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# **Risk behavior, effect on HIV-infection and neuropsychiatric consequences of substance use**

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Barcelona

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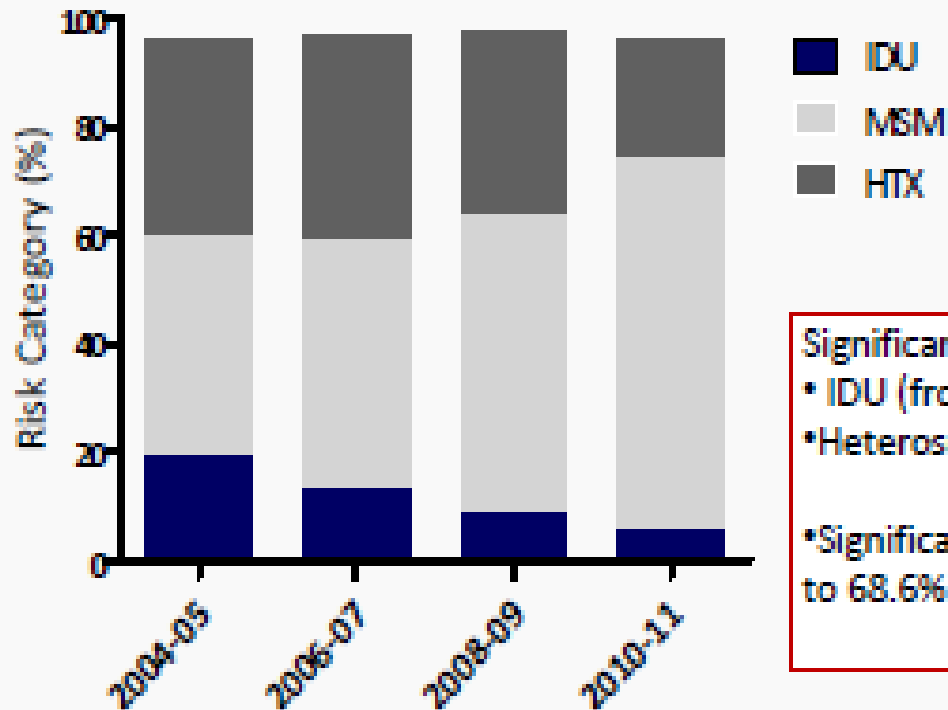
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# Concerns and actions

- STIs and AHC in MSM HIV positive patients
  - ChemSex and clinical problems
  - What are we doing and what else can we do?
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# HCV superinfection - Icona cohort

## Changes in risk behaviors for HIV/HCV acquisition during the study period



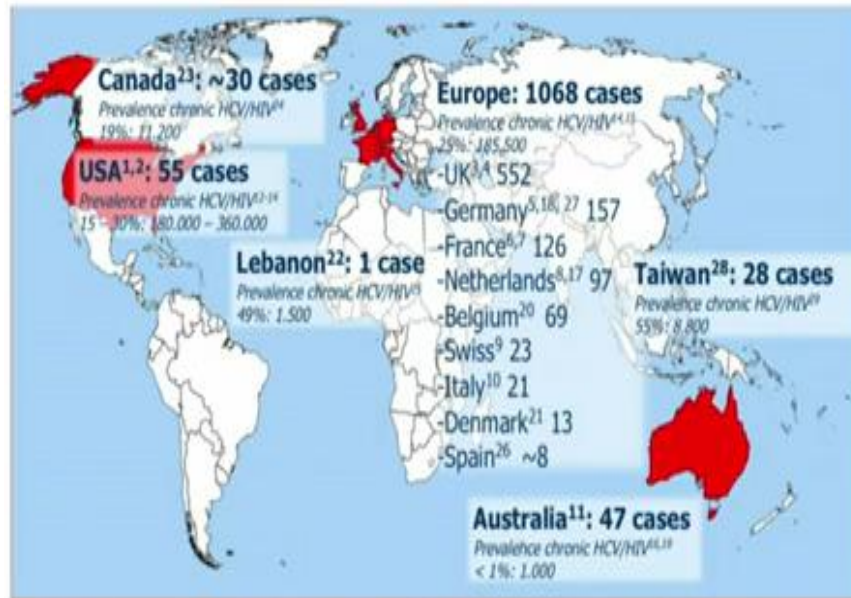
Significant decreases in the prevalence of:

