Module 3: Evidence based approaches to health service provision to adolescents - Adolescent health and development with a particular focus on sexual and reproductive health - Assignment

<u>Anna Yermachenko</u> Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Perinatology, Donetsk National Medical University, Donetsk, Ukraine

Adolescent health service in Ukraine: how it works?

In the Ukraine there are 57 clinics friendly for youth which work in the 25 cities. Only young people who are living in regional centers have access to youth clinics. Moreover, these clinics don't have web-pages or online counseling facilities for adolescents from rural areas. All adolescents' health services are free of charge. According to the Ministry of Public Health directive, adolescent health services have to be provided by district pediatricians, family physicians and GPs. All youth clinics are under permanent UNICEF's patronage. All counselors were trained by UNICEF's trainers and adhere to the main principles which promote the WHO for adolescent friendly health services. These clinics were usually opened on the base of pediatrician departments or children's polyclinics, children's hospitals and antenatal clinics. On the one hand, this location facilitates to immediate and professional help and involvement of practitioners from different fields of medicine. On the other hand, this location creates a psychological barrier for adolescents and young people who don't want to consult a doctor in pediatric or gynecological facilities. This especially concerns male teenagers if the youth clinic is located in a maternity hospital.

As for other structures which should be involved in adolescent health services, their work in this direction is not yet sufficient.

Assignment documents

- WHO Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Development. Improving the quality and expanding the coverage of health services for adolescents. WHO's approach. Paper presented at: Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research; 2010 Sep 11; Geneva.
- 2. WHO Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Development. The evidence base for our approach to improve the quality and expand the coverage of health services for adolescents. Paper presented at: Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research; 2010 Sep 11; Geneva.