HIV in Finland

Aino Talonpoika, M.D.
Infectious disease unit
South-Carelia Central Hospital
Lappeenranta
Finland and HIV: General Information

- **338 424 km²** - of which **33 350 km²** is covered by lakes
- **5.4 million** inhabitants
- **3478** HIV-cases (2.8.2015, THL), **73%** male, **27%** female
- **Average 180** new cases/year
- **30-50%** from abroad
Where do Finnish people get infected?

- 175 persons, HIV infection acquired abroad
- 59% heterosexual, 34% MSM, 7% other/unknown
- 40 countries showing countries with 10 or more infections

Thailand, Russia, Estonia, Spain, Other

Courtesy of Mika Halavaara M.D. Infectious disease unit, Helsinki University Hospital
How are we succeeding with medications?

Min 4 months on medication, HIV-Nh < 50

2215/3478 = 64% of all our HIV-patients live in the Helsinki-Uusimaa-district

Courtesy of Pia Kivelä, M.D. Infectious disease unit, Helsinki University Hospital
• are HIV-infected people in Russia entitled to treatment?

• how do the Russian authorities relate to homosexual and/or HIV+ people?

• a Russian MSM-couple seeking asylum in Finland because of sexual discrimination and assault
  • one of them HIV+ (diagnosed in Finland)
  • teacher, annual mandatory HIV-testing in Russia
  • will lose his job if tests +

• a 27 year old Russian homosexual male
  • HIV+, diagnosed in Russia, CD4-count in the normal range
  • 3 months in the US with a visitor visa, on medication while staying there
  • returns to Russia, is refused medication
  • seeks asylum in Finland on these grounds
Thank you for your attention!