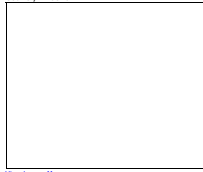


Submission Date
2018-12-30 06:04:26

Name of applicant
Gunta Lazdane

Job title
Director, Institute of Public Health Riga Stradins University

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A short CV of the applicant (or the principal investigator) should be provided here. (Max 250 words)

Gunta Lazdane is Prof of Reproductive Health in Riga Stradins University (RSU). The team of investigators consist of Dr Violeta Bule, a resident in obstetrics and gynaecology, Tatjana Pantejeva, Beate Sarta, Ieva Pitkevica, students of RSU, members of a scientific group in obstetrics and gynaecology. Prof G.Lazdane will be responsible for the project and will assist the team to ensure the quality of the project as well as further increase of the research capacity in reproductive health and contraception in Latvia. The results of the project will be presented in the ESC congress in 2020.

Submission date of this form
Sunday, December 30, 2018

Is the person responsible for the project different to the person named in box A
No

Title of the project
Contraception among HIV-positive women - knowledge, experience and factors that influence the choice

Please provide a comprehensive description of your project. The application will be assessed under the following headings: Background and hypothesis; Specific aims and objectives; a Needs Analysis with evidence of unmet need and Innovation; Approach and Methodology; ie numbers recruited, ethical approval, inclusion & exclusion criteria; Expected outcomes; Impact it will or may have in the field of contraception, sexual and reproductive health; Feasibility (1000 words)

Every year almost 400 new cases of HIV infection are registered in Latvia and Latvia had the highest rate of new HIV cases among the European Union countries in 2017. A significant proportion of the infected people in Latvia are reproductive age women (35% in 2017). Fertility of HIV-infected women is not significantly different from healthy women of childbearing age, and most of the HIV-infected women are sexually active. Nowadays, the availability of antiretroviral therapy (ART) and the prevention and treatment of opportunistic infections has significantly improved the life expectancy of HIV-infected patients, which has increased the need to improve the quality of life in this group. Reduction of vertical transmission with ART and increasing life expectancy have also affected the opportunities and desires of reproductive potential for HIV-infected patients. Some HIV-infected patients have a low socio-economic status, which correlates with lack of knowledge and support, including the choice of contraception. These women are at risk of unplanned pregnancies. Knowledge and access to effective methods of contraception play an important role in promoting sexual and reproductive health, achieving reproductive goals and preventing unintended pregnancies. The choice of contraception among women living with HIV who are aware of their serostatus have not been sufficiently studied in Latvia and in the neighboring countries. The latest survey of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) in Latvia has been carried out in 2011 and showed very low prevalence of effective contraception. The number of HIV-positive people was too low to analyse the data separately. National SRH survey in Latvia is planned for 2019 and will cover representative population from 15 to 64 years of age. However, the number of HIV positive women may be too low to have reliable results. This study analysing contraception in HIV positive women is linked with the global policies of Universal Health Coverage as well as the WHO/Europe Action Plan for SRH: Towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Europe - leaving no one behind. It is important to find out if HIV-positive women in Latvia receive adequate information on the possibilities of contraception, whether they have access to health services and whether they use the optimal methods of contraception according to their lifestyle and individual reproductive goals.

- Hypothesis:**
- 1) HIV positive women have insufficient knowledge about modern contraception methods,
 - 2) The main factors influencing contraceptive use are women education level, marital status, parity and cost of contraceptives,
 - 3) Few HIV positive women receive adequate counseling about appropriate contraception and family planning options,
 - 4) Opportunities of counseling regarding family planning and reproductive choices for women living with HIV are not used by health services providers in Latvia.

Aim:
To assess the knowledge of HIV-positive women living in Latvia on the use of different methods of contraception, identify facilitating factors and barriers in choosing contraception, assess the availability of family planning health care services, and study contraception habits before and after infection with HIV.

- Objectives:**
- 1) To collect literature data on the choice of contraception among HIV-positive women and compare them with data from the general population.
 - 2) To evaluate the knowledge of HIV positive women about different methods of contraception in Latvia.
 - 3) To find out the profile of HIV positive women living in Latvia who use and do not use contraception.
 - 4) To find out which contraceptive methods HIV-positive women in Latvia prefer and to evaluate the factors influencing the choice of methods of contraception in this group of women.

Characteristics of the study:
This is a cross-sectional, descriptive study, associated with a survey of knowledge, attitudes, and practices.
Participants: 200 heterosexual, HIV positive women (18-49 y.o.)
Research tools: anonymous questionnaire

The research protocol has been submitted for approval to the Ethics Committee of Riga Stradins University.

