

A stylized illustration of a pocket watch, rendered in shades of green and orange. The watch face is white with black numerals from 1 to 12. The hands are black, and the watch has a decorative ring at the top. The illustration is positioned on the left side of the slide.

# ELPA'S VISION OF SCREENING

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# ELPA's network



# The Patient's View

- a viral time bomb: Up to 9 out of 10 chronic hepatitis carriers are unaware of their infection
- Patients have a **right** to know that they are infected: This way,
  - they can receive treatment and their disease can be controlled or cured
  - they can prevent further transmission



# ELPA's vision of screening



## Two-fold approach:

- direct outreach to risk groups tailored and targeted to their needs
  - promoting hepatitis-awareness amongst primary care professionals
- Increase number of diagnosed patients



# EU policy activities to promote screening



Overarching goal:

## Council Recommendation on Hepatitis B and C

Important steps:

- Written Declaration on Hepatitis C
- EASL/ELPA Expert Recommendations





THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION  
FOR THE STUDY OF THE LIVER

# Which Risk Groups to target



European Liver  
Patients Association

**The definition of high risk groups is an essential tool in designing targeted screening programmes for viral hepatitis.**

## High risk groups for Hepatitis B include:

- Persons with elevated liver enzymes and/or clinical sign of hepatitis
- Patients with liver cirrhosis or fibrosis
- Patients with hepatocellular carcinoma
- People who share or have ever shared needles (injecting drug users)
- People with long-term imprisonment history
- People who are undergoing or have undertaken hemodialysis
- Men who have sex with men or heterosexual persons with multiple sex partners
- People with HIV or HCV infection
- Families and household members or sexual partners of persons infected with HBV
- Patients and staff in psychiatric institutions or residents of welfare institutions for mentally disabled persons
- Pregnant women and newborns of HBV-infected mothers
- Recipients of organ transplants and blood products
- Blood and organ donors
- Patients before or during immunosuppressive treatment or chemotherapy
- Migrants from countries with high prevalence of Hepatitis B
- Unvaccinated healthcare workers and public safety workers who undertake exposure-prone procedures.

## High risk groups for Hepatitis C include

- Persons with elevated liver enzymes and/or symptoms of hepatitis
- Patients with liver cirrhosis or fibrosis
- People who share or have ever shared needles (injecting drug users)
- People with long-term imprisonment history
- People who are undergoing or have undertaken hemodialysis
- People who have received repeated percutaneous injections
- People who have had invasive medical and paramedical or dental work in countries with high prevalence or poor sterilisation procedures, such as use of multidose vials
- People who received blood transfusions or other blood derived products outside the EU or before 1992 in the EU
- People who received organs and tissues transplants outside the EU or before 1992 in the EU
- Haemophiliacs who received concentrated coagulation factors before 1987
- People with HIV infection
- People who have used intra-nasal cocaine
- People with body piercings if being performed in non hygienic environments
- Children of HCV-infected mothers
- Healthcare workers and public safety workers who undertake exposure-prone procedures

# ELPA in the Cancer Partnership

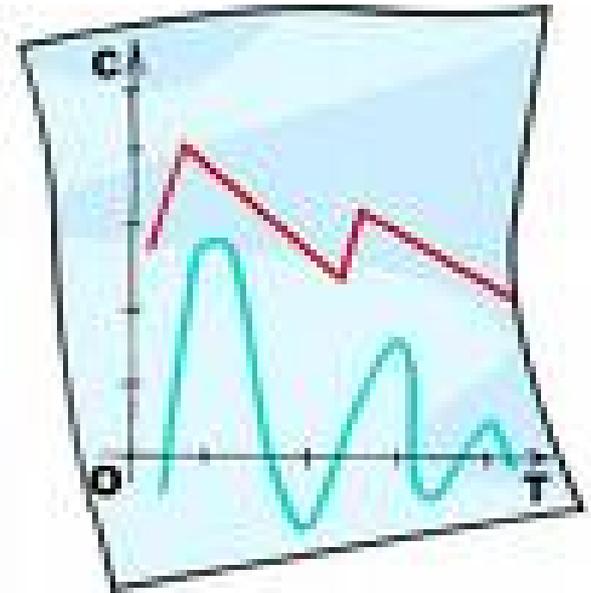


- More than 75 % of liver cancer are attributable to a prior Hepatitis infection.
- Liver cancer is one of few tumour types with rising incidence
- Partnership: Focus on Cancer Prevention
- ELPA's goals:
  - liver cancer specifically acknowledged by the partnership
  - Hepatitis prevention (primary and secondary) should be recognised as important means to prevent liver cancer.



# Patients need drugs and data to feel better

- Urgent need for reliable and comparable data across the EU
  - demonstrate the burden of the disease
  - establish risk-group specific screening as a cost-effective way to help curb this burden





# Thank you!

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