

# Barents HIV/AIDS Programme

Progress Report  
Rovaniemi, 14 April 2016



NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, FINLAND



# To remind you that:

- New Barents HIV/AIDS Programme 2015 – 2019 is in place
- Programme in English and Russian is available at the BEAC website at: [https://www.barentsinfo.fi/beac/document\\_database/Sub-group-docs.aspx?id=HIV-AIDSProgramme](https://www.barentsinfo.fi/beac/document_database/Sub-group-docs.aspx?id=HIV-AIDSProgramme)
- Goal: *To secure HIV prevention and care, reduce the morbidity and mortality caused by HIV and to minimize the impact of HIV and AIDS on individuals and society as a whole within the Barents Region.*
- Raises the connection of alcohol and HIV (risk-taking, impact of alcohol on ARV effectiveness, impact of alcohol on adherence to treatment)
- Five priority areas for the region:
  - HIV prevention in key groups
  - HIV prevention in the general population including at workplace
  - Integrating alcohol and HIV prevention and control programmes and policies
  - Strengthening national coordination and capacity to respond HIV and AIDS
  - Strengthening international cooperation in HIV/AIDS prevention and control

# Recent meetings

## Barents HIV and TB seminar

- Venue: Consulate General of Finland, St. Petersburg
- Time: 23 November 2015
- Participants: Steering Committees of Barents HIV/AIDS Programme and Barents Tuberculosis Programme, invited experts and NGO representatives
- Objective: sharing best practices in the work against HIV and TB
- Back to back with separate meetings of the SCs: TB on 21 November, HIV on 24 November.
- Minutes of the Meeting in English and Russian are available in the archives of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council at:  
[https://www.barentsinfo.fi/beac/document\\_database/Sub-group-docs.aspx?id=HIV-AIDSProgramme](https://www.barentsinfo.fi/beac/document_database/Sub-group-docs.aspx?id=HIV-AIDSProgramme)

ивела меня на автобус. Я рассказал о своих  
чень хорошо, дали информацию, куда я могу  
о очень хорошо.  
друзьям даю информацию по поводу тестирования  
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ты и специалисты плохо информированы о  
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## Changes in the Steering Committee and next meeting

- New Chair – Prof. Nikolai Belyakov, Director of the Russian Northwest AIDS Centre
- New Coordinator – included into the tasks of the International Technical Advisors of the NDPHS Expert Group on HIV, TB&AI – Ms. Paula Tanhuanpää and Mr. Dmitry Titkov (THL, Finland)
- Co-Chair – Dr. Elena Popova, Director of the Archangelsk AIDS Centre
- Members from the Murmansk Region, Archangelsk Region, Republic of Karelia, Komi Republic, St-Petersburg, Norway, Finland
- Date and place of the next meeting is not decided yet, most likely in Russia, back to back with an event where HIV specialists from the Northwest Russia would attend
- Preferably in cooperation with the TB Programme
- Information at the Barents Secretariat's website ([beac.st](http://beac.st)) needs updating

# Overview of HIV situation

- **Russia 2015**

According to the Northwest District AIDS Centre, St. Petersburg, in 2015, 6,440 were diagnosed with HIV. Transmission routes in NW Russia in 2015 were: IDU – 25,4%, heterosexual contacts – 42.8%, men having sex with men – 3,2%, mother-to-child – 0,6%, not known – 28.0%. The biggest age group among newly infected was 30 to 40 years old. According to experts, the penetration of the **second HIV wave** to the Northwest Russia is rather a reality than a possibility

- **Finland 2015**

Totally 174 new cases, of whom 98 of foreign origin; 7 via drug injecting; 119 sex contacts (47 MSM); and 44 with the route not established. Males – 131, and females – 43. 24 died, of whom 6 from AIDS.

# Overview of HIV situation

- **Sweden 2015**

Quite stable situation during the last 5 years with about 450-470 reported cases per year. >80% of all cases are infected abroad (before immigration or during visits abroad) and the endemic cases (people infected in Sweden) are decreasing during the last 5 years, probably due to high coverage of ART (>90% of all diagnoses cases are on effective ART). HIV was the only infection on decline last year.

- **Norway 2015**

HIV rate dropped among the MSM. Home testing is planned for introduction nationwide by NGOs. The 90-90-90- target is likely already reached. The PrEP will be in place in 2016 and provided free of charge. Double infection TB and HIV rather rare – 8 cases in 2015. Patients with double infection are treated for both infections by same infectious disease department.

# Barents HIV/AIDS Programme

## Ongoing projects

### *Finnish-Russian (multilateral):*

Technical support to the transfer of coordination of the Barents HIV Programme in 2016 (through ITAs of the NDPHS EG on HIV, TB and AI)  
Coordination: National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL, Finland).  
Financier: Finland

### *Norwegian – Russian:*

“Cross action between regional AIDS Centre and RAKURS and Olafia Clinic, Oslo University Hospital”. Coordination: Norway. Financier: Norway.

- A two-day seminar in Oslo in September on updates related to research and European guidelines for HIV and STI

“Decrease of TB prevalence”, which includes component about HIV-infection. LHL Norway, Archangelsk, Komi, St-Petersburg and other Barents regions. Financed by Norway.



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## Norwegian – Russian projects

- Development and implementation of effective community-based HIV/AIDS prevention among MSM. Implementing party: Gay and Lesbian Health Norway. Area: Archangelsk. Financed by Norway.

## Some meetings of relevance in 2016

- Regional research and practical conference "Epidemiology of HIV and chronic viral hepatitis", 25 May, St-Petersburg (*региональная научно-практическая конференция «Эпидемиология ВИЧ и хронических вирусных гепатитов», 25 мая 2016 года в Санкт-Петербурге*)
- Conference "TB and HIV in the Arctic Region", 28-29 June in Archangelsk (*конференция "Туберкулез и ВИЧ инфекция в Арктике" 28-29 июня в г. Архангельске*)
- Vilnius International Summit on Communicable Diseases, 26 June -1 July 2016, <http://www.vilnius-summit.eu/>
- International Congress "HIV and immunosuppressions" 17-18 October 2016 (*Международный Конгресс «ВИЧ-инфекция и иммуносупрессии» (VIII Виноградовские чтения), 17-18 октября 2016 г. Санкт-Петербург*)

# Thank you for your attention!

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