



VHPB Meeting

Highlight underserved for screening, prevention and treatment of viral hepatitis B and C in Europe

LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA, 10-11 MARCH 2016

How BBV prisoners testing can be improved. The HWB's PrHep-EU Project

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European Federation for
Prison Health



Società Italiana di Medicina
e Sanità Penitenziaria

Prisoners in European Countries

2
MILLION PEOPLE
ARE INCARCERATED
IN EUROPE DURING
A GIVEN YEAR

680
THOUSANDS
THE PRISONERS HOSTED
IN 2012 BY RUSSIAN
PRISONS

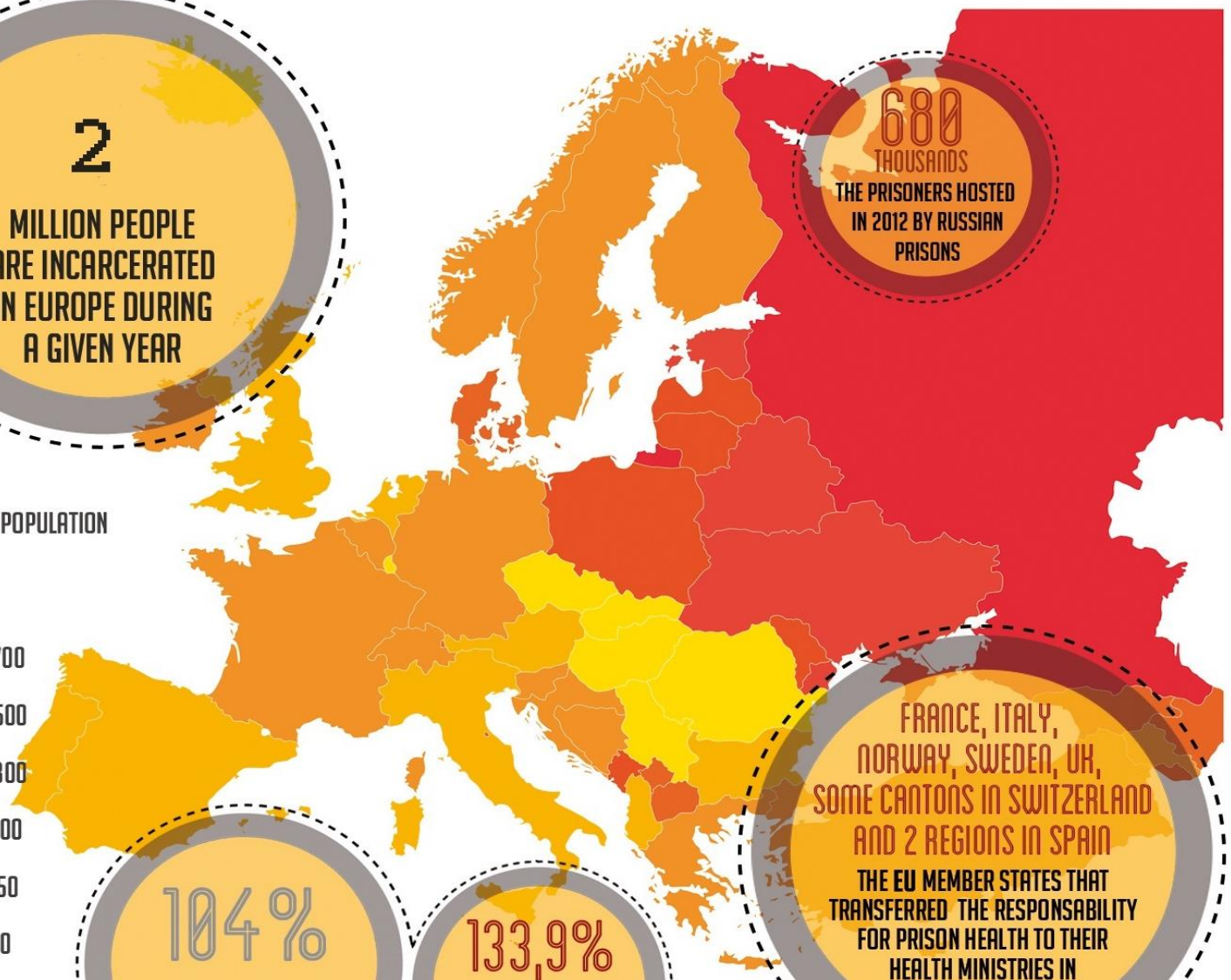
PRISONERS
PER 100'000 POPULATION

- >700
- 500 - 700
- 300 - 500
- 200 - 300
- 150 - 200
- 100 - 150
- 50 - 100

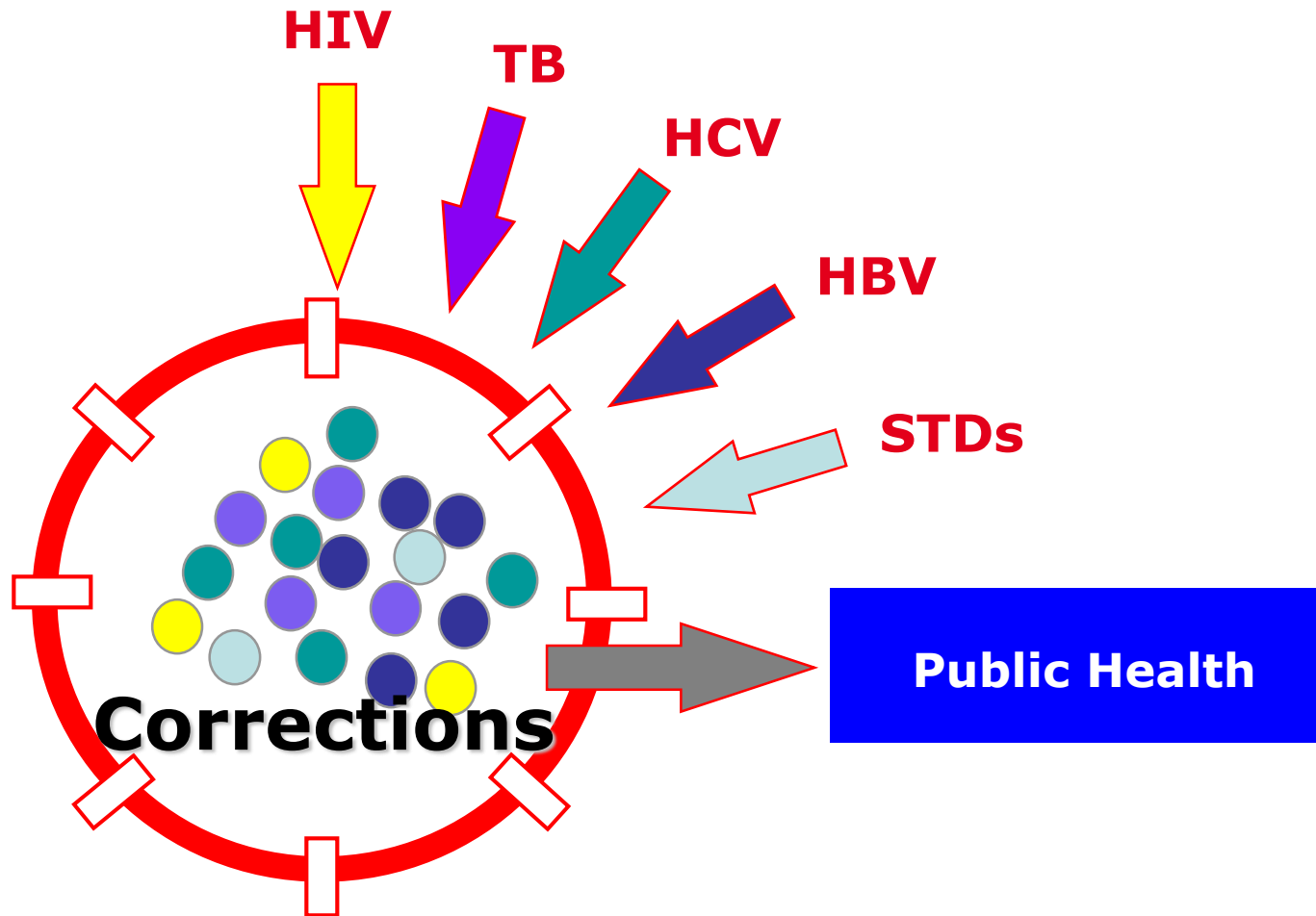
104%
THE AVERAGE PRISON
OCCUPANCY RATE

133,9%
OVERCROWDING IN
GREEK PRISONS

FRANCE, ITALY,
NORWAY, SWEDEN, UK,
SOME CANTONS IN SWITZERLAND
AND 2 REGIONS IN SPAIN
THE EU MEMBER STATES THAT
