Health systems and HCV elimination
Overcoming challenges through a micro-elimination approach

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- Previously employed by international agencies: Global Fund, World Health Organization
Meeting two types of challenges

Biomedical

Public health

Hepatitis C

DAA breakthrough: 2013

Access
Coverage

ELIMINATION

Elimination is Daunting

Cost of implementing the WHO global health sector strategy on viral hepatitis, 2016–2030

Challenging

Costly

Complex
Micro-Elimination – A New Concept?

“When eating an elephant take one bite at a time”
- Creighton Abrams 1914-74 (US General)

Micro-Elimination in Other Infectious Disease

- Polio
  - Countries
  - Regions

- HIV
  - PMTCT
  - Fast-track cities
HCV (micro-) elimination in certain populations is feasible in the short-to-medium term

Decompensated cirrhotics
Veterans
Patients with haemophilia
Transplant patients
PWID, prisoners
HIV/HCV co-infected


Eliminate late presentation

Advantages of Micro-Elimination

- Realistic targets/goals
- Pragmatic
- Time to achievement is shorter
- Tailored strategy
- Cost can be predicted
- Prevention of re-infection in a target group
- Micro-elimination projects may generate a template in a small geographically-defined population which may then be used to model services for larger intervention programmes
- Micro-elimination could address ‘low-hanging fruit,’ which would encourage further public health efforts
Table 1. Target populations for micro-elimination of hepatitis C in X

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-group</th>
<th>Estimated or reported # of chronically HCV-infected people</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children (under age 15)</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coinfected with HIV</td>
<td>423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generational cohorts of high prevalence (born 1945–1965)</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haemodialysis patients</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haemophilia patients</td>
<td>No national data; 19 at one site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men who have sex with men</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migrants from high-prevalence countries</td>
<td>12,607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients with advanced liver disease</td>
<td>56,340 (0.57%) including (19.4%) F3 and (9.2%) F4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People who inject drugs</td>
<td>5,743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prisoners</td>
<td>1,352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transplant patients</td>
<td>No national data; 9 at one site</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Lazarus et al. Wipeout Hep. In press 2018

The continuum of viral hepatitis services and the retention cascade

The global cascade of care for chronic HCV infection in 2015


WHO Global Health Sector Strategy on Viral Hepatitis 2016–2021

28 May 2016: The first of its kind, WHO publishes a global strategy aiming for elimination of viral hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030

Global Health Sector Strategy

HCV targets at a glance

Incidence targets
- 30% reduction in new HCV infections by 2020
- 80% reduction in new HCV infections by 2030

Mortality targets
- 10% reduction in mortality by 2020
- 65% reduction in mortality by 2030

Harm reduction
- Increase in sterile needle and syringes provided per PWID/year from 20 in 2015 to:
  - 200 by 2020
  - 300 by 2030

Testing targets
- 90% of people aware of HCV infection by 2030

Treatment targets
- 80% of people treated by 2030


People-centred health systems

See: http://www.who.int/servicedeliverysafety/areas/people-centred-care/en/
A people-centred health system for hepatitis elimination

- Effective surveillance/monitoring of loss to follow up?
- Strategies for engaging eg key affected populations?
- Capacity to monitor disease progression?
- National strategy/plan incl stakeholder input eg patients, risk groups, clinicians?
- Workforce needed to achieve elimination?
- Budget for provision of testing & treatment?

Come on Canada…

9 countries are on track to reach the WHO elimination targets: Iceland, Qatar, Australia, Georgia, Japan, The Netherlands, Egypt, France and Germany

Canada is the first country to eliminate hepatitis C among …?

Multistakeholder effort and health system reforms leads to HCV elimination.
from micro-elimination in 2018 to HCV elimination as a public health threat in 2030.

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