

CROATIA

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**VHPB BALKAN
MEETING**
*INTRODUCTION IN THE
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
AND INFECTIOUS
DISEASE SERVICE*



CROATIA

COUNTRY PROFILE

- Population **3,871,833** (Census 2021) ↓
- Gross national income per capita **19,103 €** (2021):
- Health spending per capita **1392 €** (7%)
- Life expectancy at birth, years : **77,8** (2021)

cca. 35 845 births (2020, HZJZ)
57 000 deaths (2020, HZJZ)

excess deaths over births
(negative natural increment)
>65 years: 23% ↑



CROATIA

HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE SERVICE

- The Ministry of Health holds the stewardship role in the health system and is the main regulatory body, responsible for health policy development, planning and evaluation, public health programmes, regulatory standards and training of health professionals.
- The Croatian Health Insurance Fund (CHIF) is the sole insurer and main purchaser of health services in the mandatory health insurance system. It plays a key role in contracting health services. Complementary health insurance, mainly to cover co-payments for services in the benefits package, is voluntary and purchased individually from either the CHIF or private insurers; over 60 % of the population has this additional insurance.
- State of Health in the EU · Croatia · Country Health Profile 2021

21 Counties



CROATIA

HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE SERVICE

- The Croatian Health Insurance Fund (CHIF) The CHIF provides mandatory health insurance coverage to the whole population. Dependent family members are covered through the contributions, while those who are not economically active, (such as pensioners and unemployed people) and unemployed groups are exempt from contributions and are covered through state budget contributions. .The benefits package is generous .The benefits package covering most types of preventive and curative health services. Copayments apply for the most of the services except for vulnerable groups
- Primary care doctors – such as general practitioners (GPs), paediatricians and gynaecologists – are usually patients' first point of contact with the health system, and act as gatekeepers to specialist and hospital care

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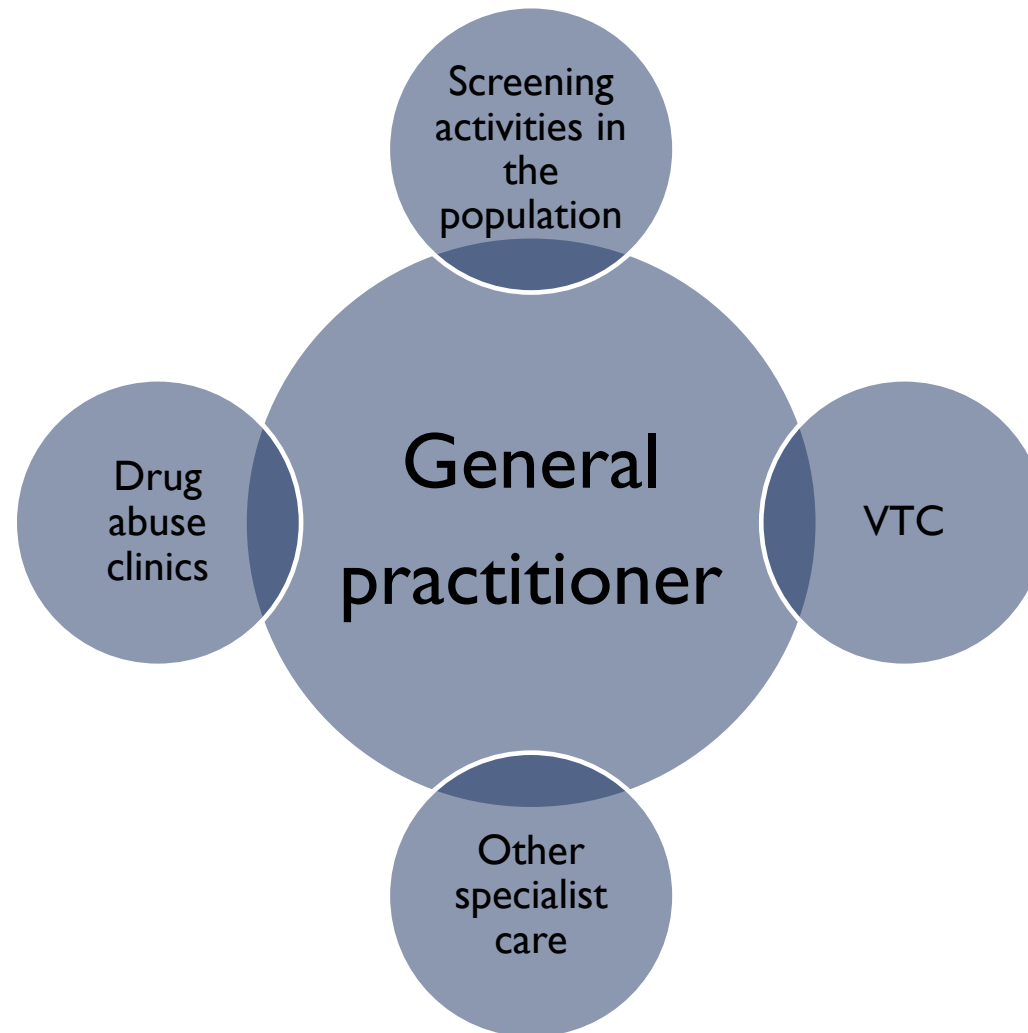


CROATIA

HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE SERVICE

- Infectious Disease service is organized within tertiary and secondary hospitals, mostly as independent departments in hospitals (18)
- There is a Central University Hospital of Infectious diseases in Zagreb (230 beds, ICU) which acts as a National referral Centre for ID, also Referral Centre for diagnostics and treatment of viral hepatitis is within Hospital
- In order to get the ID service a patient has to have a referral from GP, or goes through Emergency department

