TWO DECADES OF THE VHPB
an ELPA view

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The burden of HBV and HCV

Global Burden of Chronic HBV and HCV

Viral Hepatitis is the 8th leading global cause of death: 1.4 million deaths annually

HCV: 185 millions → 37 million need treatment
HBV: 240 millions → 84 million need treatment
THE THREE PILLARS OF SUCCESS

- Prevention
- Screening
- Treatment
The mechanism of elimination of HBV and HCV - The Leaky Bucket

Worst scenario!
The mechanism of elimination of HBV and HCV
- The Leaky Bucket

best scenario!
The mechanism of elimination of HBV and HCV - The Leaky Bucket

**Prevention**
- New Infections

**Screening**

**Treatment**
- Cured
- Mortality

best scenario!
Prevention – our definition

• Primary prevention = prevent the development of a disease
  → avoid new infections

• Secondary prevention = early detection of a disease
  → targeted screening programmes

• Tertiary prevention = prevent the aggravation of a disease
  → close monitoring and treatment
The success of VHPB

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HBV: The success of VHPB

- Hepatitis B vaccination is included in the routine childhood vaccination in twenty (74%) of 27 countries (BE, BG, CZ, CY, EE, FR, DE, HU, IE, IT, MT, LV, LT, LU, PT, RO, SK, SI, ES, PL).

- 12 (60%) of these countries (BE, CY, EE, FR, DE, IT, MT, LV, LT, RO, PL and LU) has organized catch-up programmes for older children, teenagers;

- 7 countries (26%) do not vaccinate children routinely but have selective immunisation program for those at risk (DK, FI, IS, NL, NO, SE, UK).

O’Flanagan, 2009
But....

....there are new challenges on the horizon!
HBV vaccination for new risk groups!

What is about vaccination for:

- Persons in close contacts of a patient with chronic hepatitis B infection?
- Injecting drug users?
- MSM?
- Commercial sex workers?
- Prisoners?
- Inmates of custodial institutions?
The success of VHPB

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• **Secondary prevention** = early detection of a disease → targeted screening programmes

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A New Era for Screening and Treatment of Hepatitis C: A Public Health Challenge (Split, November 2013)

ELPAs conclusion:
- VHPB brought together the key stakeholders to discuss:
  → the fast changing landscape of treatment options
  → the new challenges of how to diagnose patients
  → learnings from best practise examples
But:

ELPA likes the VHPB more active to **address** the burden of HCV to political decision makers and to **offer your expertise** to implement existing recommendations.
Our vision:

In close partnership with VHPB but also with all other relevant stakeholders we can convince decision makers to fasten up with the implementation of robust national strategy plans!
Let’s start today!