

## 4<sup>th</sup> Hepatitis C Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting: Science Symposium

November 28, 2018

TIME	PRESENTATIONS	SPEAKERS
9:00-9:30	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b>	<b>Dr. Amiran Gamkrelidze, NCDC</b> <b>Dr. Francisco Averhoff, US CDC</b> <b>Dr. Tatia Kuchuloria, CDCF</b>
9:30-10:00	<b>Immediate and long-term clinical outcomes of DAA treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment of the national hepatitis C elimination program: treatment outcomes and associated factors</li> <li>• Long-term health outcome among HCV patients with advanced liver fibrosis treated through the HCV elimination program</li> </ul>	<b>Dr. Lali Sharvadze, IDACIRC</b>  <b>Dr. Maia Kajaia, Health Research Union</b>
10:00-11:00	<b>Evaluation of diagnostics and treatment delivery models both at specialized and non-specialized HCV care settings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrating HCV screening and simplified treatment services in primary healthcare</li> <li>• Evaluation of attitude of staff and beneficiaries regarding HCV integrated treatment at harm reduction centers</li> <li>• Simplification of pretreatment diagnostic evaluation and on-treatment monitoring procedures within HCV Elimination Project</li> <li>• Effectiveness of Three Models of HCV Diagnostics in Harm Reduction: Impact on linkage to care—A pilot project in Georgia</li> </ul>	<b>Dr. Akaki Abutidze, IDACIRC</b>  <b>Dr. Lasha Gulbani Health Research Union</b>  <b>Dr. Jaba Zarkua, Clinic Mrcheveli</b>  <b>Dr. Sonjelle Shilton, FIND</b>
11:00-11:30	<b>BREAK</b>	
11:30-12:30	<b>Novel Approaches to Laboratory Diagnostics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Xpert HCV viral load Performance Evaluation</li> <li>• Evaluation of the diagnostic performance of the Xpert® Fingerstick HCV Viral Load Assay</li> <li>• Building of Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) Capacity for Hepatitis C Surveillance</li> <li>• Establishment of the system for archiving samples collected within the Hepatitis C Elimination Program</li> </ul>	<b>Dr. Maia Alkhazashvili, NCDC</b> <b>Dr. Maia Alkhazashvili, NCDC</b>  <b>Dr. Adam Kotorashvili, NCDC</b>  <b>Dr. Nazi Chitadze, NCDC</b>
12:30-1:30	<b>LUNCH</b>	
1:30-2:15	<b>Improving Access to Care and Treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barriers and facilitators to enrollment in the treatment program among general population</li> <li>• Barriers and facilitators to enrollment in the treatment program among PWIDs</li> <li>• Novel approaches to improving HCV screening and linkage to care</li> <li>• Screening and linkage to care among hospitalized patients</li> </ul>	<b>Dr. Maia Tsereteli, NCDC</b>  <b>Dr. Maia Butsashvili, Health Research Union</b>  <b>Dr. Tamar Zurashvili, Health Research Union</b> <b>Dr. Muazzam Nasrullah, US CDC</b>
2:15-2:45	<b>Surveillance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing a Georgian PWID cohort study to estimate incidence of HCV infection</li> </ul>	<b>Dr. Nikoloz Chkhartishvili, IDACIRC</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HCV-attributable hepatocellular carcinoma among persons with hepatobiliary cancer diagnoses in Georgia: 2015-2016</li> </ul>	<b>Dr. Ana Aslanikashvili, NCDC</b>
<b>2:45-3:10</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	
<b>3:10-3:50</b>	<b>Surveillance (continued)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retrospective chart review in ID hospitals as a preliminary step in setting up sentinel surveillance for viral hepatitis</li> <li>Prevalence of hepatitis B and associated factors</li> <li>HCV Reinfection Rates after Treatment in People Who inject Drugs of a Prospective Cohort in Tbilisi, Georgia</li> </ul>	<b>Dr. Ketevan Galdavadze, NCDC</b>  <b>Dr. Ana Kasradze, NCDC</b>  <b>Dr. Tamar Kikvidze, MDM</b>
<b>3:50-4:05</b>	<b>Economic evaluation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Estimation of the cost effectiveness of the HCV treatment program in Georgia</li> </ul>	<b>Dr. Irina Tskhomelidze, CDCF</b>
<b>4:05-4:20</b>	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	<b>Dr. Amiran Gamkrelidze, NCDC</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Hepatitis C Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting: Day 1</b> November 29, 2018		
<b>8:30-9:00</b>	<b>Registration</b>	
<b>9:00-9:30</b>	<b>Welcome and opening remarks</b>	<b>Dr. David Sergeenko</b> , Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia <b>Mr. Ross Wilson</b> , US Ambassador in Georgia <b>Dr. Beth Skaggs</b> , CDC South Caucus Office <b>Mr. Gregg Alton</b> , Gilead Sciences <b>Dr. Marian Ivanusha</b> , WHO Georgia Office Head
<b>9:30-10:00</b>	<b>Introduction of TAG members and role of the TAG</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Purpose of the meeting and overview of agenda</li> <li>Introduction of TAG members</li> <li>Review 2017 TAG recommendations</li> </ul>	<b>Dr. Paul Weidle</b> , US CDC (Chair) & <b>Dr. Margaret Hellard</b> , Burnet Institute, Australia (Co-Chair)
<b>10:00-10:30</b>	Overview and progress of the HCV Elimination Program in Georgia	<b>Dr. David Sergeenko</b> , Minister of IDPs from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
<b>10:30-10:45</b>	<b>Media Coverage</b>	
<b>10:45-11:15</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	
<b>11:15-11:30</b>	Key issues and challenges for achieving HCV elimination in Georgia	<b>Dr. Francisco Averhoff</b> , US CDC
<b>11:30-12:00</b>	Decentralization and integration of HCV services in primary care, hospitals and harm reduction settings in Georgia—progress and challenges	<b>Dr. Maia Lagvilava</b> , Deputy Minister of IDPs from the occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia

<p><b>12:00-1:00</b></p> <p>12:00-12:30</p> <p>12:30-1:00</p>	<p><b>Activities to Improve HCV Surveillance and Program Effectiveness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HCV Surveillance framework of HCV elimination program in Georgia: current situation, progress, challenges, and vision for future</li> <li>The interim impact and ongoing treatment requirements for achieving HCV elimination in Georgia</li> </ul> <p>Discussion by TAG/Q&amp;A</p>	<p><b>TAG discussant/moderator: Dr. Antons Mozalevskis</b>, WHO-EURO, Denmark &amp; <b>Dr. Maha Talaat</b>, WHO-EMRO, Egypt</p> <p><b>Dr. Amiran Gamkrelidze</b>, NCDC</p> <p><b>Dr. Peter Vickerman</b>, Bristol University, UK</p>
<p><b>1:00-2:00</b></p>	<p><b>LUNCH</b></p>	
<p><b>2:00-3:20</b></p> <p>2:00-2:30</p> <p>2:30-3:20</p>	<p><b>Identify Persons Infected with HCV (and Linked to Care)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HCV screening TAG 2017 recommendations and key challenges in 2018</li> <li>Screening of HIV, TB, and HCV at primary healthcare settings—A pilot project in Samegrelo-Zemo Stvaneti Region</li> </ul> <p>Discussion by TAG/Q&amp;A</p>	<p><b>TAG discussant/moderator: Dr. Carlos Del Rio</b>, Emory University, USA &amp; <b>Dr. Sharon Hutchinson</b>, National Health Service, Scotland, UK</p> <p><b>Vladimer Getia</b>, NCDC</p> <p><b>Irma Khonelidze</b>, NCDC</p>
<p><b>3:20-03:40</b></p> <p><b>3:40-4:40</b></p> <p>3:40-4:20</p> <p>4:20-4.40</p>	<p><b>BREAK</b></p> <p><b>Provide HCV Care and Treatment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HCV care and treatment TAG 2017 recommendations, status of access to HCV care and treatment, key achievements, key challenges Simplified testing and cure strategies in decentralization of HCV services</li> <li>Update on HCV screening, care and treatment in Georgia’s Corrections System</li> </ul> <p>Discussion by TAG/Q&amp;A</p>	<p><b>TAG discussant/moderator: Dr. Graham Foster</b>, University of London, UK &amp; <b>Dr. Jorge Mera</b>, Cherokee Nation, USA</p> <p><b>Dr. Tengiz Tsertsvadze</b>, IDACIRC</p> <p><b>Tinatin Sudadze</b>, Ministry of Justice of Georgia, Special Penitentiary Service</p>
<p><b>4:40-5:40</b></p> <p>4:40-4:50</p> <p>4:50-5:40</p>	<p><b>Promote Advocacy, Awareness, Education, and Partnerships for HCV-Associated Resource Mobilization</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TAG 2017 recommendations describe current education efforts, channels of communication, target populations, key achievements, key challenges.</li> </ul> <p><b>Round Table/ Discussion by TAG/Q &amp; A</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Temur Radiani, Hepatitis C Cured Patient Association</li> <li>Maia Butsashvili HRU</li> <li>Konstantine Rukhadze, GeCAB</li> </ul>	<p><b>TAG discussant/moderator: Dr. Tatjana Reic</b>, European Liver Patients Association, Croatia &amp; <b>Dr. Margaret Hellard</b>, Burnet Institute, Australia</p> <p><b>Dr. Marina Topuridze</b>, NCDC</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maka Gogia, GHRN</li> <li>• Konstantine Labartkava, New Vector</li> </ul>	
5:40-6:00	<b>Summary of Day 1 and Closing Remarks</b>	
6:30	<b>Reception by FIND (Academy Lounge Restaurant)</b>	
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Hepatitis C Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting: Day 2 November 30, 2018</b>		
<b>TIME</b>	<b>PRESENTATIONS</b>	<b>SPEAKERS</b>
9:00-9:15	<b>Opening Remarks, Review Day 1</b>	<b>Dr. Paul Weidle</b> , US CDC (Chair) & <b>Dr. Margaret Hellard</b> , Burnet Institute, Australia (Co-Chair)
9:15-10:15	<b>Prevent HCV Transmission</b> i. <b>Harm Reduction</b>	<b>TAG discussant/moderators: Dr. Margaret Hellard</b> , Burnet Institute, Australia, <b>Dr. Sharon Hutchinson</b> , National Health Service, Scotland, UK
9:15-9:35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TAG 2017 recommendations, update on prevention, screening and linkage to treatment of PWID</li> <li>• Decentralization of HCV screening, care, and treatment in harm reduction settings</li> </ul>	<b>Dr. Ketevan Stvilia</b> , NCDC
9:35-10:15	Discussion by TAG/Q & A	<b>Dr. Maia Butsashvili</b> , Health Research Union
10:15-10:35	<b>BREAK</b>	
10:35-11:15	<b>Prevent HCV Transmission (continued)</b> ii. <b>Blood Safety</b>	<b>TAG discussant/moderator: Dr. Evan Bloch</b> , Johns Hopkins University, US & <b>Dr. Anders Widell</b> , Lund University, Sweden <b>Dr. Eteri Kipiani</b> , NCDC
10:35-11:05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TAG 2017 recommendations, status of blood safety program in blood banks: successes, challenges, and plans to address challenges</li> <li>• Blood bank assessments in Georgia</li> <li>• Blood Bank screening quality assurance: Current practices and future directions</li> </ul>	<b>Dr. Evan Bloch</b> , Johns Hopkins University, US <b>Dr. Nazi Chitadze</b> , NCDC
11:05-11:15	Discussion by TAG/Q & A	
11:15-11:45	<b>Prevent HCV Transmission (continued)</b> iii. <b>Infection Control in Healthcare, Non-traditional Healthcare and Other Community Settings</b>	<b>TAG discussant/moderator: Dr. Maha Talaat</b> , WHO-EMRO, Egypt & <b>Dr. Antons Mozalevskis</b> , WHO-EURO, Denmark <b>Dr. Marina Darakhvelidze</b> , Ministry of IDPs from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
11:15-11:25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key challenges (identified in 2017), 2017 TAG recommendations, 2017 progress/activities, gaps, key M &amp; E indicators</li> </ul>	
11:25-11:45	Discussion by TAG/Q&A	
11:45-12:20	<b>Improve HCV Laboratory Diagnostics</b>	<b>TAG discussant/moderator: Dr. Anders Widell</b> , Lund University,