- \* IDU (from 19.2% to 5.6%)
- \* Heterosexual (from 36.4% to 21.9%)

\*Significant increase in MSM (from 40.6% to 68.6%).

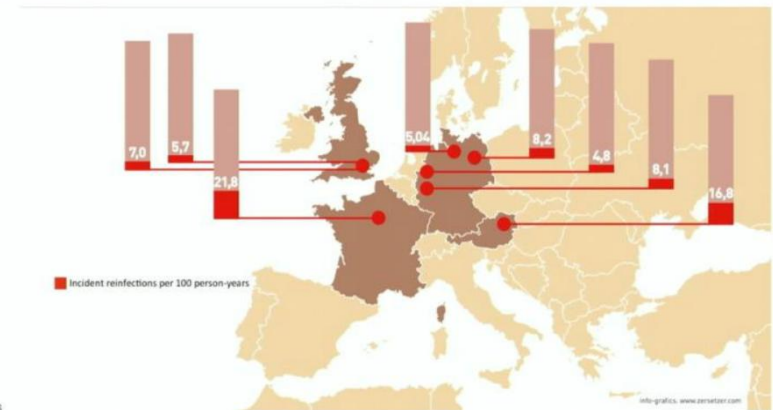
# Epidemiology AHC

- An outbreak of acute hepatitis C among HIV-positive men who have sex with men (MSM) in the last decade has been shown to be sexually transmitted



## HCV reinfection incidence among HIV+ MSM

Western Europe overall (n=606): 7.3/100py (95% CI 6.2-8.6)  
No data from U.S. cohorts



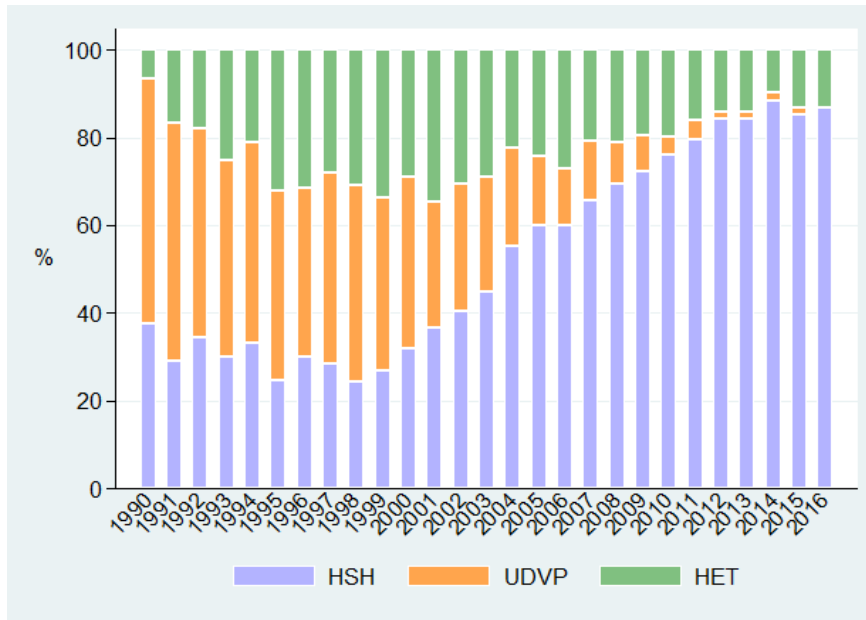
6 Ingiliz P, et al. *J Hepatol* 2017;66(2):282-287

