

Center hosts Russian fellows for June OEP training program

During June, the Center hosted a distinguished group of healthcare professionals from Russia for a one-week Fellows Training Program in Occupational Exposure Prevention (*see photo, right*).

The fellows brought a wealth of experience from a range of fields: Yury Stoyka, M.D., is deputy director of surgery at the Pirogov National Medical-Surgical Center in Moscow (considered one of Russia's leading health institutions), and Marina Borisova, M.D., is chief physician in the Children's Diagnostic Unit at the same institution. Larisa Dementieva, M.D., is deputy director of the Russian Health Service's HIV/AIDS Surveillance Unit, and Alexey Bobrik, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., directs the Open Health Institute in Moscow, one of the country's most prominent non-profit public health organizations. Among other program areas, OHI has coordinated distribution of \$88.7 million in aid from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, targeted at HIV/AIDS prevention efforts in Russia. Recently, the OHI has focused on improving the safety of healthcare workers,



IHWSC Fellows in Occupational Exposure Prevention (l-r): Eugenia Guys (BD Europe); Yury Stoyka, M.D. (Pirogov National Medical Surgical Center, Moscow); Marina Borisova, M.D. (Children's Diagnostic Center, PNMSC); Elena Zaitseva (Open Health Institute, Moscow); Prof. Olga Mironenko (St. Petersburg Medical Academy for Continuing Education); Larisa A. Dementieva, M.D. (HIV/Hepatitis Surveillance Unit, RF Federal Health Service, Moscow); Alexey Bobrik, M.D. (Open Health Institute, Moscow) — with statue of Thomas Jefferson. Charlottesville, Virginia; June 2009.

particularly those who provide HIV/AIDS care, and reducing their risk of occupational infection. Dr. Bobrik commented that the training he received at IHWSC will help him strengthen OHI's occupational safety program and promote improved safety standards in Russia.

In addition to lectures by Center staff on occupational exposure prevention, the fellows learned about U.Va. hospital's infection control program from Eve Giannetta, RN, ICP, and about the structure of its purchasing system from Supply Chain Management administrator Jim Keathley and logistics director Bar-

bara Strain. The fellows also visited the hospital's neonatal intensive care and surgical units, among other areas. □



Regional activity

Europe: In June, European healthcare employee and employer trade organizations reached agreement on the use of safety devices; the EU is expected to pass safety needle legislation by the end of 2009. More information here:

OUR MISSION:

Setting a global standard for healthcare worker protection

Healthcare workers are a crucial resource in all countries. But in many places, they are at high risk of acquiring preventable, life-threatening occupational infections.

We believe healthcare workers everywhere should be provided with the basic protections that have been shown to prevent exposures and infections. We believe that these measures should be mandatory, and should be provided free of charge to workers:

- Hepatitis B vaccination for all healthcare workers.
- Elimination of unnecessary sharps.
- Availability of safety-engineered needles and sharp medical devices.
- Availability of basic barrier garments for blood intensive procedures.
- Post-exposure prophylaxis for all healthcare workers who sustain an occupational exposure to HIV.