

By activating phospholipases at the site of damage, Ca^{2+} increases the content of polyunsaturated fatty acids, which are the substrate of lipid peroxidation, and also reduces the activity of the antioxidant system. An increase in osmotic pressure in a cell with an excessive calcium load can lead to osmotic cell death. Ca^{2+} -dependent activation of endonucleases damages nuclear chromatin.

Conclusions. Calcium ions are important mediators of cell damage. Violation of the barrier function of cell membranes and an increase in their passive permeability for Na^+ , K^+ and Ca^{2+} ions is accompanied by a sharp increase in the content of Ca^{2+} in the cytoplasm and in the mitochondrial matrix, which is the most important factor in cell damage.

STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST HIV-INFECTED PEOPLE/AIDS PATIENTS IN UKRAINE

Karnaukh D. V.

Scientific supervisor: Myronchenko S. I.

National University of Pharmacy, Kharkiv, Ukraine

akord.denis@gmail.com

Introduction. Currently, the issues of studying HIV infection in our country have gone beyond purely medical aspects. The HIV epidemic is accompanied by an increase in general anxiety and the spread of justified and unjustified fears among various segments of the population.

Aim. The purpose of this review is to provide an overview of the factors contributing to stigma, discrimination and intolerance to HIV-infected people and AIDS patients in Ukraine.

Materials and methods. Data analysis of literature and Internet sources.

Results and discussion. An insignificant part of the Ukrainian society is tolerant towards HIV-infected people. The country has formed double standards in society's attitude to the HIV problem. On the one hand, the public is more or less informed about HIV infection, the risk of HIV infection and the main routes of its transmission. At the same time, a rather insignificant share of the population is willing to communicate personally and regularly stay with HIV-infected people. HIV stigma manifests itself in various forms of sociopsychological discrimination, namely: segregation, misunderstanding and interpersonal discrimination. The main intersectoral barriers to social integration of HIV-infected people are intolerant attitude of society, legal insecurity and disclosure of HIV status. The reason for the intolerant attitude of society towards HIV-infected people lies in the stigmatized perception of HIV-infected people, which is a consequence of such factors: low awareness, fear, false stereotypes and prejudice. All components of stigma are closely related, reinforcing, and contribute to the existence of many barriers to HIV-infected people, including in the areas of health care, education and work. Although Ukrainian legislation guarantees equal access for all citizens to services regardless of status, and also provides some additional rights for HIV-infected people, these people often find themselves in a situation of legal insecurity, since anti-discrimination and protective laws on HIV/AIDS are not yet fully implemented. Today in Ukraine one of the most effective ways of social integration of HIV-infected people is non-disclosure of their own status. HIV infection is seen as a defamatory sign that distinguishes a person from a socially determined norm.

Conclusions. Currently, Ukrainian society is somewhat intolerant of people living with HIV. Working to reduce stigma and discrimination is a crucial aspect of responding to the epidemic.