

Peculiarities of the dynamics of tuberculosis incidence in children in Ukraine

Ya.I. Dotsenko, I.Ye. Shekhter, O.Ye. Sivachenko

SI “National scientific center of phthysiology, pulmonology and allergology named after F.G. Yanovsky of the NAMS of Ukraine”, Kyiv, Ukraine

Conflict of interest: none

OBJECTIVE. To analyze the dynamics of the epidemiological situation with tuberculosis (TB) in children in Ukraine, taking into account the adverse effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and large-scale war.

MATERIALS AND METHODS. The epidemiological and statistical indicators of TB incidence in Ukraine were analyzed.

RESULTS. During 2022-2023, there was a negative trend in the incidence of TB – an increase in the incidence among all age groups. Among the children with TB, an accretion in the percentage of the most vulnerable contingents – children younger than 1 year old and adolescents (15-17 years old) – has been observed. Simultaneously there were a decrease in the number of children with small, limited forms of TB and an increase in the percentage of patients with bacterial excretion in all age groups.

CONCLUSIONS. During the previous 2 years, for obvious reasons, the situation with TB detection, treatment and follow-up has deteriorated significantly. During the war, all children in Ukraine belong to the high-risk group for infection with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and TB disease and need (at the earliest opportunity) a specific screening examination for TB.

KEY WORDS: tuberculosis, children, epidemiology, morbidity, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.
