National policy for viral hepatitis control and treatment

Prevention and control of viral hepatitis in the Baltic States: Lessons learnt and the way forward
Riga, November 19-20, 2015

Jana Feldmane
Ministry of Health of the Republic of Latvia
Public Health Strategy for 2014-2020
(to reduce the incidence of communicable diseases)
more detailed accent on prevention of HIV and hepatitis B and C

Project of Action plan for limiting the spread of HIV, STI and hepatitis B and C for 2016-2018
Background

- Current situation (mortality and morbidity rate, risk groups, access to health services)

- Stakeholders (municipalities, NGOs, institutions and services for vulnerable population as well as prisons and social service)


- Dublin Declaration on Partnership to fight HIV/AIDS in Europe and Central Asia

- Vilnius Declaration on Measures to Strengthen Responses to HIV/AIDS in the European Union and in Neighbouring Countries
Aim of the policy

To reduce the prevalence of HIV/AIDS, STI, hepatitis B and C by prevention of the risk of infections in community and promoting early diagnosis and treatment
Priority directions - infection risks reduction

1. **Reducing the risk** for the general public and especially school children and young people
   - *Rising public awareness about infection risks*
   - *Strengthening the quality of invasive services*

2. Improvement of work with **vulnerable population** (injecting drug users, sex workers, MSM) as well as enlargement and strengthening of **harm reduction services**

3. Promotion of HIV and viral hepatitis prevention and early diagnosis in **prison system**

5. To improve **accessibility of diagnostic services** for early detection of HIV and viral hepatitis

6. To improve **availability of medicines** by:
   - *increasing amount of reimbursement from state budget*
   - *introduction of newest medicines*

7. **Strengthening of intersectorial collaboration and capacity of specialists**
Reimbursement of the medicines for treatment of Chronic Hepatitis C

- 2006 - 2009 - 75%
- 2009 - 2011 - 50%
- 2011 - 75%

Poor persons receive 100% reimbursement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2,608,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>3,044,782</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Number of patients with chronic hepatitis C who have received State reimbursed medications

Around 20-30% (150-250) patients each year decline treatment due to financial reasons.
Targets of the policy of treatment of Chronic Hepatitis C:
1. to cure and return to a fulfilling life
2. to reduce spread of the virus of Hepatitis C
Decision of The Cabinet of Ministers from 25.08.2015. to allocate extra financial resources 4 217 280 EUR for improvement treatment of HIV and chronic hepatitis C

- Ensure treatment of HIV from 350 CD4 cells
- To increase amount of reimbursement of medicines for Chronic Hepatitis C
- To introduce newes medicines for treatment of hepatitis C
- Introduction of liver transplantation
Reducing risk for general public - requirements for invasive services

- Requirements for tattoo

- Requirements for cosmetic services (manicure, pedicure etc)

- Requirements for health care institutions (stronger control of the intrahospital infection, requirements for sterilization of equipment of dentists)
Vulnerable population – prisons health

- Improvement of diagnostic of hepatitis C in prisons
- Improvement of availability of treatment of chronic hepatitis C in prisons
Epidemiological surveillance

Establishment of register of patients of viral hepatitis C

• objective information about the number of patients
• information for prognosing of recourses (financial, personal capacity etc.)
• possibility to evaluate results of treatment
Questions?

jana.feldmane@vm.gov.lv