

## UP-TO-DATE TENDENCIES IN TUBERCULOSIS RESEARCH

**Y. I. Feshchenko**

*Abstract*

In 1993 WHO has first in its history accepted tuberculosis as a global threat. It declared that if world governments would not consider tuberculosis fight their first priority and provide proper funding, tuberculosis would cause a colossal harm to economics and population of the planet.

Until 2006 Ukraine could not take under control the epidemic of tuberculosis because of insufficient financial spending during 1990-2005 years for target purchase of antimycobacterial drugs. The patients received treatment irregularly, buying medicines at their own expense. Thus, during the period from 1990 till 2005 the morbidity of tuberculosis (all forms) increased by 2,64 times (from 31.8 to 84.1 per 100 000 population), mortality — by 2.88 times (from 8,8 to 25.3 per 100 000 population). This led to significant growth of chemoresistance. The worst situation was registered in South-East region of Ukraine and at penitentiary system institutions. For the last years the losses due to tuberculosis have reached 3.5 billions per year.

This fundamental article presents the epidemiology and pathogenesis of tuberculosis, the causes of unsatisfactory epidemic situation in Ukraine. A detailed characteristics of diagnostic methods, including molecular-biology tests, the methods of tuberculosis treatment and chemotherapy regimens, major prophylaxis approaches, and the prognosis for tuberculosis spread in the world and Ukraine are highlighted.

**Key words:** tuberculosis, epidemiology, biology of mycobacterium, pathogenesis, treatment, prophylaxis.

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*Yurii I. Feshchenko*

*Director of National Institute of phthisiology*

*and pulmonology named after F. G. Yanovskii*

*National Academy of medical sciences of Ukraine*

*Academician of NAMS of Ukraine, professor*

*03680, Kyiv, 10, M. Amosova str.*

*Tel.: 380 44 275 0402, fax: 380 44 275 2118, admin@ifp.kiev.ua*

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