



European Monitoring Centre  
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

# Updates from the agencies: EMCDDA

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EU Civil Society Forum on HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and TB - 18 November 2020



# Overview

- Hepatitis Elimination Barometer
- EMCDDA HepC Initiative
- Prevention and control of infections among PWID: joint ECDC/EMCDDA guidance
- COVID-19 and drugs: which lessons for prevention of infections among PWID?
- EMCDDA publications 2020/21

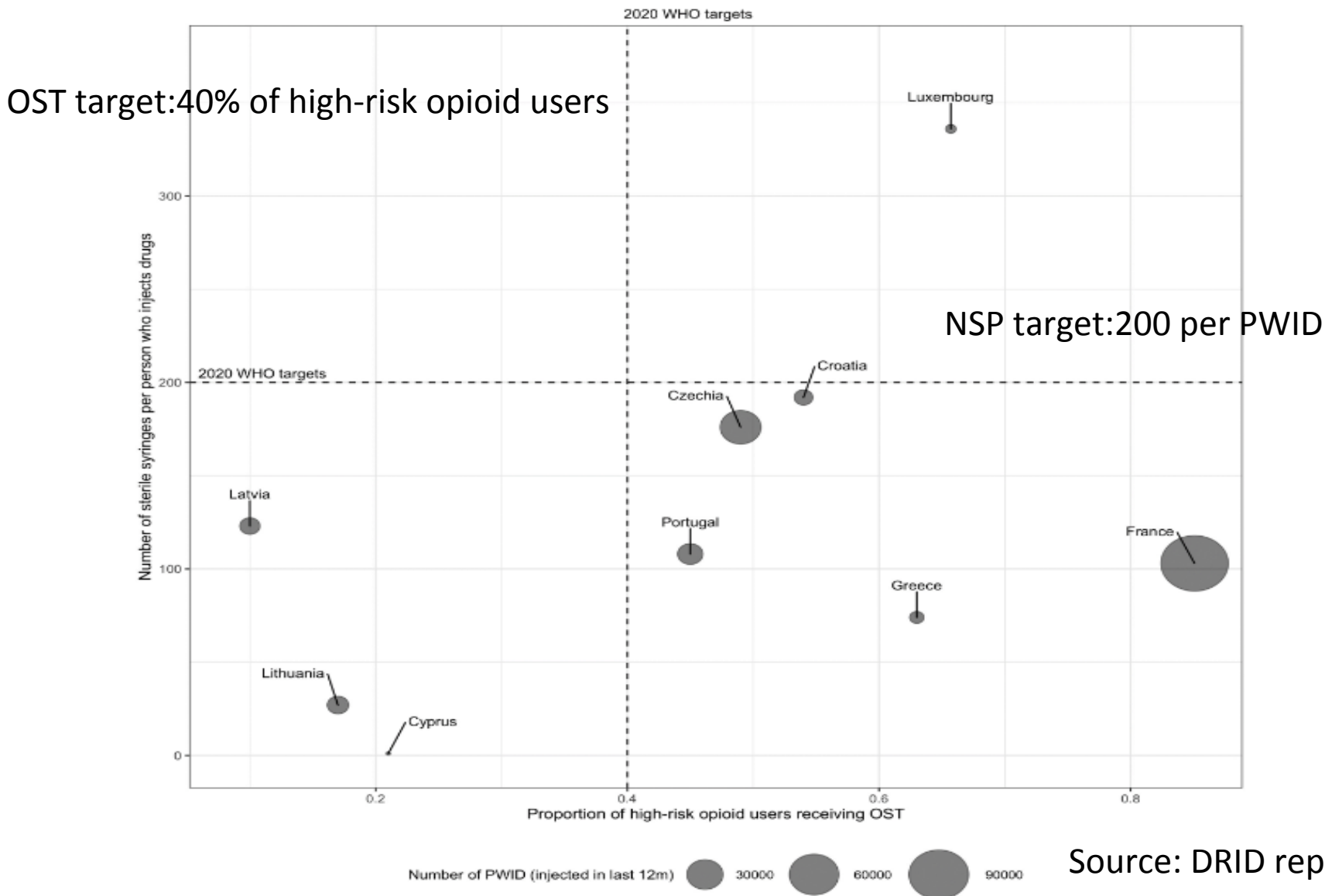


**YEARS OF  
MONITORING**  
1995–2020

# Hepatitis Elimination Barometer

Area	Indicator	Related 2020 target
CONTEXT AND NEED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Number of PWID</li> <li>▪ Main drugs injected</li> <li>▪ Sharing of needles/syringes</li> <li>▪ Prevalence of HCV and HBV</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Indicators available and context documented</li> </ul>
INPUTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hepatitis national policy/action plan inclusive of PWID</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ National policy adopted</li> </ul>
PREVENTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Needles/syringes coverage</li> <li>▪ Opioid substitution treatment coverage</li> <li>▪ HBV vaccination availability in prison</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 200 per PWID per year</li> <li>✓ 40% in treatment</li> <li>✓ Targeted vaccination in place</li> </ul>
TESTING & LINKAGE TO CARE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ HCV/HBV testing availability in drug facilities/prisons</li> <li>▪ Proportion of PWID tested for HCV in the last year</li> <li>▪ Notifications of acute and chronic HVC/HBV cases</li> <li>▪ DAA treatment availability for PWID</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 50% of PWID with chronic HCV/HBV diagnosed</li> <li>✓ 75% of eligible patients treated</li> </ul>
IMPACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prevalence of HCV among young and new PWID (proxy for incidence)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 30% reduction (baseline =2015)</li> </ul>

# Number of clean syringes distributed yearly per PWID and proportion of high-risk opioid users receiving OST, 9 EU countries, 2018



# EMCDDA HepC Initiative

Aim: Support countries in implementation of HCV testing and care in drug services

How: Services, capacity building and training

