Title: The effectiveness of MDR TB treatment in children and adolescents depending on its duration

Body: Target: was to study the effectiveness of treatment of TB with multiple drug resistance with drugs of second line depending on duration of intensive and continuation phases. Materials and methods: Group I – 50 patients treated by short regimens (intensive phase from 2 to 4 months, continuation phase from 12 to 16 months) up to adoption of standardized schemas and terms of treatments with DSL during 2001 to 2006. Group II – 50 children and adolescents treated with DSL according to terms of treatment recommended by WHO (intensive phase not lesser than 6 months and continuation phase not lesser than 18 months) during 2007 to 2008. Groups to be compared were virtually identical by gender and age. During 2001 to 2006 frequency of primary forms of drug resistant TB among children and adolescents constituted 37.5% while during 2007 to 2008 - 8.1% (P?0.05). Results: In the Group I treatment effectiveness constituted 84.0%, relapse emerged in 10.0% of patients of this group. Three adolescents (6.0%) died, one of them died diabetes mellitus, two others from progressing TB process and polyorganic insufficiency. Dynamic observation of children and adolescents showed that effective treatment was marked in 48 (96.0%). Out of 16 (32.0%) of patients with positive sputum smear outcome “cured” was stated in 11 (22.0%), outcome “treatment completed” in 32 (64.0%) patients without positive smears. Failure was marked in 2 (4.0%) children and adolescents, and further they were administrated the treatment with drugs of the third line. Thus, despite of more complicated TB structure in the Group II, durable regimen of chemotherapy led to cure MDR TB.