TRANSFERRED THE RESPONSABILITY
FOR PRISON HEALTH TO THEIR
HEALTH MINISTRIES IN
RECENT YEARS



Prison/Jail Walls = Semipermeable Membrane to the Infectious Diseases



Clin Inf Dis 2007; 45: 1047-1055

HEALTHCARE EPIDEMIOLOGY

INVITED ARTICLE

Infection Control in Jails and Prisons

Joseph A. Bick

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At the end of 2005, 7 million people (or 1 out of 33 American adults) were either in jail, in prison, or on parole. Compared with the general public, **newly incarcerated inmates** have an increased prevalence of human immunodeficiency virus infection, hepatitis B virus infection, hepatitis C virus infection, syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia, and *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection.

Screening for HCV Infection in Jails

[JAMA Viewpoint – March 28, 2012]

- More than 7 million individuals passed through USA jails and prisons each year
- CDC estimated that 16% to 41% of US inmates had serological evidence of prior HCV exposure and 12% to 35% had chronic infection
- Only 25% to 35% of persons infected with HCV are aware of their condition
- It is possible that as many as 1.0 million persons with undiagnosed HCV infection might come in contact with the correctional system each year.

Healthcare Services in prison

- Detention may represent a unique opportunity to make Healthcare Services available to a cluster of people usually hard to reach, specially when they are out of custody.
- This target of people is characterized by a difficult temperament and attitude, with frequent problems related to illegal behaviours and social issues (drug use, prostitution, lack of a permanent residence, etc.)
- If foreigners, additional problems related with language and misunderstanding of rules and formalities, are occurring
- All this set of circumstances makes the prisons as a real "diseases concentrators".



