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

SLOVENIA

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DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Lecturer: Abbvie, Bayer, Gilead, Merck, Sandoz
- Manuscript preparation: Abbvie, Gilead, Merck
- Travel/accommodational meeting expenses: Abbvie, Gilead, Merck

No conflict of interest regarding this presentation
Population: **2,106,215** (in April 2022)

Gross national income per capita: **28,802,96 EUR** (in 2021)

Health spending per capita: **2,276,75 EUR** (in 2021)

Life expectancy: **81.30 years** (in 2021)
- females: 83.69 years
- males: 77.63 years
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HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE SERVICE

- ID are managed within the Public Healthcare System
- Financing of ID:
  - covered by the national health insurance system
- Prevention & Vaccination:
  - organised by National Institute for Public Health
- Clinical management of ID: Clinic for Infectious Diseases
  - 5 Dpts for Infectious Diseases (UMCMb, GH)
    - specialists for infectious diseases
- Referential institution:
  - Clinic for Infectious Diseases and Febrile Illnesses, Ljubljana
Clinical management:

- viral hepatitis (A-E): 6 Centers for treatment of VH
  - at Clinic for Infectious Diseases Lj. and 5 Dpts for ID
  - ID sub-specialists for viral hepatitis
- HCC, decompensted cirrhosis, liver TX: Dpts for GE-Hepatology
- transplantation center: University Medical Centre Ljubljana
- excellent interdisciplinary collaboration
- completely covered by the national health insurance system
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HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND VIRAL HEPATITIS

- National Viral Hepatitis Expert Board: interdisciplinary (1997)

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HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND VIRAL HEPATITIS

- National strategy for the management of HCV (1997)
  National strategy for the management of HBV (2003)

- Clinical Practice Guidelines for HCV (1997, updates)
  Clinical Practice Guidelines for HBV (2000, updates)

- SoC treatment:
  - available and accessible, completely reimbursed
  - prescribed by the nominated specialists according to CPG
  - Registry of all the HCV treated patients: since 1997
  - no restrictions for treatment – PWID never restricted

In SLO est. 4,873 PWID (2019)
>60% on OAT

National network of 18 Centers for Prevention and Treatment of Drug Use

Metadone in Slovenia: since 1990
A Network: founded in 1995; 4,423 users in 2008

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HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND MANAGEMENT OF PWID - CPTDU

National network for the management of viral hepatitis in PWID
Integration of 18 Centers for Prevention and Treatment of Drug Use and 5 centers for Viral Hepatitis

**Provides:**
- OAT
- Psycho-social support
- Information
- Counselling
- HBV(HAV) Vaccination
- Testing (HBV, HCV, HIV)
- Linkage-to-care
- DOT

**A Network of CPTDA**
- Psychiatrist / psychotherapist
- Addiction specialist
- Viral hepatitis specialist:
  - Infectologists
  - Hepatologists
- Clinical virologist
- Clinical pharmacist
- Councilors: specially trained nurses
- Social workers
- Peers
- Other support system:
  - Family
  - Friends
  - Co-workers

**Drug treatment centre**
- Counselling to prevent HCV infection
- Testing for HCV infection (every 6-12 months)
- HBV/HAV vaccination
- Identification of HCV treatment eligible patients
- Transient elastography on the spot (Fibroscan®)
- Motivation, assessment
- Linkage-to-care

**Viral hepatitis centre**
- Medical evaluation/assessment
- Clinical management
- Counselling, motivation
- Treatment (DAAs)


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HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND MANAGEMENT OF PWID - NSP

In SLO est. 4873 PWID
est. 30% in low treshold programs (NGOs)

Needle/Syringe exchange Programs

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OUTSIDE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM: COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR PWID - NSP

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HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND PRISONS

- Number of prisons: 12
- Average number of prisoners: 1350
- Health care service by regional outpatient clinics
- Management of HBV and HCV: regional ID units

Clinic for ID

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OUTSIDE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM: COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR MSM

**NGO LEGBITRA:** 12 locations

**Provides:**
- Information
- Counselling
- Awareness campaigns
- Testing

**Testing for:**
- HBV, HCV, HIV, syphilis gonorrhoea
- HCWs: regular (registered nurse) counselling (ID specialist)

**Finnanced:** Ministry of Health

**Medical support & link:** Clinic for Infectious Diseases and Febrile Illnesses, Ljubljana

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CONCLUSIONS

MANAGEMENT OF VIRAL HEPATITIS

- A Continuum of Services integrated into routine healthcare system since 1997
- Integration of activities within community (NGOs) into the healthcare system
THANK YOU