

The Women's Wellness Center in Kiev represents a new kind of women's healthcare facility, one that provides primary healthcare to each patient throughout her entire lifetime. The WWC offers a full range of treatment and patient education services in affiliation with Maternity Hospital No. 6. These include early diagnosis, detection, and prevention of diseases, as well as the promotion of healthy lifestyle choices. One of the Center's priorities is its breast health program. Medical professionals involved in the cancer prevention program promote the importance



PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE KIEV WWC.

WWC staff man the Center's hotline, which is available to any woman in Kiev for counseling on issues related to family planning or domestic violence.

Врачи Киевского Центра здоровья женщин на «горячей» линии Центра, по которой каждая киевлянка может получить консультацию по проблемам планирования семьи и насилия в семье.

of early detection of breast disease to facilitate more efficient treatment among high-risk populations. The Center uses a flexible cost system for patients to help sustain its operation for years to come.

The Kiev WWC serves more than 4,000 women annually, providing a full range of services to each patient, including:

- family planning and reproductive health, such as training patients in using contraceptives and avoiding unwanted pregnancy;
- perinatal medical care and classes on prenatal health, birth preparation, breast feeding, postnatal contraception,

- and preparing fathers-to-be to help in the birthing process;
- prevention, detection, and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS;
- preventive examinations of the breasts and reproductive system, such as the administration of pap smears, clinical breast examinations, mammograms, referrals, and training in self-examination techniques;
- assistance in solving medical problems faced by menopausal women and the promotion of medical knowledge on this subject such as treatment and hormone-replacement therapy options;
- assistance in solving adolescent health problems and in providing sex education; and
- a telephone hotline, available to any woman in Kiev, that offers counseling on issues related to family planning and domestic violence.

For those diagnosed with breast or reproductive system cancer, the Center also has social and psychological counseling and maintenance therapy for patients after treatment. It serves walk-in patients and referrals from other doctors and Center staff.

The Kiev WWC is a model for how to properly run a comprehensive women's healthcare facility that combines patient education, early diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up. Our success has attracted the attention of the Ukrainian Ministry of Health and resulted in requests to set up similar centers in other districts of Kiev, namely in Vatutinsky and Zaliznychny.

In addition to being highly qualified professionals, the Center's medical staff work hard to create an atmosphere of goodwill and understanding. Each patient is given much individual attention and support, which is crucial to both her health and the treatment of any problems.

Finally, the Kiev WWC cooperates closely with the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department of the Kiev Medical University, the Oncology Research Institute, the Municipal Oncology Clinic, and the Municipal Health Center, as well as local community maternity clinics.

Kiev, Ukraine

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ABOUT THE KIEV WWC

Date opened: April 1999
AIHA partnership: Kiev/Philadelphia

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