11:45-12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2017 TAG recommendations, progress in implementation of the diagnostic component of HCV elimination strategy; role of diagnostics in decentralization of HCV services Improving quality of HCV testing in Georgia through National External Quality Assurance Program</li> </ul>	Sweden & <b>Dr. Evan Bloch</b> , Johns Hopkins University, US <b>Dr. Maia Alkhazashvili</b> , NCDC
12:00-12:20	Discussion by TAG/Q & A	
<b>12:20-1:20</b>	<b>Notes from the field: Progress in HCV Elimination</b>	<b>TAG discussant/moderator: Dr. Carlos Del Rio</b> , Emory University, USA & <b>Dr. Jorge Mera</b> , Cherokee Nation, USA & <b>Dr. Sergeenko</b> , Minister of IDPs from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
	<b>Presentations</b>	
12:20-12:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Samegrelo Region</li> <li>Adjara Region</li> </ul>	<b>Anzor Kobalia</b> , Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti local government representative <b>Nino Nizharadze</b> , Deputy Minister of Health and Social Care of Adjara A/R
12:40-1:20	Round Table Discussion	
<b>1:20-4:20</b>	<b>Lunch for All and Free Time</b> <b>TAG Members Lunch</b>	
<b>4:20-5:50</b>	<b>TAG Recommendations and 2018 Priorities</b> (5-minute presentations followed by 10 minutes of discussion for each section) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve HCV Surveillance and Program Effectiveness</li> <li>Identify persons infected with HCV</li> <li>Provide HCV care and treatment</li> <li>Promote advocacy, awareness, education, and partnerships for HCV-associated resource mobilization</li> <li>Prevent HCV transmission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Harm reduction</li> <li>Blood safety</li> <li>Infection control in healthcare, non-traditional healthcare, and other community settings</li> </ul> </li> <li>Improve HCV laboratory diagnostics</li> </ul>	<b>Dr. Paul Weidle</b> , US CDC (Chair) & <b>Dr. Margaret Hellard</b> , Burnet Institute, Australia (Co-Chair) & <b>TAG members</b>
<b>5:50-6:05</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Closing Remarks</b></li> </ul>	<b>Dr. David Sergeenko</b> , Minister of IDPs from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia