

Important elements of an elimination strategy from a patient's perspective

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Where are we now?

- 2010: - 1st global resolution by the WHO
- 2013: - a broad coalition of NGOs and experts had produced the
“action plan” – nationale Strategie gegen Virushepatitis
- 2014: - 2nd global resolution by the WHO
- 2015: - 1,4 Mrd. € allocation by the health insurances for the
treatment of HCV
 - publication of „Hepatitis B and C – an action plan for saving
lives in Europe
- 2016: - publication of the Eco-Hep Report: Elimination is possible
and cost saving
 - Publication of the „BIS 2030“
 - publication of the WHO GHSS
 - publication of the WHO EURO strategy plan

„Real Action?“ – still missing!

There are a lot of paper out and the official commitment by the Minister itself but it is not visible.

On the other hand there is strong evidence of what needs to be done!

How to eliminate HCV in Germany before 2030?

PWIDS under Substitution

- Consequent HCV testing of all PWIDs under substitution.
- Optimal therapy-management by networking of the specialists (Gastroenterologists, Internal Medicine, Addiction Doctors)

PWIDS (activ)

- Harm Reduction to reduce transmission
- Awareness of PWIDs for HCV through: Peer to Peer, Social Media, Drug counselling centers (activation of welfare associations)

Medical personal:

- Regular testing of all employed persons in the medical system.
- Compliance of existing regulations for HCV prevention
- Regular information of company doctors and clinicians

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Migranten

- Culture adopted addressing migrants from high prevalence countries and targeted activation for testing
- co-operation of the office of migrants (multiplierfunktion and knowhow)

MSM

- Consistent testing of all HIV/HCV co-infected persons
- Easy to reach offers of testing in high risk behaviour MSM
- Adoption of existing best practise examples (e.g. LJWG)

Prisoners

- Consistent testing at prison beginning and prison ending points
- Awareness, testing and therapy of prisoners
- Regular education of prison doctors and employes of prisons

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General population

- Expansion of the Check-Up 35 including ALT-testing and risk anamnese
- General awareness activities

Pregnant woman

- Integration of HCV testing in the check-up of pregnant woman
- HBV testing into the first trimester
- Testing of HBV and HCV also for fathers

Conclusion:

We like the Minister and the government to activate and to advice all partners, institutions and NGOs who are key player in the elimination process with clear expectations and clear instructions in time.

It has been show that elimination is possible with action and not with round tables!

By the way:

- Each of you can save many 1000 lives and prevent many 1000 patients to develop end stages (e.g. HCC) till 2030
- Elimination till 2030 is cost-effective^{1;2}

¹Eco Hep Report 2016

²Razavi 2015

You have everything to start saving lives now;

Let's start !

