

SERBIA

VHPB BALKAN MEETING

*CURRENT SITUATION:
EPIDEMIOLOGY, BURDEN OF
DISEASE, SCREENING &
PREVENTION, CASCADE OF
CARE*



The prevalence of HCV infection in Serbia is estimated ~ 1.13%*

COUNTRY EPIDEMIOLOGY

| | HBsAg (2020) | Anti-HCV (2020) |
|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| General population | 0,7% (76/192145) | 0,5% (1461286260) |
| Blood donors (first time) | 0,8% (76/192145) | 0,03% (49/192145) |
| Pregnant women | 0,4% (56/29117) | 0,2% (22/11517) |
| Risk Groups | | |
| PWID | 1,5% (6/819) | 11,9% (111/937) |
| MSM | 3,2% (4/251) | 15 (3/300) |
| Prisoners | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 0,3%(19/11089) | 1,4% (108/7630) |
| Healthcare workers | 0,5% (2/765) | 0,3% (2/669) |

COUNTRY VACCINATION PROGRAM

| Hepatitis A | Y/N | population + Schedule | Since/period |
|-------------|-----|-----------------------|--------------|
| Universal | N | | |
| Risk group | Y | | |

| Hepatitis B | Y/N | population + Schedule | Since/period |
|-------------|-----|-----------------------|--------------|
| Universal | Y | birth | 2002 |
| Catch-up | Y | | |
| Risk Group | Y | | |




- **Active immunization against hepatitis B is carried out pre-exposure in:**

- 1. sexual partners of HBsAg positive persons,
- 2. residents of institutions for the developmentally disabled,
- 3. intravenous drug addicts,
- 4. persons in institutions for the execution of criminal sanctions,
- 5. household contacts of HbsAg positive persons.

- **Active and passive immunization against hepatitis B is carried out post-exposure code:**

- 1. newborns of HBsAg positive mothers,
- 2. persons who had an accident with infectious material,
- 3. pregnant women with liver damage, if they were exposed to infection.

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- **Immunization program for persons at special risk protection against hepatitis b**
 - Active immunization against hepatitis B is carried out in:
 - 1. suffering from hemophilia and other diseases that require the use of blood derivatives,
 - 2. person on hemodialysis,
 - 3. insulin dependent patients from diabetes,
 - 4. liver transplantation.
 - **Passenger immunization program**

COUNTRY SCREENING

| Recommended for following groups: | Hep B | Hep C |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| General population | N | N |
| Birth cohorts | N | N |
| Blood and organ donors | Y | Y |
| Pregnant women | Y | Y |
| PWID | Y | Y |
| STI clinic patients | Y | Y |
| Haemodialysis patients | Y | Y |
| Health care workers | Y | Y |
| Men having sex with men | Y | Y |
| Prison population | Y/N | Y/N |
| Migrants | Y/N | Y/N |
| Others | | |

COUNTRY TREATMENT

| National guidelines available | Y/N (year) |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Hepatitis B | N |
| Hepatitis C | N |
| Other (specify) | |

COUNTRY TREATMENT

| Drugs available for HCV treatment* | Y/N |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| PegInterferon | N |
| Ribavirin | Y |
| Boceprevir | N |
| Telaprevir | N |
| Simeprevir | N |
| Sofosbuvir | N |
| Daclatasvir | N |
| Sofosbuvir/Ledipasvir | Y |
| Sofosbuvir/Velpatasvir | Y |
| Glecaprevir/Pibrentasvir | Y |
| Sofosbuvir/Velpatasvir/Voxilaprevir | N |
| Elbasvir/Grazoprevir | Y |

| Drugs available for HBV treatment* | Y/N |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Lamivudine | Y |
| Adefovir | N |
| Telbivudine | N |
| Entacavir | N |
| TDF | Y |
| TAF | Y |


Number of patients treated (cumulative)


| | |
|-------|------|
| Hep B | 2000 |
| Hep C | 5500 |

*included on the national essential medicines list or subsidized by the government



VIRAL HEPATITIS B AND C

 HBV treatment is available without any restrictions

 Treatment of HCV infection in Serbia has been accompanied by numerous problems.

HCV TREATMENT IN SERBIA

- modern DAA was introduced in 2018
- very rigorous criteria
- exclusively for [patients with cirrhosis](#)
- 60 patients a year (218 patients from 2018-2020)