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refer to: H3-370-1

Your reference:

Dr Jorge Enrique González  
INEI - ANLIS "Dr Carlos G. Malbran  
Av. Velez Sarsfield 563  
Buenos Aires  
Argentina

25 May 2016

Dear Dr González,

Enclosed please find a copy of the “Updated guidelines for the screening, care and treatment of persons with chronic hepatitis C infection” that was issued in April of this year. On behalf of the WHO, I would like to thank you, as a peer reviewer, for your contributions to the development of these guidelines.

The quality of a WHO guideline depends in large part on the expertise and contributions of a large number of individuals. Peer reviewers play a key part in assuring that the recommendations are sound and that the guideline document is accurate. Thus, we very much appreciate the time that you took to read and provide comments on the draft guideline. Your input was very valuable for the successful development of the guideline document.

Thank you again for helping WHO to produce this guideline document, which is a small, but important building block that should facilitate the large-scale expansion of hepatitis treatment around the world.

I hope that we will be able to count on your expertise for future WHO hepatitis work.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Stefan Wiktor  
Team Lead  
Global Hepatitis Programme  
Department of HIV/AIDS

# GUIDELINES FOR THE SCREENING, CARE AND TREATMENT OF PERSONS WITH CHRONIC HEPATITIS C INFECTION

UPDATED VERSION

APRIL 2016

GUIDELINES



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many professionals from a range of backgrounds and specialties have contributed to the development of this guidance. WHO is sincerely grateful for their time and support.

## Guidelines Development Group

### 2016 Recommendations

The chair of the Guidelines Development Group was Saeed Sadiq Hamid (The Aga Khan University & Hospital, Pakistan). Roger Chou (Oregon Health & Science University, USA) was the guideline methodologist.

The following experts served on the Guidelines Development Group:

Isabelle Andrieux-Meyer (Médecins Sans Frontières, Switzerland); Evaldo Stanislaw Affonso Araújo (University of São Paulo Hospital das Clínicas Infectious Diseases, Brazil); Manal Hamdy El-Sayed (Ain Shams University, Egypt); Charles Gore (World Hepatitis Alliance, Switzerland); Giten Khwairakpam (TREAT Asia/amFAR, Thailand); Karine Lacombe (Hôpital Saint-Antoine, Sorbonne-Universités, France); Olufunmilayo Lesi (University of Lagos, Nigeria); Niklas Luhmann (Médecins du Monde, France); Francesco Negro (Geneva University Hospitals, Switzerland); David R. Nelson (University of Florida, USA); Ponsiano Ocama (Makerere University, Uganda); Baatarkhuu Oidov (Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences, Mongolia); Jürgen Rockstroh (University of Bonn, Germany); Tracy Swan (Treatment Action Group, USA); Lynn E. Taylor (The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, USA); Emma Thomson (University of Glasgow, UK); Lai Wei (Peking University Health Science Center, China).

### 2014 Recommendations

The chairs of the Guidelines Development Group were Bryce Smith (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USA) and Yngve Falck-Ytter (Case Western Reserve University, USA). Rebecca Morgan (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USA) and Yngve Falck-Ytter were the guideline methodologists.

The following experts served on the Guidelines Development Group:

Isabelle Andrieux-Meyer (Médecins sans Frontières, Switzerland); Ruth Birgin (Women and Harm Reduction International Network, Australia); Scott Bowden (Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory, Australia); Vladimir Chulanov (Central Research Institute of Epidemiology, Reference Center for Viral Hepatitis, Russia); Wahid Doss (National Hepatology and Tropical Medicine Research Institute, Egypt); Nicolas Durier (TREAT Asia/amfAR – Foundation for AIDS Research, Thailand); Serge Paul Eholie (Service des Maladies Infectieuses et Tropicales, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Treichville, Côte