Boesecke C. *Infect Dis Clin North Am.* 2012  
Iglitz P et al. *J Hepatol* 2017

van de Laar TJ, *J Infect Dis* 2007; Gotz HM *AIDS* 2005; Danta M. *Curr Pharm Des* 2008; Serpaggi J *AIDS* 2006; Luetkemeyer A *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr* 2006; Matthews GV. *Clin Infect Dis* 2009; Giraudon I *Sex Transm Infect* 2008; van de Laar TJ *Gastroenterology* 2009;

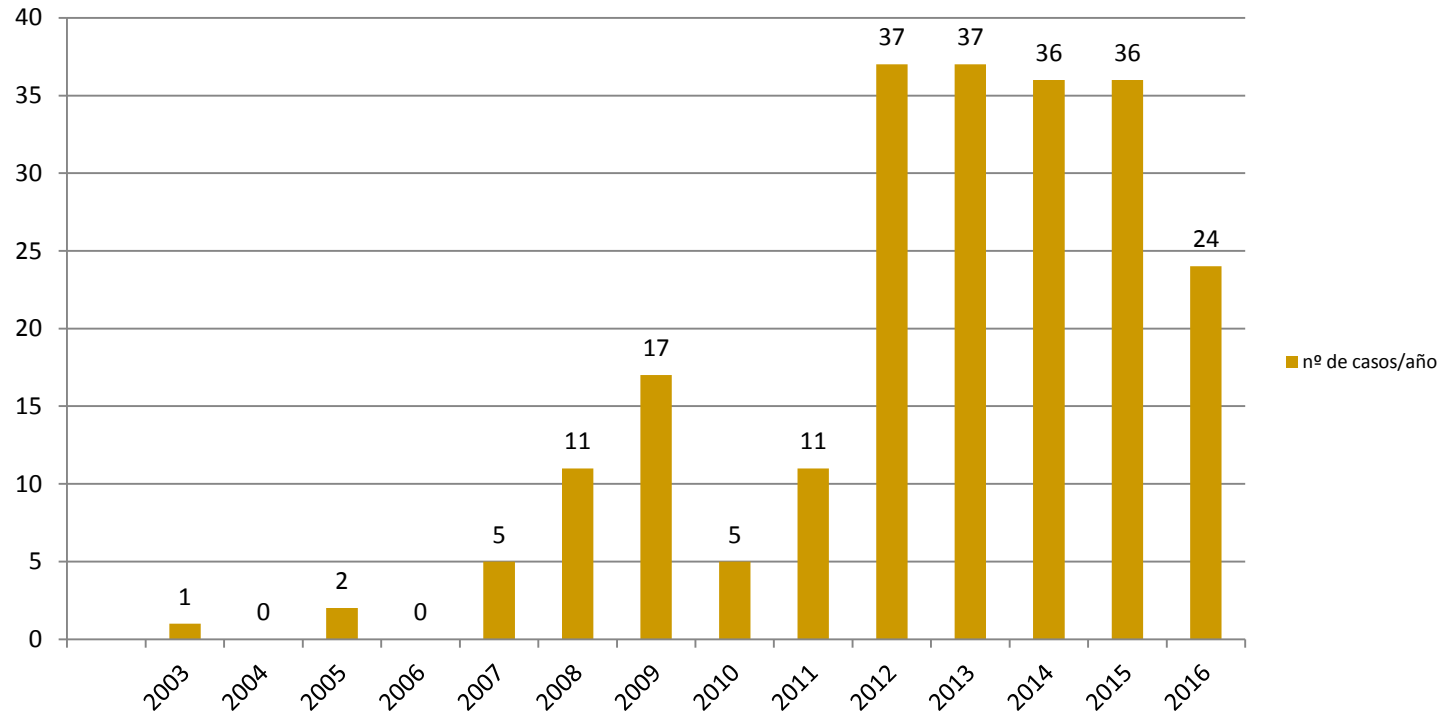
# Hospital Clinic Cohort

- Population area of influence: 700.000 people
- HIV active patients in our hospital: **5497**
  - Annually, 350 new patients join the service