Outputs:

- Knowledge Questionnaire HepC (2019)
- Compilation of new models of hepatitis C testing and care for drugs services (2019)
- Guide to HCV diagnostic process with a checklist (in press)



EMCDDA Harm Reduction Initiative – Increasing HCV testing and referral in drug services for PWID

Knowledge questionnaire for drug service staff

**Introduction:**

How much do you know about viral hepatitis and the tests and treatment available? This short questionnaire will help us find out which topics people tend to be less sure about so that more information and training in these areas can be provided – and we hope it will be a useful knowledge refresher for you!

The questionnaire is anonymous and is not designed to evaluate people so you can be completely honest without any worries.

A. Hepatitis C	I knew this already	This is new to me
1. The level of hepatitis C in the general population in Europe is generally low (below 2%).	( )	( )
2. The level of hepatitis C among people who inject drugs in Europe is generally high (often 50% or even higher).	( )	( )
3. Hepatitis C testing and treatment has benefits for both the individuals treated and for others, as the transmission of the virus is reduced.	( )	( )
4. Hepatitis C virus (HCV) is mainly transmitted through blood, including during sex.	( )	( )



## Hepatitis C: new models of care for drugs services



EMCDDA contract CT.17.HEA.0088.1.0

July 2019



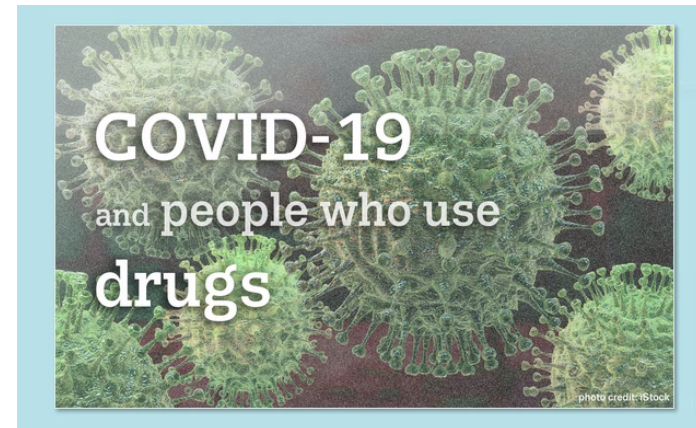
# Joint ECDC/EMCDDA public health guidance for PWID

- First edition launched in 2011
- Update of systematic reviews of evidence
- Incorporation of significant biomedical advances in testing & treatment
- Increasing focus on implementation practice and quality
- Reflection of new global policy context
- Launch 2021



# COVID-19 lessons

- ❖ Harm reduction providers essential part of the health system response to the pandemic;
- ❖ Need to invest in innovation, acquiring digital skills;
- ❖ No more 'silos', but strong networks to deliver an integrated, person-centred response;
- ❖ The Joint Statement of the Directors of EMCDDA, ECDC and EUROPOL presented at the CND on 26 June



# Recent publications and coming soon...



- EDR 2020
- OST access and diversion
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the European Response Guide
- Prison Insights
- COVID-19 briefings
- EMCDDA Drug Winter School 2021





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**Thank you**

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