PrHep_EU Project

Prison and Hepatitis C in Europe

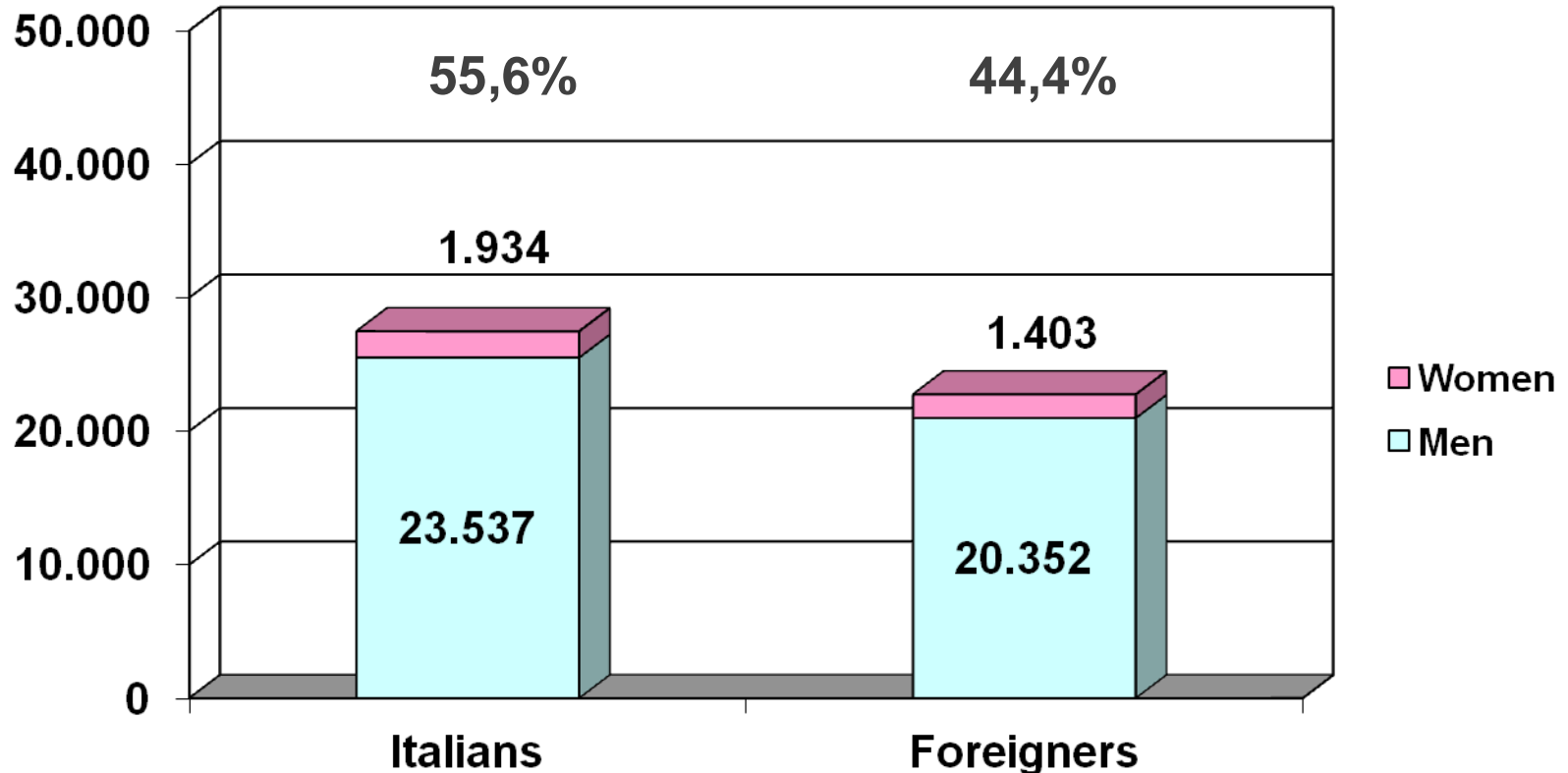
Diagnosis and Management of Chronic Hepatitis C in inmates patients:
an European working model

The PrHep-EU pilot project intends:

- To foster a co-working model to implement the diagnosis of HCV infection among inmates in European prisons (**Italy, France, Spain, Netherlands**) and to reduce the proportion of the unaware ones;
- To use peer-to-peer educational programs, which well demonstrated the high-efficacy to increase BBV-test rates;
- To identify the reasons of the lack of an appropriate treatment and care, mostly among the already aware HCV patients providing a specific and continuous counselling;
- To implement among all detained patients, the same clinical-diagnostic flow-chart for HCV infection;
- To map and identify all the potential candidates for HCV therapy in selected EU prisons;
- To monitor and follow-up the treatment feasibility in correctional facilities.

2015 new comers in the Italian Detention Setting (45.823)

www.giustizia.it



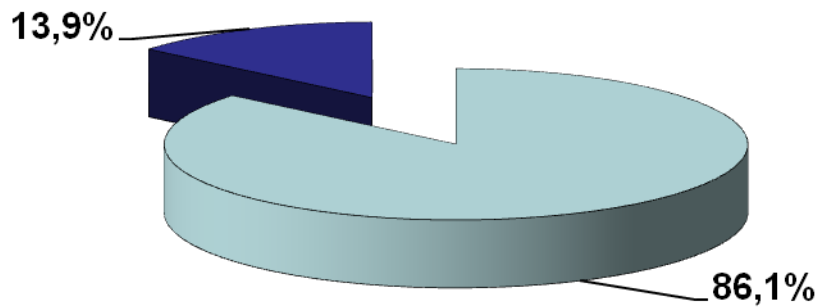
N. of inmates who have lived in italian prisons during 2015 → 99.446
(Resident at 31/12/14: 53.623 + 2015 new comers: 45.823)

BBV Screening tests rate in 5 italian correctional institutes [first half 2015]

n. Prisoners in Italy at 31-dec-2014	53.623	%
Italians	36.161	67,4
Foreigners	17.462	32,6
Prisoners in 5 study institutes	7.174	13,4
Screening Test – Offered	6.177	86,1
Screening Test - Not Offered Yet	997	13,9
Screening Test – Executed	5.353	86,7
Screening Test – Refused	824	13,3

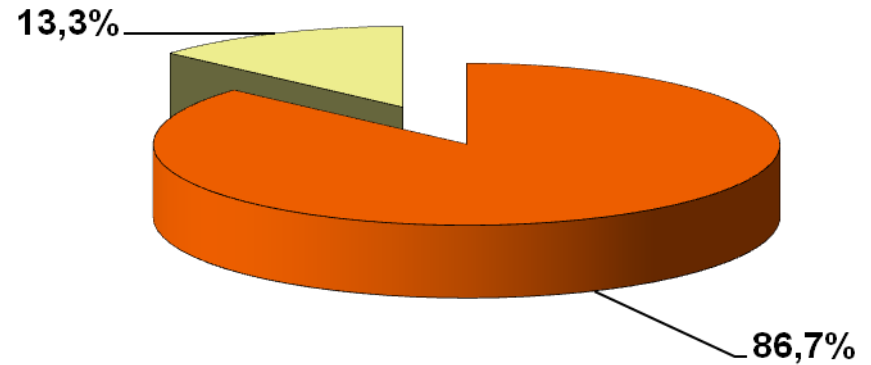
BBV Screening Tests Italy [7.174 inmates]

Screening Test Offer



■ offered (6.177) ■ not offered yet (997)

Screening Test Execution



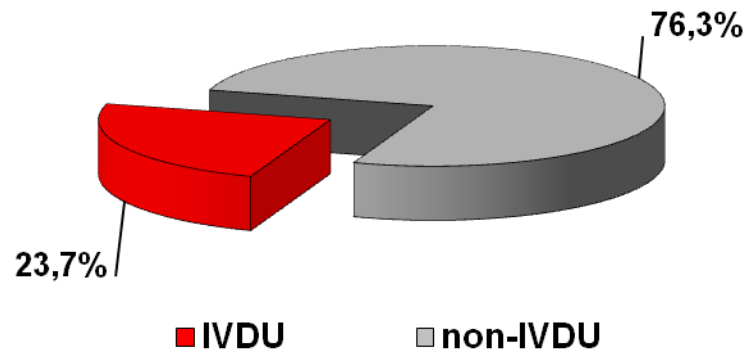
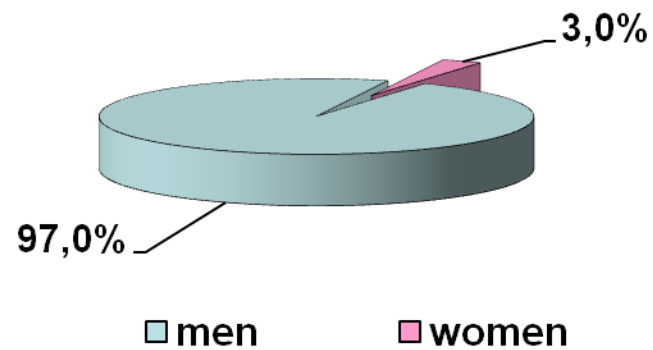
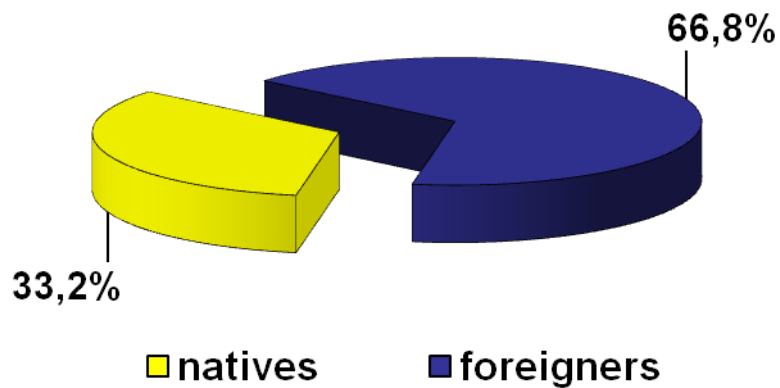
■ executed (5.353) ■ refused (824)

Screening Tests Italy

Reasons for Refusing [824 refused]