- Approach and Methodology:**
- a. Literature review (Latvian, English and Russian literature)
 - b. Data obtaining method: questionnaire creation and piloting
 - c. Questionnaire for target group (HIV positive women).
 - d. Data Collection with Microsoft Office Excel 2007
 - e. Statistical processing of data by SPSS Statistics
 - f. Quantitative data processing
 - f. Analysis of the following indicators:
 1. Knowledge of HIV-positive women about certain methods of contraception, sources of information
 2. Contraceptive methods used by HIV-positive women and factors affecting choice of contraception
 3. Access to health care services for HIV-positive women
 - g. Additionally, collect demographic data, HIV-related information, current partner, previous pregnancies and reproductive plans.

Inclusion criteria:
• 18-49 years old women living with HIV including those who are planning pregnancy or pregnant women

- Expected outcomes:**
- 1) Improved information about contraception and family planning targeting HIV positive people
 - 2) Improved access to healthcare services for HIV positive women.
 - 2) Impact acceptance of HIV positive patients among healthcare professionals
 - 3) Improved integration of family planning services into HIV positive patient care.

- Impact it will or may have in the field of contraception, sexual and reproductive health:**
- 1) Improve modern contraceptive method prevalence.
 - 2) Increase the use of effective contraceptives among HIV positive women,
 - 3) Decrease the number of unintended pregnancies in women living with HIV

Feasibility:
As the number of HIV-infected women in Latvia is still high, we will be able to obtain adequate amount of data about choices of contraceptive methods, availability and access to healthcare services.

Timeline: When will it start / finish? (Max 20 words)
Data will be obtained and statistically analysed from March 2019 till October 2019.

Where will it take place – country / town, establishment? (Max 20 words)
Riga, Latvia
Latvian Centre of Infectious Diseases <https://www.asimnica.lv/en/saturs/latvian-centre-infectious-diseases>
Non-governmental organization AGIHAS <http://ga@bas.lv/en/ga>

Sector in the area of contraception, sexual and reproductive health:
Family planning, contraception in women living with HIV

Is it a 'new' project?
Yes

Do you foresee any reasons (political, climatic, etc) why this project may be adversely affected? (Max 20 words)
If remuneration will not be available, the response rate may be too low to make any conclusions.

How much will this project cost?
7000 Euro

How much are you requesting from ESC?
4000 Euro

Are there other partners or organisations supporting this same project?
No

Have you already obtained any funding?
No

List each item required for this project	Amount requested from ESC	Amount requested from additional partner	Name of partner	Any Comments
Remuneration for participants of the survey	2000	0		Previous research projects in HIV positive population in Latvia confirm that the response rate is higher in case of remuneration in a form of a gift card
Printing of the questionnaire + envelopes	400	0		
Discussion of the results with medical professionals and NGO	300	0		
Publication	1000	0		
Miscellaneous	300	0		may be linked to transport expenses for the team members

Total amount requested from ESC
4000

Total amount requested from partner(s)
0

Add any additional information here
The total project cost has been calculated based on the time of a Professor, a resident and assistance of statistical department of RSU.

The ESC may not be in a position to fully fund all applications; you must indicate whether / how part funding may impact your project. (Max 100 words)
The most important is to obtain the 200 gift cards for 10 Euro each to carry out the survey and collect data

Who will oversee the budget & keep accounts? Provide name, title, contact number and email address

Gunta Lazdane, Professor, Reproductive Health, Director of the Institute of Public Health, Riga Stradins University, +37126886462, gunta.lazdane@rsu.lv

If you or your department has received funding from ESC for a project or course before, please give details of the date of funding, contact person and title of project or course.

No

I/We, as responsible agents for this project, agree to the following 10 points:

I/We agree that all monies will be spent appropriately	yes
I/We agree to work with the nominated Mentor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I/We agree to advise you at the earliest time if this project is delayed or cannot be completed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I/We agree to provide an interim report(s) part way through the project and a final report to the ESC within 6 months of the end of the project.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I/We agree to provide the ESC with an interim budget(s) and a detailed budget at the end of the project. NOTE funding will be awarded in stages and will be dependent on appropriate reporting.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I/We agree to provide receipts for monies spent if requested.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I/We agree that if we need to make any significant changes to the duration, contents or funding of the project after it has been awarded, I/we will advise the nominated mentor.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I/We agree that any unspent money will be returned to the ESC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I/We (the applicant) agree to acknowledge the ESC as a donor in any publications, submission of abstracts and oral communications resulting from this project. Please inform the ESC Office where and when the data is to be presented and/or published and note that ideally any manuscript should be sent to the ESC journal in the first instance.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I/We agree to remain fully paid up ESC member(s) until the final grant report is submitted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Full Name
Gunta Lazdane

Date