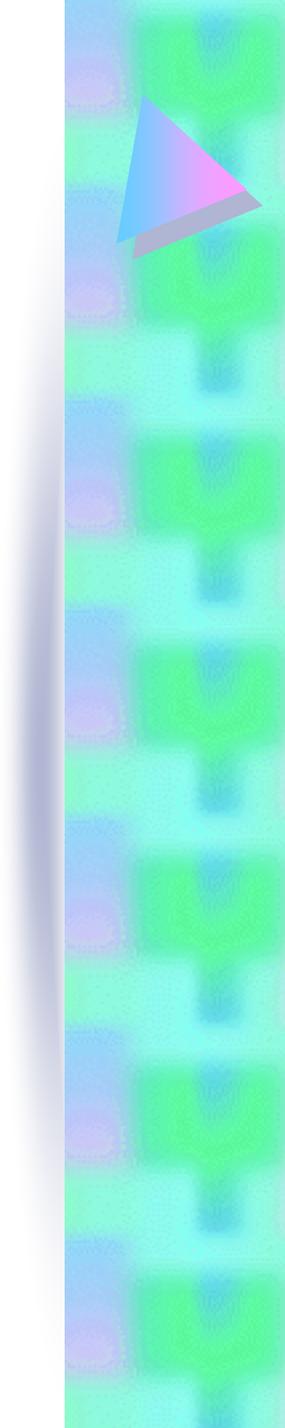
- 1. The national project “Health” has been developed and launched.**
- 2. Funding increased by 20 times: treatment –3.1 billion roubles in 2006 and 7.7 billion roubles in 2007; prevention - 200 million roubles in 2006 and 250 million roubles in 2007.**
- 3. Progress was made in talks with manufacturers on issues of price reductions for medicines.**
- 4. A checklist of medicines, equipment, expendables and diagnostic aids to be covered from the federal budget has been defined; procurement started.**
- 5. The first conference on HIV/AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia has taken place in Moscow.**



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## **(Federal level)**

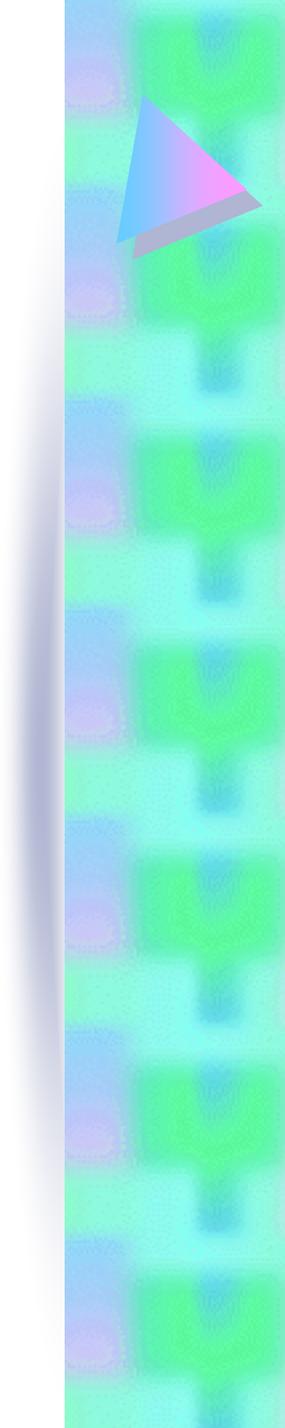
- 1. A set of decrees has been adopted regulating financial and administrative steps towards providing HIV patients with ART.**
- 2. Standards of health care provision have been developed for adults and children living with HIV.**
- 3. 38 regulatory and normative documents are being drafted Progress was made in talks with manufacturers on issues of HIV diagnosis, treatment and surveillance.**
- 4. Teams of educators have been prepared in all 7 regions for training in ART methods, palliative care, and achieving adherence to treatment.**



# **What has been done?**

## **(Regional level)**

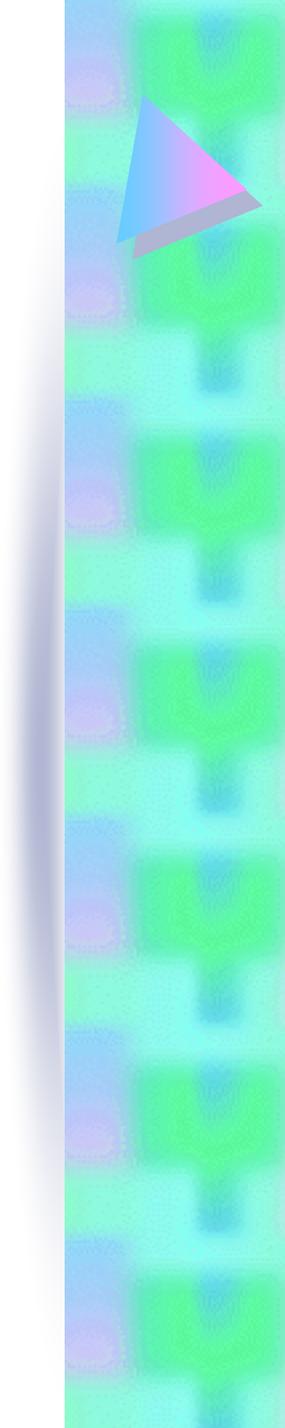
- 1. Coverage of HIV patients with medical follow-up has been increased from 50% to 70%.**
- 2. Multidisciplinary teams for managing ART have been created on the basis of AIDS Centres (the teams include ID specialists, nurses, social workers, peer counsellors). Narcologists are actively involved.**
- 3. The list of compulsory tests and criteria has been defined for putting patients on treatment programmes.**
- 4. Resources for organising ART in correctional institutions by AIDS Centres have been identified.**



# **Prevention as a governmental contract**

**An open tender was organised in 2006; for the first time in history, the following governmental contracts have been placed:**

- Lot 1. Activities targeted at educating and training population – 120 million roubles.**
- Lot 2. Activities aimed at HIV prevention in high-risk groups – 50 million roubles.**
- Lot 3. Preventing mother-to-child transmission – 20 million roubles.**
- Lot 4. Activities aimed at reducing stigma and increasing tolerance of people living with HIV/AIDS – 10 million roubles.**



# General problems

1. A large proportion of people living with HIV are IDUs. Adherence to treatment is therefore a major issue.
2. Harm reduction programmes as a means to reach out to IDU groups have no legal basis. Few state-run IDU rehabilitation centres.
3. Legal schemes for the outlay of federal funding on the municipal level are yet to be elaborated.
4. On the whole, mechanisms are being developed for improving access to ART and prevention.