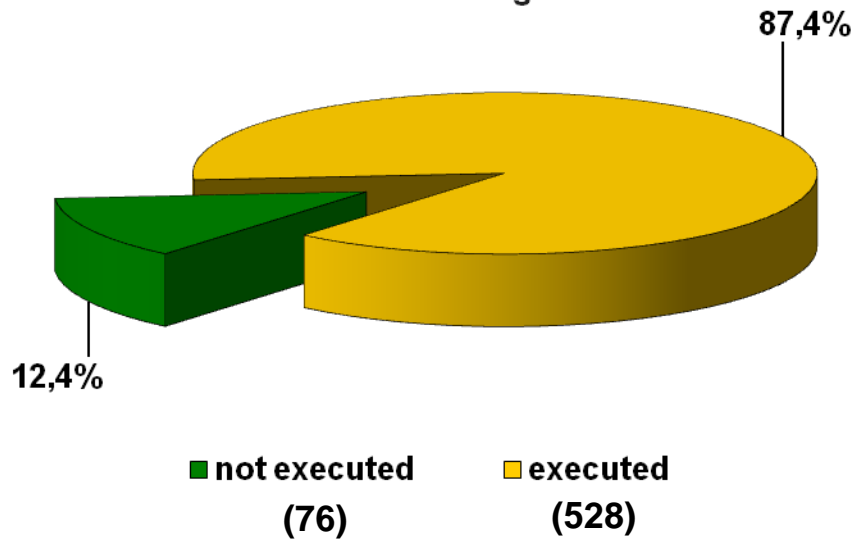
1. Lack of understanding with doctors and nurses
2. Improper awareness of the self-wellbeing
3. General mistrust and scepticism to the prison institution
4. Fear to be stigmatized and isolated among the prison population

BBV Screening Tests Rate [5.353 inmates]

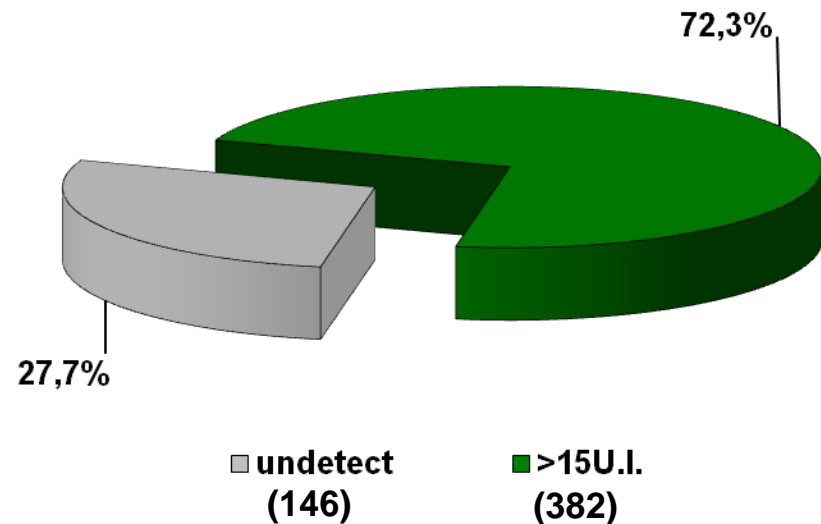


HCV Viral Load [604 HCVAAb+ inmates]

HCV-RNA Testing



HCV-RNA Results





PrHep_EU Project

Prison and Hepatitis C in Europe

Diagnosis and Management of Chronic Hepatitis C in inmates patients:
an European working model

- BBV Screening Tests in 13 Correctional Facilities in Europe
 - Italy, France, Spain, The Netherlands.
- Extensive staging of Chronic Hepatitis C using:
 - Virological parameters
 - HCV-RNA, HCV-Genotype, IL28B
 - Scores of hepatic fibrosis:
 - APRI (AST, AST normal value, PLT)
 - FIB-4 Calculator (Age, PLT, AST, ALT)
 - Liver-kidney failure clinical scores:
 - Child-Pugh (Encephalopathy, Ascites, Bilirubin, Albumin, PT%/INR)
 - MELD (Total Bilirubin, INR, Creatinine)

To identify eligible inmates to anti-HCV therapy