SCREENING AND LINKAGE TO CARE IN CROATIA



CROATIA: VIRAL HEPATITIS SERVICE

- All treatments and diagnostics for viral hepatitis 100% reimbursed by CHIF
- Viral hepatitis patients mostly treated by ID physicians (70 %) and hepatologists (30%)
- Patients receive antivirals at the hospitals

CROATIA

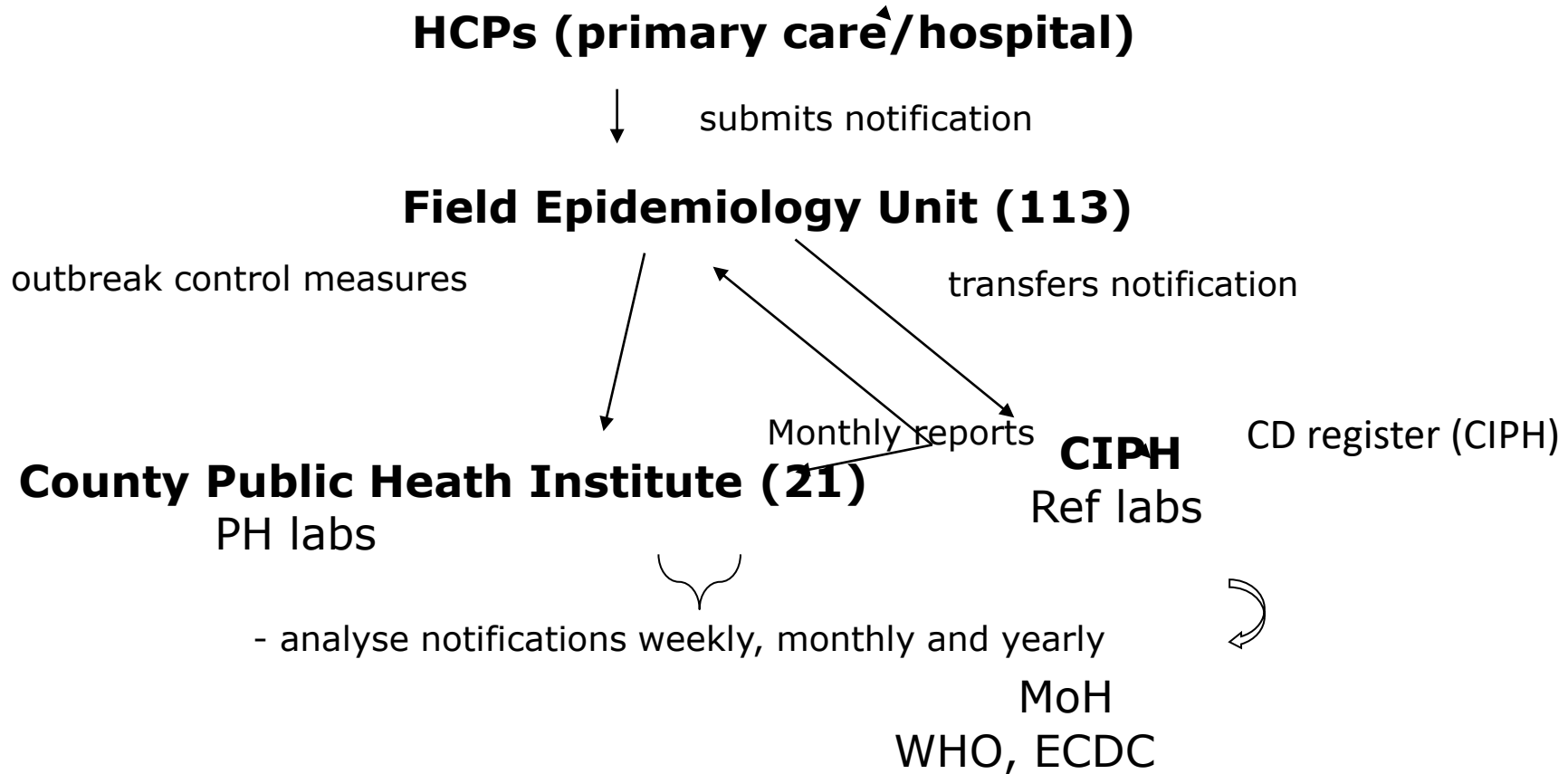
SURVEILLANCE, PREVENTION AND EPIDEMIOLOGY SERVICE

- The surveillance of communicable diseases is under the authority of the CIPH, as well as competent county IPHs and FEUs
- Key elements of communicable diseases (CD) surveillance system:
- General, universal
- Paper-based, at national level computerised database (300-600 records daily, without COVID-19)
- Integrated electronic system under development
- Mandatory reporting - disease notification (101 diseases)
- Enhanced surveillance for HIV, TB, malaria, legionellosis, measles-rubella-parotitis, meningococcal meningitis-sepsis, AFP, CJB, HBV&HCV
- 2012 EU case definitions*
- Since July 1st 2013 – reports sent to TESSy/WHO-ECDC (HIV/AIDS since 2008)
- All health care providers (HCPs) involved

*Definitions of notifiable communicable diseases ensure compliance with EU countries
https://www.hzjz.hr/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/eu_definicije.pdf



CD reporting/surveillance



individual notifications / unknown disease clusters / death clusters

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PREVENTION ACTIVITIES ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