Route of HIV infection in the patients who are incorporated annually into our hospital cohort

# Incidence of AHC at Hospital Clínic BCN



## Low Rate of Sustained Virological Response in an Outbreak of Acute Hepatitis C in HIV-Infected Patients

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Marta Calvo,<sup>1</sup> Montse Loncá,<sup>1</sup> Ana Muñoz,<sup>1</sup> Ana González-Cordón,<sup>1</sup> José Luis Blanco,<sup>1</sup>  
Esteban Martínez,<sup>1</sup> Josep María Gatell,<sup>1</sup> and Josep Mallolas<sup>1</sup>

Enferm Infecc Microbiol Clin. 2015;33(1):3-8



### Enfermedades Infecciosas y Microbiología Clínica

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Original

Brote epidémico de hepatitis aguda C en pacientes infectados por el  
virus de la inmunodeficiencia humana



María Martínez-Rebollar<sup>a</sup>, Josep Mallolas, Iñaki Pérez, Ana González-Cordón, Montserrat Loncá,  
Berta Torres, Jhon-Fredy Rojas, Polyana Monteiro, José-Luis Blanco, Esteban Martínez,  
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journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jcv](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jcv)



Phylogenetic analysis of an epidemic outbreak of acute hepatitis C in HIV-  
infected patients by ultra-deep pyrosequencing



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Martina Gambato<sup>a</sup>, Neris García-González<sup>e</sup>, Fernando González-Candelas<sup>e</sup>, Josep Costa<sup>f</sup>,  
Juan Ignacio Esteban<sup>c</sup>, Josep Mallolas<sup>b</sup>, Xavier Forns<sup>a</sup>, Montse Laguno<sup>b,1</sup>,  
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# AHC at Hospital Clinic

January 2003-December 2016

- N: **222 cases** in **193 patients**
  - **189 M (MSM)**, 1 H (IDU), 3 W (1 HET, 1 nos, 1 IDU)
- Median age 42 years (DS 7)
- Symptoms : **31%**
- 20 cases spontaneous clearance ( 9%)
- **Treatment response:** 69 % patients treated PEG-INF+RBV. **SVR: 65%**
- 27 episodes of reinfection. Reinfection rate: **12.3 /100 PY**
- **50% other STI associated ( Syphilis, Chlamydia-LGV)**
- **Phylogenetic sub study: 16 clusters of transmission.** Local network in Barcelona and related to an international HCV transmission network.



# Risk factors related to increasing incidence of AHC in MSM HIV+ patients

- Higher VL HCV in blood and semen
- Increased susceptibility of rectal mucosa in HIV patients
- Presence of ulcerative STI
- HAART and decreasing risk perception
- **“Chemsex”**: use of drugs ( methamphetamine, GHB, mephedrone and others) to enhance sexual experience, MSM.
  - Facilitating long sexual sessions with multiple partners that can extend over several days.
  - Rising reported rates of slamming (injecting) and the consequential traumatic sexual practices.

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# Increasing evidence of HIV, AHC, STIs and other complications associated with Chemsex use

- **Associations with sexual-risk behaviour** (Colfax & Guzman, 2006; De Ryck, Van Laeken, Noestlinger, Platteau, & Colebunders, 2013; Drumright et al., 2007; Heiligenberg et al., 2012; McCarty-Caplan, Jantz, & Swartz, 2014; Pappas & Halkitis, 2011; Prestage et al., 2009; Santos et al., 2013; Sewell J, 2017)
  - **Association with facilitacion HIV:** (Buchacz et al., 2005; Macdonald et al., 2007; Plankey et al., 2007; Prestage et al., 2009; Ostrow et al., 2009;)
  - **Association with facilitacion STI and AHC** (Hirshfield, Remien, Walavalkar, & Chiasson, 2004; Ottaway Z, 2017; Hegazi A, 2017)
  - **Potencial risk of serious overdose and death** (Hockenhull J, 2017; Caldicott, Chow, Burns, Felgate, & Byard, 2004; Liechti & Kupferschmidt, 2004).
  - **Drug-drug interactions** (Pichini S, 2016; Bracchi M, 2015)
-

