



**3<sup>rd</sup> EU HCV Virtual Policy Summit Final Programme**  
**"Securing Wider EU Commitment to the Elimination of HCV"**  
**Wednesday, 24 March 2021**

**14:00 – 18:30 CET**

**Meeting Chairs: Prof Angelos Hatzakis, Prof George Papatheodoridis and Prof Heiner Wedemeyer**  
**Hepatitis B&C Public Policy Association**

Timing	Programme Item	Speakers
14:00 – 14:25	<p><b><u>Welcome and Introductory comments</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Welcome and scene setting</i></b> <i>"5 years on: Revisiting the Elimination Manifesto"</i></li>   <li>• <b><i>Introductory comments on the continued need/opportunity to eliminate HCV in Europe</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>European Association for the Study of the Liver</i></li>   <li>- <i>ACHIEVE Coalition</i></li>   <li>- <i>WHO Europe</i></li>   <li>- <i>European Parliament</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Prof Heiner Wedemeyer</b>, Co-Chair HepBCPPA and Hannover Medical School, Germany  <b>Prof George Papatheodoridis</b>, Co-chair HepBCPPA and University of Athens Medical School, Greece</p> <p><b>Prof Maria Buti</b>, EU Policy Councillor, EASL</p> <p><b>Mr George Kalamitsis</b>, Co-Chair ACHIEVE Coalition and Chair, Liver Patients International</p> <p><b>Dr Antons Mozalevskis</b>, WHO Europe</p> <p><b>Mr Petros Kokkalis</b>, MEP, Greece</p>
14:25 – 14:55	<p><b><u>Keynote addresses</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>How the EU can help deliver on the WHO elimination goal for viral Hepatitis B and C</i></b></li>   <li>• <b><i>The elimination of viral hepatitis as a public health threat in the EU : Keeping People Who Inject Drugs in focus</i></b></li> </ul>	<p><b><i>Chair: Prof Rafael Esteban Mur</i></b> Co-Chair HepBCPPA and University Hospital Vall d'Hebron, Barcelona, Spain</p> <p><b>Mr John F Ryan</b>, Director of Public Health, Country Knowledge, Crisis Management, DG SANTE, European Commission</p> <p><b>Mr Alexis Goosdeel</b>, Director, European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction</p>

<p>14:55 – 15:40</p>	<p><b><u>Session 1. Progress in HCV elimination in Europe</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Facts and figures of HCV elimination in Europe</i></li> <li>• <i>Care continuum and barriers</i></li> <li>• <i>Synergies of harm reduction and HCV elimination</i></li> <li>• <i>Panel discussion and Q&amp;A moderated by session chairs</i></li> </ul>	<p><b><i>Chairs:</i></b> Prof Massimo Colombo, San Raffaele Hospital, Milan, Italy  Prof Markus Peck-Radosavljevic, Klinikum Klagenfurt, Klagenfurt, Austria</p> <p>Dr Homie Razavi, Centre for Disease Analysis, USA</p> <p>Prof Jeffrey Lazarus, ISGlobal, Barcelona, Spain</p> <p>Prof Sharon Hutchinson, Glasgow Caledonian University, Glasgow, UK</p>
<p>15:40 – 16:25</p>	<p><b><u>Session 2. HCV diagnosis in the era of HCV elimination</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Screening of the general population</i></li> <li>• <i>Diagnosing the risk groups – the hidden and mobile population</i></li> <li>• <i>From evidence to impact: reaching the elimination targets in the EU/EEA</i></li> <li>• <i>Panel discussion and Q&amp;A moderated by session chairs</i></li> </ul>	<p><b><i>Chairs:</i></b> Mr Bertrand Audoin  <i>International Association of Providers of AIDS Care</i>  Prof Nurdan Tözün, Acıbadem University School of Medicine, Turkey</p> <p>Prof Stanislas Pol, Hôpital Cochin, Université Sorbonne, Paris, France.</p> <p>Dr Ruth Zimmermann, Robert Koch Institute Berlin, Germany</p> <p>Dr Lina Nerlander, European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control</p>
<p>16:25 – 16:45</p>	<p><b><u>Session 3. COVID-19 and HCV</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Impact of COVID-19 on HCV elimination</i></li> <li>• <i>Q&amp;A</i></li> </ul>	<p><b><i>Chair:</i></b> Prof Harry LA Janssen, Toronto Western and Toronto General Hospital, University Health Network, Toronto, Canada</p> <p>Prof Alessio Aghemo, Humanitas University Hospital, Milan, Italy</p>
<p>16:45 – 16:50</p>	<p><b><u>Session 4a. Introduction to breakout sessions on Best Practices at the National level (PLENARY SESSION BEFORE BREAKOUT)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Introduction to breakout sessions</i></li> </ul>	<p><b><i>Chair:</i></b> Prof Mojca Maticic, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Slovenia</p>

