

Student's Name

Instructor's Name

Course

Date

AIDS

Introduction

One of the major challenges of modern civilization is a global problem of human health and the preservation of human life. The reason is that there are powerful impacts on the environment in modern civilization that may lead to its complete restructuring and degradation, as well as endanger human existence as such. All components are important in the global health problem: physical completeness, sanity, peace of mind and social well-being. Violations of any of the components or even a simple imbalance between them lead to loss of health. Health is a state of physical, psycho-emotional and social well-being. Based on this definition, health means not only the virtual absence of symptoms of disease, but the whole process of human life in general. HIV/AIDS epidemic, which literally mows a significant portion of young people in some countries of Africa and causes considerable harm to the population of other regions of the world, is the most important long-term health problem of modern humanity. Being considered as global deadly infection that mankind cannot stop, AIDS has to be prevented through comprehensive emergency measures, including high moral principles education of young people, healthy lifestyle, and providing the necessary drugs in order to save the humanity from its disastrous consequences.

The Problem

AIDS is one of the biggest problems that are encountered by the world at the end of the 20th century. The first patient with AIDS was identified in 1981. HIV affects not only the health of individuals, but also society and the state as a whole. Different problems that happen in society as the result of the spread of HIV are related to everyone. In modern society, there are a number of social issues that are related to HIV. The majority of them come from a lack of information about the virus, discrimination against HIV-positive people in the community, and the lack of government support. Globally, 30 million people died already as a result of HIV disease.

AIDS is spreading hastily around the world, ignoring national borders. Until recently, it was believed that the main factors of spatial expansion of AIDS include sexual promiscuity, drug abuse, etc. However, new cases of infections are observed in people, who do not have relation to risk groups. Immorality and lack of spirituality have played a sinister role in the first phase of spreading of the disease. Today, there are other sources of disease. One of them is the medicine itself, its scale: cisterns of donated blood and dishonesty of staff (especially in underdeveloped countries). The second one is the general ignorance in personal hygiene and in matters of sexuality.

AIDS is a complex scientific problem. Even theoretical approaches to solving this problem such as purification of the genetic apparatus of cells from foreign (especially viral) information are still unknown. Without solving this problem, there could not be a complete victory over AIDS.

AIDS is a severe economic problem. The content and treatment of sick and infected people, development and production of diagnostic and therapeutic agents to conduct fundamental research are worth billions of dollars. The situation of protecting the rights of AIDS patients and

infected, their children, relatives and friends is also very difficult. It is easier said than done to solve psychosocial issues that have arisen in connection with the disease. AIDS is not only a problem of doctors and health professionals, but also scientists from many disciplines, politicians and economists, lawyers and sociologists.

The Effects

AIDS is one of those diseases, the news of which for many people is equivalent to the news of the death penalty. This is caused by a real danger and incurable HIV infection, as well as the psychological atmosphere that surrounds AIDS. Therefore, the consequences of HIV infection involve not only physical, but also mental health.

Physically, HIV infection can have a variety of consequences. With adequate treatment with modern antiviral drugs, a patient may live for many years with virtually no deterioration in quality of life, except the problems that are caused by the treatment: the need to take medication constantly, be examined by doctors, etc. If treatment is not carried out or is not enough, HIV-infection may pass in AIDS, which is much more likely to cause irreversible effects and may lead to death of a patient. The psychological trauma that a person receives from the news of the diagnosis of HIV is comparable to physical illness in its depth.

AIDS has implications in many areas of social and economic life. The results of its impact are felt by all of the participants of economic activities, households, enterprises and government. The consequences of the disease can be related to the fact that infectable people are mostly people, who are in the most demographically, socially and economically productive age, i.e. bearing greater responsibility for financial support and concern for others. The value of a failure of these people extends far beyond a family, appearing in the depletion of human resources sectors of the economy, lost productivity and savings that are needed for investment,

and demographic consequences. The duration of manifestations of the epidemic is determined by social, economic and cultural characteristics of the country or region, as well as groups that are involved in the epidemic process, timely and effective measures that are aimed at preventing the spread of HIV.

Solution

To reduce the marked social and economic consequences, there is a need of national awareness of the problem; national coordinated response, decisive leader and regions; favorable ethical and legal environment, responsible participation in solving the problems of HIV-infected and those, who are affected by the epidemic. Modern society has to understand the problems that are associated with AIDS, as timely planning and implementation of the necessary measures to combat HIV/AIDS can save resources and preserve human life, minimize the effort to overcome and mitigate the impact of the epidemic.

The fight against AIDS is greatly complicated by the lack of effective therapeutic drugs and inability to vaccinate. Therefore, it is crucial to provide health education, comprehensive and objective information to the general public about the urgency of the problem of AIDS and effective way to prevent infection. Common measures that should be taken to solve the problem of AIDS include political commitment at the highest level; close cooperation between all members of society; elimination of the silence and stigma surrounding HIV and AIDS; increase in resources that are devoted to the prevention and treatment of HIV; use of resources to develop effective approaches and tools; increase in male responsibility for the spread of infection and its treatment; increase in investments in programs for youth; acceleration of research that is aimed at finding a vaccine against AIDS.

Counterargument

Despite facts and statistics, there is a belief that AIDS is no-existent disease. It is assumed that modern medicine is a manufacturer of disease rather than health. In order to get people to buy medicines and medical services, physicians are constantly inventing new diseases. Today, the most fashionable diseases are infectious, because there are many types of viruses and bacteria. Thus, it is possible attribute them to the pathogen status of any particular disease. Thus, HIV/AIDS is the biggest deception on the market of modern medicine. In fact, AIDS (weakened immune system) is a symptom (not the disease), which can be influenced by many factors (traditional diseases, drugs, poor environmental conditions, etc.) and has nothing to do with virus. Moreover, there is another counterargument that is based on the assumption that it is impossible to fight with AIDS. Nevertheless, there are many facts that prove that AIDS is the epidemic that reaches global scale. Moreover, if a person is treated, the disease will become chronic. Without treatment, a person can live for 5-10 years, while a person, who receives proper treatment, can live longer and be free of HIV-related symptoms. The most important thing for people with HIV is timely access to physicians and diagnosis of infection.

Conclusion

The urgency of the problem of AIDS is determined by the fact that epidemic is not only a medical problem. Its spread affects all aspects of society and concerns all people. A look at the epidemic as a problem of anti-social people (prostitutes, homosexuals, drug addicts) is in the past. Currently, HIV infection has spread to all sections of the population, including the wealthy people, who are not referred to the risk groups. Unlike other diseases, AIDS is accompanied by a variety of social and psychological problems, stresses, internal crises, and difficulties in interpersonal relationships. AIDS epidemic undermines the national economy. It reduces the number of working people and, as a result, productivity. Myths about HIV/AIDS become

grounds for discrimination that is expressed in human rights violations and unprofessional actions of specialists. Despite considering AIDS as non-existent problem or a disease that cannot be stopped, a number of actions should be taken in order to avoid spreading of the epidemic. The education of the youth of high moral principles, providing healthy lifestyle and necessary drugs can help to save the humanity from its disastrous consequences.