

# EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND COMPLIANCE DATA FOR IV DRUG USERS FROM A HEPATOLOGY DEPARTMENT IN GREECE

Pliarchopoulou F<sup>1</sup>, Sidiropoulos O<sup>1</sup>, Kotsogianni C<sup>1</sup>, Boumpas D<sup>1</sup>, Chounta A<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Hepatology Unit, 4<sup>th</sup> Department of Internal Medicine, "ATTIKON" Hospital, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece

**Background:** IVDU remains a major means of transmission of viral Hepatitis and HIV. Epidemiological data for IVDU are scarce in Greece. We sought to provide insights based on local data concerning the origin, level of education, duration of use and the underlying liver disease as well as the compliance of IVDU to treatment and follow up.

**Methods:** 160 IVDU followed in the Hepatology Unit in a university hospital, were studied retrospectively. Demographic data, level of education, years of IV drug use, as well as underlying disease were collected from the medical records. Data were recorded from the first encounter of the patient with the facility until March 2017 or loss of follow-up.

## Results:

| 160 IVDU                 | 80% MALE  | 20% FEMALE    |               |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| UNDERLYING LIVER DISEASE | 75,6% HCV | 20,6% HCV-HIV | 3,75% HCV-HBV |
| GENOTYPE HCV             | 52% G3a   | 34,83% G1     |               |
| CIRRHOSIS                | 12,5% YES | 87,5% NO      |               |

| DEMOGRAPHIC DATA  |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 89,6% GREEKS      | 46,9% URBAN AREAS | 53% RURAL AREAS |
| EDUCATION         | 19,7% PRIMARY     | 37,3% SECONDARY |
| YEARS OF IVDU     | >10Y 66,2%        | <10Y 33,76%     |
| LOST TO FOLLOW UP | 77,55% >10Y IVDU  | 75% <10Y IVDU   |

**Conclusion:** Despite the widely acknowledged progress of the last decades in the prevention and management of liver disease in IVDU, viral hepatitis remains a major public health issue. The results from this study suggest that there is still a large percent of IVDU lost to follow up, despite the free medical access

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