

Adolescent contraception. Problems and solutions in a major Industrial Region of Post communist Ukraine

Y.S. Parashchuk, I.A. Tuchkina

Kharkov State Medical University, Dept. Obst.& Gynecology, Kharkov, Ukraine

Objective: To investigate the level of awareness of female adolescents and efficiency of different methods of contraception.

Methods: In 2001 anonymous questionnaires have been distributed among 165 adolescents (high school students) aged 14-18 in Kharkov region.

The effectiveness of different methods of contraception has been considered. The comparative analysis with 1999 had been carried out.

Results: 42% of girls had sexual contacts (63% in 1999). The average age of sexual debut was 15 years 6 months. 26% used contraceptives (15% in 1999), mostly condoms. Comparative analysis with similar investigation performed in 1999 had been carried out. In comparison with 1999, the number of adolescents used OC certainly increased. At that, the OC of last generation prevailed (FEMODEN, LOGEST, MERSILON, NOVYNETTE). The number of adolescents consuming PHARMATEX increased also. The PHARMATEX application demonstrated not only its contraceptive effect, but also an STD prophylactic and curative nature.

Conclusion: Intensive activity of pediatric & adolescent gynecology services: consultations, discussions and lectures at high schools in the age group from 14 to 18 years with recommendations to use different contraceptive methods provided the decreasing of unplanned pregnancies quantity in this age.