<p>16:50 – 17:30</p>	<p><b><u>Session 4b. Elements of an effective elimination strategy - Best Practices at the National level (4 BREAKOUT SESSIONS – see details below)</u></b></p> <p><i>Breakout Session A. ACHIEVE Coalition - Lessons learnt from COVID-19 for the elimination of HCV</i>  <i>Breakout Session B. National Elimination Plans</i>  <i>Breakout Session C. Best practice case studies from Ireland, Greece, Portugal and Montenegro</i>  <i>Breakout Session D. Best practice case studies from Spain, Italy, Romania and Egypt</i></p>	<p><b>Breakout sessions</b></p>
<p>17:30 – 18:20</p>	<p><b><u>Session 5. What political response/leadership?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>EU4Health-funded network of Excellence</i></li> <li>• <i>The role of European cities to eliminate HCV</i></li> <li>• <i>EU for Health 2021: HCV elimination will reduce cancer</i></li> <li>• <i>Presentation of Call to Action</i></li> <li>• <i>Panel discussion and Q&amp;A moderated by session chairs</i></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Chairs:</u></b> <b>Dr Ricardo Baptista-Leite MP</b> UNITE, Global Network Parliamentarians Network to End Infectious Diseases  <b>Dr Manuel Carballo</b>, International Centre for Migration, Health and Development, Switzerland</p> <p><b>Dr Cristian-Silviu Buşoi</b>, MEP, Romania</p> <p><b>Mr Kostas Bakoyannis</b>, Mayor of Athens, Greece</p> <p><b>Mr Aldo Patriciello</b>, MEP, Italy (video presentation) and <b>Mr Tomislav Sokol</b>, MEP Croatia</p> <p><b>Prof Jeffrey Lazarus</b>, ISGlobal, Barcelona, Spain*</p>
<p>18:20 – 18:30</p>	<p><b><u>Concluding remarks</u></b></p>	<p><b>Prof Heiner Wedemeyer</b>, Co-Chair HepBCPPA and Hannover Medical School, Germany  <b>Prof George Papatheodoridis</b>, Co-chair HepBCPPA and University of Athens Medical School, Greece</p>

\* on behalf of **Maria Buti, Angelos Hatzakis, Marko Korenjak, Eberhard Schatz and Heiner Wedemeyer**