d'Ivoire); Manal Hamdy El-Sayed (Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, Egypt); Jorge Enrique González (National Reference Laboratory, Argentina); Charles Gore (World Hepatitis Alliance, Switzerland); Koji Ishii (National Institute of Infectious Diseases, Japan); S. M. Wasim Jafri (The Aga Khan University, Pakistan); Maud Lemoine (Medical Research Council, The Gambia Unit, Imperial College London, United Kingdom [UK]); Anna Lok (University of Michigan and American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases, USA); Endale Kassa Lulu (Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia); Nahum Méndez-Sánchez (Medica Sur Clinic & Foundation, Mexico); Shiv Kumar Sarin (Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, India); Masashi Mizokami (National Institute of Infectious Diseases, Japan); Dasha Ocheret (Eurasian Harm Reduction Network, Lithuania); Frederick Okoth (Kenya Medical Research Institute, Kenya); John Parry (Public Health England, UK); Umesh Sharma (Asian Network of People who Use Drugs, India/Australia); Bernd Stalenkrantz (International Network of People who Use Drugs, Sweden); Tracy Swan (Treatment Action Group, USA); Lynn E. Taylor (The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, USA); Xiaochun Wang (National Centre for AIDS/STD Prevention and Control, China).

## External peer review group

The following experts served as external peer reviewers of the draft guidelines documents:

Jude Byrne (Australian Injecting & Illicit Drug Users League, Australia); Vladimir Chulanov (Central Research Institute of Epidemiology, Russia); Curtis Cooper (University of Ottawa, Canada); Graham Cooke (Imperial College London, UK); Marc Ghany (National Institutes of Health, USA); Jorge Enrique Gonzalez (National Reference Laboratory, Argentina); Sharon Hutchinson (Health Protection Scotland, UK); Wasim Jafri (Aga Khan University, Pakistan); Endale Kassa (Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia); Ahmed Khatib (Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Zanzibar, Tanzania); Anna Lok (University of Michigan, USA); Pauline Londeix (Act Up-Basel, Europe); Ludmila Maistat (Alliance for Public Health, Ukraine); Nahum Mendez-Sanchez (Medica Sur Clinic and Foundation, Mexico); Mojca Maticic (University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Slovenia); Lars Peters (University of Copenhagen, Denmark); Shiv Kumar Sarin (Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, India); Mark Thursz (Imperial College, UK); Emmanouil Tsochatzis (Royal Free Hospital and University College London Institute of Liver and Digestive Health, UK); Imam Waked (National Liver Institute, Egypt); Takaji Wakita (National Institute of Infectious Diseases, Japan); Yazdan Yazdanpanah (Hopital Bichat Claude Bernard, France)

## Guidelines Development

The first drafts of the guidelines were written by Emma Thomson (2014 recommendations) and Nowlan Selvapatt (2016 recommendations) (Imperial College, London, UK). Additional contributions were provided by Isabelle Andrieux-Meyer, Kuniaki Arai, Nathan Ford, Azumi Ishizaki, Wasim Jafri, Niklas Luhmann and Lynn E. Taylor. Drafts were reviewed and inputs provided by members of the Guidelines Development Group, peer reviewers, and WHO Secretariat staff. The final draft was edited by Bandana Malhotra.

## Steering committees

The following WHO staff formed the Guidelines Steering Committee for the 2016 recommendations:

Department of HIV and  
Easterbrook, Nathan Ford, J  
Essential Medicines and He  
WHO Regional Office for the

The following WHO staff fo  
recommendations:

Stefan Wiktor, Tim Nguyen (I  
of Substance Abuse); Philip  
Anita Sands (Essential Medi

We extend our gratitude to  
the WHO guidelines develop  
Susan Norris and Myriam Fe  
Briand and Charles Penn (D  
Eramova (WHO Regional O  
Harmanci, Sarah Hess, Go  
Oyuntungalag Namjilsuren,  
Tewolde, (HIV/AIDS Depart  
Tuberculosis Programme).

## Systematic review tea

We would like to credit the  
analysis, budget impact anal  
recommendations: Edward M  
Evaluative Sciences, Vancouv

And for the 2014 recommend  
Margaret Hellard – principal t  
Melbourne, Australia); Sharo  
Caledonian University and He

We appreciate the contribut  
presentations and shared their  
Louise Longworth (Brunel Ins  
Emma Thomson (University  
Tsochatzis (Royal Free Hospita  
of Paris, France).

## Overall coordination

Stefan Wiktor coordinated the

## Funding

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