## **Chemsex and the city: sexualised substance use in gay bisexual and other men who have sex with men attending sexual health clinics**

A Hegazi<sup>1</sup>, MJ Lee<sup>1</sup>, W Whittaker<sup>3</sup>, S Green<sup>2</sup>, R Simms<sup>2</sup>, R Cutts<sup>1</sup>, M Nagington<sup>3</sup>, B Nathan<sup>2</sup> and MR Pakianathan<sup>1</sup>

- 30% disclosed recreational drugs (57% Chemsex)
  
- Those disclosing chemsex had a higher incidence of :
  - Acute bacterial STIs (AOR 2.83 CI 1.79-4.47;  $p < 0.001$ )
  - Rectal STIs (AOR 3.10 CI 1.81-5.32;  $p < 0.001$ )
  - **Hepatitis C (AOR 15.41 CI 1.50-158.17;  $p = 0.021$ )**
  
  - Chemsex was associated with having more sexual partners, transactional sex, group sex, fisting, sharing sex toys, injecting drug use, higher alcohol consumption and the use of 'bareback' sexual networking applications ( $p < 0.004$ ).

# Incidence of HepC among HIV + MSM, 2000–2015

## Incident HCV infection by baseline demographics

	N of event	Person Years	Incidence/100PY	CI.lower	CI.upper	IRR	p value
<b>Overall</b>	149	12573	1.185	1.002	1.391	-	-
<b>Age</b>							
≤30	37	2796	1.323	0.932	1.824	1	-
31-40	57	4755	1.199	0.908	1.553	0.906 (0.589-1.409)	p=0.642
41-50	46	3826	1.202	0.88	1.604	0.909 (0.577-1.441)	p=0.666
>50	9	1196	0.753	0.344	1.429	0.569 (0.241-1.2)	p=0.126
<b>Race</b>							
White	105	8202	1.28	1.047	1.55	1	-
Black	15	1254	1.197	0.67	1.974	0.934 (0.505-1.613)	p=0.807
Other	28	2918	0.96	0.638	1.387	0.75 (0.475-1.146)	p=0.176
<b>Hispanic</b>							
No	110	8978	1.225	1.007	1.477	1	-
Yes	39	3595	1.085	0.771	1.483	0.885 (0.598-1.287)	p=0.516
<b>Meth/IDU use (ever)</b>							
None	21	4424	0.475	0.294	0.726	1	-
Meth only	86	5991	1.436	1.148	1.773	3.024 (1.860-5.132)	p<0.001
IDU only	2	32	6.296	0.762	22.743	13.167 (1.497-53.965)	p<0.001
Meth+IDU	17	739	2.301	1.341	3.684	4.896 (2.401-9.644)	p<0.001

<sup>10</sup> Chaillon A, et al. In preparation

UC San Diego  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

# ChemSex use in Barcelona

Poster P1.06



## Chemsex en la cohorte Barcelona Checkpoint: un fenómeno con tendencia al alza asociado a un aumento del riesgo de infección por VIH

Los datos sobre chemsex de la cohorte Barcelona Checkpoint muestran que se trata de un fenómeno minoritario (6,4%) pero con tendencia al alza, observándose un incremento en el consumo de sustancias asociadas al chemsex en los últimos años.



...Sevilla, 22-24 de marzo de 2017 ...

