

POSTER PRESENTATION

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# Epidemiological aspects of new HIV/AIDS diagnoses in south-east Romania

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## Introduction

The characteristic of HIV/AIDS Romanian epidemic is the high proportion of youth infected in 1988-1990, during their first year of life, when a nosocomial epidemiological accident took place. In Galati (South-East Romania) they were recorded 535 people with HIV/AIDS during 1990-2003 and 79.5% belonged to the pediatric nosocomial cohort. The mortality was 56.8% and half of the deaths were recorded during the first year after diagnosis. The aim of the study is to identify the changes in the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the last 10 years.

## Materials and methods

This retrospective study was based on epidemiological reports of the newly diagnosed HIV/AIDS patients. The descriptive statistics and comparative Kaplan-Meier graphs by transmission way were analyzed using XL-Stat Software.

## Results

During 2004-2013, 182 new patients have been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in Galati. Most patients are young people with the same age as the pediatric cohort of HIV/AIDS, but predominance of heterosexual transmission marks the change of the epidemic pattern. (table 1). Late presentation is less associated with sexual than other transmission ways ( $p=0.026$ ), but is most likely expected in males ( $p=0,003$ ), with symptomatic context ( $p<0,001$ ). Death rate is 15%. Retention in care was achieved in 95% of cases. Tuberculosis is still the leading indicator of AIDS (21.4%). Tuberculosis (12/26) and cancer disease (6/26) are the main causes of death.

## Conclusions

The life expectancy of HIV/AIDS patients has obviously improved in the last decade, but the yearly number of

**Table 1 Characteristics of new HIV/AIDS diagnosed patients in Galati**

Median diagnostic age:	23[1;78]
Sex: Male/ Female	98/84
Area: Urban/ Rural	87/95
Transmission:	
Perinatally	4.4%
Nozocomial	19.8%
Heterosexual	56%
MSM	1.6%
IVDU	3.8%
Unknown	14.3%
Context of HIV testing:	
HIV partner	17.6%
Pregnancy	11.5%
Perinatal exposure	3.6%
Drugs users	1.6%
Other screening programs	8.2%
Symptomatic:	51.2%
Clinical CDC-class: A/B/C	19/81/83
Immunological-class:1/2/3	27/52/103

new cases is constant, with a high rate of late presenters. The strategy of future screening programs should consider the trends of HIV/AIDS epidemic in our region.

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