

## HEPATITIS C CASCADE OF CARE (CoC) FOR PWID UNDER OPIATE SUBSTITUTION TREATMENT (OST) IN GREECE

**Authors:** Anagnostou O<sup>1</sup>, Kaliva A<sup>1</sup>, Micha K<sup>1</sup>, Tsirogianni E<sup>1</sup>, Petroulaki E<sup>1</sup>, Detsi I<sup>1</sup>, Kollitsida M<sup>1</sup>, Androulakis G<sup>1</sup>, Gargoulaki M<sup>1</sup>, Karagounis V<sup>1</sup>, Katsili A<sup>1</sup>, Kollia S<sup>1</sup>, Kotsalis A<sup>1</sup>, Stamatopoulos K<sup>1</sup>, Stavridou V<sup>1</sup>, Tanis C<sup>1</sup>, Tsekoura P<sup>1</sup>, Topalidou Stepin Y<sup>1</sup>, Tsantilas A<sup>1</sup>, Chalkiadakis M<sup>1</sup>, Drimousi A<sup>1</sup>, Papadopoulos N<sup>2</sup>

Greek Organisation Against Drugs (OKANA), Greece<sup>1</sup>  
Hepatologist, A' Internal Medicine Clinic, 417 NIMTS, Athens, Greece<sup>2</sup>

**Background:** Access to HCV treatment for PWID under OST is a core component of the elimination strategy. Accurate information about the actual situation in this setting is a crucial prerequisite for effective planning. Our aim is to describe the CoC in OST in Greece.

**Methods:** A retrospective analysis of OST data collected on March 2019 was conducted. A sample of 5,425 patients (86% male, mean age: 47.1 years, buprenorphine/methadone:66%/34%) in OST units of large(>200 patients:34%), medium(100-199 patients:34%) or small capacity(<99 patients:14%). The sample represents 67.7% of the total number of 8,013 patients under OST in Greece (Athens:78%, Thessaloniki:100%, other cities:31%).

**Results:** Anti HCV testing was available for 5,140/5,425(94.7%) subjects, AntiHCV(+) was observed in 3,647(67.2%). PCR testing result was available for 1,948/3647(53.4%) while 1,590(81.7%) individuals were found HCVRNA(+). Any antiviral therapy was recorded for 1,276/1590(80.3%) of HCVRNA(+) subjects, while 872(54.8%) received DAAs. Response results were available for 1,018/1276(79.8%) patients. SVR has been achieved in 706(69.3%) cases. Logistic regression analysis demonstrated that the probability of conducting PCR as well as of receiving therapy is lower in Thessaloniki (OR=0,24, 95%CI:0,19-0,31, p<0.001 and OR=0,22, 95%CI:0,14-0,34, p<0.001 respectively) and in other greek cities (OR=0,35, 95%CI:0,28-0,44 p<0.001 και OR=0,24, 95%CI:0,16-0,36, p<0.001 respectively) as compared to Athens. It is also lower in large and medium-capacity units as compared to smaller ones (OR=0,54, 95%CI:0,37-0,78, p=0,001 and OR=0,35, 95%CI:0,22-0,56, p<0.001 for PCR and OR=0,26, 95%CI:0,14-0,48, p<0.001 and OR=0,21, 95%CI:0,10-0,43, p<0.001 for treatment respectively). Finally the probability of conducting PCR was significantly higher at OST units staffed with a physician (OR=5.26, 95%CI:3.53-7.87 p<0.001).

**Conclusions:** The main gap in the HCV CoC for PWID under OST in Greece is recorded at the level of PCR conduct. Stepping up efforts to OST units in cities other than Athens as well as in OST units of larger capacity is essential in order to fulfill the HCV elimination target.

**Disclosure of interest:** Nothing to disclose.