"VIH y VHC: dos epidemias convergentes"

## SLAMMING: ACTITUDES, USOS, CUIDADOS Y RIESGOS EN UN GRUPO DE HOMBRES GAIS Y BISEXUALES QUE HACEN CHEMSEX EN LA CIUDAD DE BARCELONA

Percy Fernández Dávila<sup>1,2</sup>, Cinta Folch<sup>1</sup>, Víctor Galán<sup>3</sup>, Ana I. Ibar<sup>3</sup>; Xavier Roca i Tutusaus<sup>3</sup>; Xavier Majó i Roca<sup>3</sup>, Luis Villegas<sup>2</sup>, Jordi Casabona<sup>1</sup>

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El slamming es una práctica todavía minoritaria entre quienes hacen ChemSex; aunque se la percibe en ascenso.

## CHEMSEX Y SU RELACIÓN CON LA INFECCIÓN POR EL VIH EN UN GRUPO DE HOMBRES GAIS Y BISEXUALES DE LA CIUDAD DE BARCELONA

Percy Fernández Dávila<sup>1,2</sup>, Cinta Folch<sup>1</sup>, Víctor Galán<sup>3</sup>, Ana I. Ibar<sup>3</sup>; Xavier Roca i Tutusaus<sup>3</sup>; Xavier Majó i Roca<sup>3</sup>, Luis Villegas<sup>2</sup>, Jordi Casabona<sup>1</sup>

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A pesar que no se puede afirmar una relación directa entre ChemSex y el VIH, los datos del estudio parecen mostrar que existe una asociación. El potencial impacto del ChemSex sobre el TAR y la salud es algo que se conoce pero que no se tiene muy presente. Se

# Risk factors data - Hospital Clinic

- **27 episodes** in 25 patients

-1 patients with 3 reinfections

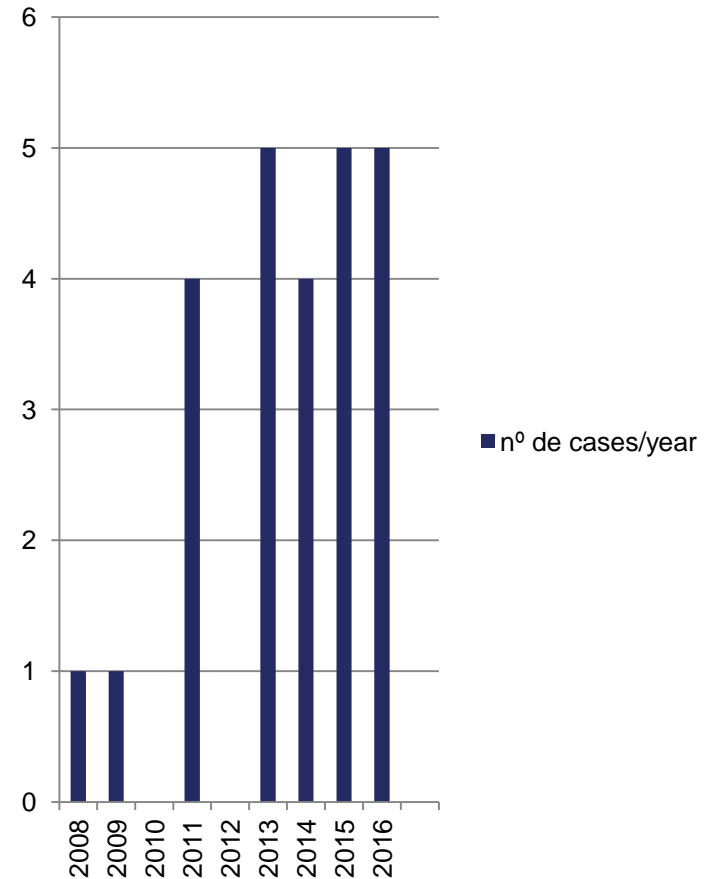
- 25 M (MSM)

- Mean age of patients 44 years
- Symptomatic: 31%
- 2 cases Spontaneous HCV clearance ( 7%)

- **Risk Factors:**

- Unprotected anal sex 66.7%
- Chemsex 61.9%
- ETS 51.9% (Syphilis 80%)

- **Rate of Reinfection: 12.3/ 100 py**



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# What are we doing?