**Details of breakout sessions – 16:50-17:30**

Timing	Programme Item	Invited Speakers
16:50 – 17:30	<p><b><u>Session 4b. Elements of an effective elimination strategy – Best Practices at the National level (5 BREAKOUT SESSIONS)</u></b></p> <p>Breakout Session A. ACHIEVE Coalition – Lessons learnt from Covid-19 for the elimination of HCV</p> <p>Breakout Session B. National Elimination Plans</p> <p>Breakout Session C. Best practice case studies from Ireland, Greece, Portugal and Montenegro</p> <p>Breakout Session D. Best practice case studies from Spain, Italy, Romania and Egypt</p>	
	<p><b><u>Breakout session A. ACHIEVE Coalition</u></b>  <b><i>Lessons learnt from COVID-19 for the elimination of HCV</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on people with hepatitis</i></li> <li>• <i>Implications for future strategies for testing and treating of hepatitis</i></li> <li>• <i>The added value of modern technology for better service delivery and data collection</i></li> <li>• <i>Discussion and Q&amp;A</i></li> </ul>	<p><b><i>Moderator: Prof David Goldberg</i></b>, Glasgow Caledonian University, Glasgow, UK.</p> <p><b>Prof Rui Tato Marinho</b>, Santa Maria Hospital, Medical School of Lisbon, Portugal</p> <p><b>Dr Philip Bruggmann</b>, Arud Centre for Addiction Medicine, Zurich, Switzerland</p> <p><b>Prof Mario Poljak</b>, Slovenian HIV/AIDS Reference Centre, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia</p>
	<p><b><u>Breakout session B. National Elimination Plans</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Update on progress in the UK</i></li> <li>• <i>Update on progress in Italy</i></li> <li>• <i>Update on progress in Israel</i></li> <li>• <i>Update on progress in Spain</i></li> </ul>	<p><b><i>Chair: Dr Zobair Younossi</i></b>, Inova Health Fairfax Medical Campus, USA</p> <p><b>Mr Mark Gillyon-Powell</b>, Head of HCV Elimination Programme, NHS England</p> <p><b>Dr Loreta Kondili</b> Head of HCV Elimination Programme, National Health Institute, Italy</p> <p><b>Dr Yuval Dadon</b>, HCV National Plan Director, Ministry of Health, Israel</p> <p><b>Dr Pilar Aparicio Azcárraga</b>, Director of Public Health, Ministry of Health, Spain</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Discussion and Q&amp;A</i></li> </ul>	
	<p><b><u>Breakout session C. Best practice case studies from Ireland, Greece, Portugal and Montenegro</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>HepCare Project, Dublin</i></li> <li>• <i>Aristotle HCV, Athens and Alexandros in Thessaloniki</i></li> <li>• <i>Microelimination of Hep C virus in severe drug users Mobile Outreach Programme /MOP - Lisbon</i></li> <li>• <i>PWIDs: harm-reduction and supervised consumption rooms</i></li> <li>• <i>Discussion and Q&amp;A</i></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Chair:</u></b> Prof Antonio Craxi, University of Palermo, Italy</p> <p><b>Prof John S Lambert</b>, Mater Misericordiae Hospital, UCD Medical School, Dublin, Ireland</p> <p><b>Prof Vana Sypsa</b>, University of Athens Medical School, Greece</p> <p><b>Dr Rodrigo Coutinho</b>, Ares do Pinhal, Lisbon, Portugal</p> <p><b>Mr Ivan Vukovic</b>, Mayor of Podgorica, Montenegro</p>
	<p><b><u>Breakout session D. Best practice case studies from Spain, Italy, Romania and Egypt</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Microhepcero Catalonia: SLTC in migrant-vulnerable population</i></li> <li>• <i>Dual testing of HCV and Covid-19 (ACE)</i></li> <li>• <i>European-funded Hepatitis screening and diagnostic programme</i></li> <li>• <i>Egypt: national best practice for HCV elimination</i></li> <li>• <i>Discussion and Q&amp;A</i></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Chair:</u></b> Prof Laurent Castera, Department of Hepatology Hôpital Beaujon, University of Paris-VII, France</p> <p><b>Dr Joan Colom Farran</b>, Catalanian Public Health Agency, Barcelona, Spain</p> <p><b>Mr Marco Bartoli</b>, EpaC Onlus, Italy</p> <p><b>Prof Cora Pop</b>, Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania</p> <p><b>Prof Gamal Esmat</b>, University of Cairo, Egypt</p>

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