

INCIDENCE OF SYPHILIS AND GONORRHOEA IN CZECH REPUBLIC AND PRAGUE BETWEEN 1975 and 1994

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ABSTRACT

The epidemiologic situation concerning the infections with syphilis and gonorrhoea in the Czech Republic is shortly reviewed. The yearly incidence of gonorrhoea during the period of observation showed peaks and lows. In the first half of the 1950s there were 70-80 cases per 100 000, later on it dropped essentially to reach a new peak in the late 1960s with 120-140/100 000. During the following years it started to decrease again up to the late 1980s. Since 1990 a clear tendency of increase was noted reaching a new peak in 1992 with 72/100 000. After that a tendency of decline is being observed.

The incidence of syphilis showed a similar course, the highest number of cases being observed in 1951 (almost 12 000) Minor peaks were observed in the years 1972, 1980 and 1991.

KEY WORDS

syphilis, gonorrhoea, Czech Republic, incidence

INTRODUCTION

Data on gonorrhoea, syphilis, chancroid and lymphogranuloma venereum have been included into information systems of Czechoslovak Republic in 1949, in 1986 also data on HIV/AIDS infection. Information concerning trends in incidence of syphilis and gonorrhoea in our republic, with a more detail analysis of the situation within the last 15 years, is the subject of the paper.

DATA ON PATIENTS

In the first half of the 1950s 7,000 new cases of gonorrhoea were reported annually, the incidence of gonorrhoea ranging from 70 to 80 persons per 100 000 inhabitants. During the second half of the

50s the incidence decreased threefold, with the lowest number of 2903 cases in the year 1960. After this year dramatic increase in gonorrhoea incidence was reported with the peak in the late 60s of about 12000 - 14000 new cases annually (120 - 140/per 100 000). Since that time the incidence of gonorrhoea gradually decreased until the second half of the 80s, when the incidence leveled on the annual number of 6000 new cases. Such a development is similar to the situation in West European countries in the 80s.

In the year 1990 a new increase in incidence of gonorrhoea was noticed, in comparison with the previous year by 2,5 In the year 1991 the increase reached 12,7% and it continued even in the year 1992 (another 2,3%). In 1989 the incidence was 59.9, next year 62.4, in 1991 it was 70.7 and in 1992

