

MIGRATION AND HEPATITIS: a screening challenge

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MIGRATION AND HEPATITIS

concern about migration and viral hepatitis:

- **pace of diagnosed HBV and HCV growing**
- **in EU most new cases linked to foreign-born**
- **UK HBV Found.- doubling of Hep B in 5 years**
- **50% from Africa, Asia, Russia, new EU states**
- **similar trends in other EU countries likely**

MIGRATION AND HEPATITIS

how big a migrant issue are we talking about:

- **officially almost 300 million worldwide**
- **in reality well over 1,000 million**
- **in EU as a whole over 10 million officially**
- **with “irregular” migrants over 20 million**
- **increasing number of “circular” migrants**

MIGRATION AND HEPATITIS

**people on
long term
contracts**

**people on
intending to
stay**

**people on
short term
contracts**

**who are
migrants?**

**asylum
seekers**

refugees

**irregular
migrants**

MIGRATION AND HEPATITIS

**people from
high ses
backgrounds**

**people from
low ses
backgrounds**

**people who
understand
health risks**

**who are
migrants?**

**people who
cannot be
easily
“reached”**

**people who
can be easily
“reached”**

**people who
do not
understand
health risks**

MIGRATION AND HEPATITIS

**people from
low hbv/hcv
backgrounds**

**people from
high hbv/hcv
backgrounds**

**who are
migrants?**

**people from
unknown
hbv/hcv
backgrounds**

**people from
intermediate
hbv/hcv
backgrounds**

SCREENING DILEMMA

people from
high prev.
countries?

people from
low prev.
countries?

people from
intermediate
prev.countries?

**who to
screen?**

no one?

people from
all countries?

SCREENING DILEMMA

**people on
long term
contracts?**

**people on
intending to
stay?**

**people on
short term
contracts?**

**who to
screen?**

**people with
high risk
behavior?**

**refugees and
asylum
seekers?**

**irregular
migrants?**

SCREENING DILEMMA

on arrival?

**before
departure?**

**when to
screen?**

**after arrival
and when?**

**how often
after arrival?**

SCREENING DILEMMA

**better risk
analysis**

**robust standardised
screening methods**

**evidence-
based timing**

**ethical screening and
treatment follow-up**