1. **Early diagnosis and treatment as prevention (Early HepC trial), to approach the AHC epidemic in high risk population** (low SVR to classic treatment and high rate of reinfection)
  2. **Prevalence study of ChemSex in our cohort** : to give answer to an increasing number of patients referring substance use in sexualized context at daily clinic.
  3. **Global collaborative study (ViiV grant): Diagnosis of HIV and other STD in high risk population (ChemSex users)**
  4. **Referral circuit** Psychological/ Psychiatric and local NGO (STOPSIDA), to manage consumption, reduce harm and psychiatric treatment if needed to cover the increasing demand of patients to manage substance use.
-

# What are we doing?

## 1. Early diagnosis and Treatment as prevention: “Early HepC trial”

Important number of patients with recent hepatitis C, with no fibrosis but risk behaviour

**“Efficacy of GRZ/EBR in Early Chronic Hepatitis C in HIV/HCV Co-infected patients”** EudraCT number: 2016-001536-36

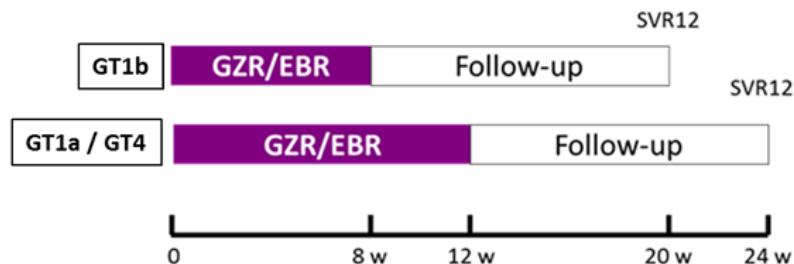
Early chronic hepatitis C: More than 6 months to 4 years.

Genotype 1 and 4

Fibroscan < 8 Kpa

N: 80

Two centers study





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# What are we doing?

## 2. Prevalence study of Chemsex in our cohort:

Anonymous Survey in HIV Day Care Hospital, pending to extend to PEP clinic, STD clinic, Emergency Room service and local NGO (STOPSIDA)

Survey: shorter, translated and adapted survey from *56 Dean Street*

N: 1058 ( From 20th Feb to 23rd May)

N: 200

M: 161 MSM: 69% disclose substance use in sexualised context.

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# Future/ What are we going to do?

## **3. Global collaborative study : Diagnosis of HIV and other STD in high risk population ( Chemsex users)**

**Duration:** 3 years

### **Objectives:**

1. To train health workers at the hospital's non-HIV/ infectious disease departments ( Medical ER, Surgical ER, STD clinic and PEP clinic) to identify Chemsex activity in high risk population and to contact the HIV Unit. Training will be given to help health workers to better understand Chemsex and HIV-STD signs and symptoms
  2. Provide rapid diagnostic screening for HIV and other STDs to MSM that are participating in Chemsex.
  3. To start a closely follow-up of these identified patients during at least two years in order to early diagnose of HIV, HCV and other STI and to provide early treatment.
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## And what else can we do?

- I believe that the management of these patients requires a multidisciplinary approach to cover clinical, psychological, psychiatric and social consequences.
  - To create a multidisciplinary group formed by HIV clinicians, Emergency doctors, Dermatologists, Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Social workers and Specialist Nurses, working together.
  - More involvement and teamwork with local NGOs, and primary care centers.
  - Facilitate access to information and training to patients and health care professionals
  - Use new technologies to disseminate information and give access to control and treatment to as many patients as possible.
-