Challenges of HCV Elimination Programme - Perspective of Patients Community

Konstantine Rukhadze

Georgian Community Advisory Board - GeCAB

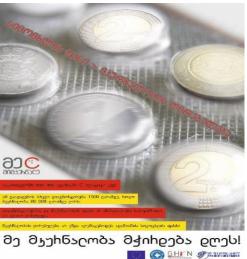


GeCAB

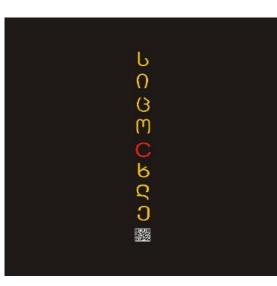


Communication Messages













Communicating with the media



Disclosures

- ✓ Health is a Human Right
- ✓ Access to Essential Medicines is a Human Right
- ✓ Access to Rights is a Right
- ✓ People who use Drugs are People first and foremost
- ✓ Universal, Publicly funded system is the most equitable one
- ✓ Cost is Reality, Price is a Choice
- ✓ No Elimination, Without Decriminalization
- ✓ Advocacy is repeating the same truth, over and over again.

GeCAB doesn't and will never receive any funding from Government or Pharma Industry

Who are we?

Georgian Community Advisory Board - GeCAB

Non-Formal Union of

- ✓ Patients Community;
- ✓ Treatment Access Activists
- ✓ and Our Supporters;

Our Mission is to ensure access to timely, high quality, continuous and comprehensive up to date diagnostics and treatment of HCV, HIV and TB.

Barriers to Elimination(1)

Financial Access to Diagnostics

Required Spending 300 − 350 [♠]

Subsistence Minimum - 10.2018 − 173.8 ©



Majority of PWIDs are unemployed (89.7% doesn't have a constant job)

Monthly income of 51% of PWIDs is less then $300 \, \mathbb{C}$

Majority of PWIDs are limited in employment because of history of conviction

Geographical Access



Barriers to Elimination(2)

Difficult/Long procedures for treatment enrolment



Patients frequently have to wait 1 months and even 2 months to be enrolled in treatment after confirmation

Late and Low Scale Decentralization

Treatment Integration
Happened just 2 weeks ago;
Despite being ready for many
months;

Treatment integration only in 3 Harm Reduction Centres;



Barriers to Elimination(3)

Absence of Pan-genotypic Medications



Despite of TAG Recommendations and 1 year promises

Lack of Patient Centred Approach





Lack of involvement of Peer Workers - Low uptake of peer based of case management and continuous support model

Video Camera Observation

Weak Functioning of Data Base and Systematic Errors in Data
 Generation - No Data available on number of PWIDs enrolled in
 treatment; No linkage between prevention and treatment Databases



Barriers to Elimination(4)

Criminalization of Drug Use

No Elimination, Without Decriminalization



Weak Informational-Educational Activities

Widespread myths and stereotypes in general public

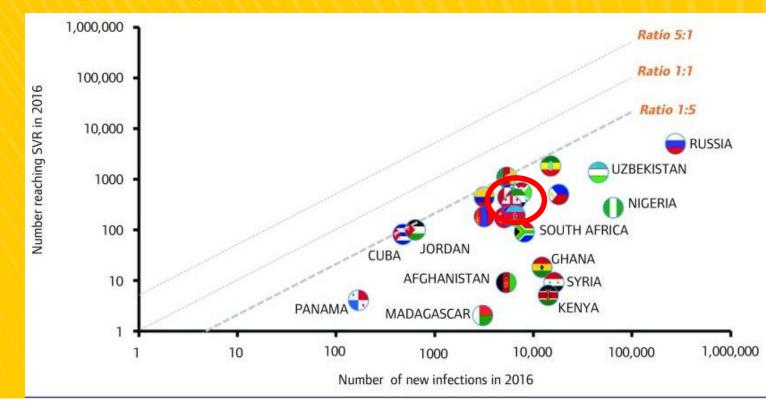
Low awareness of general public

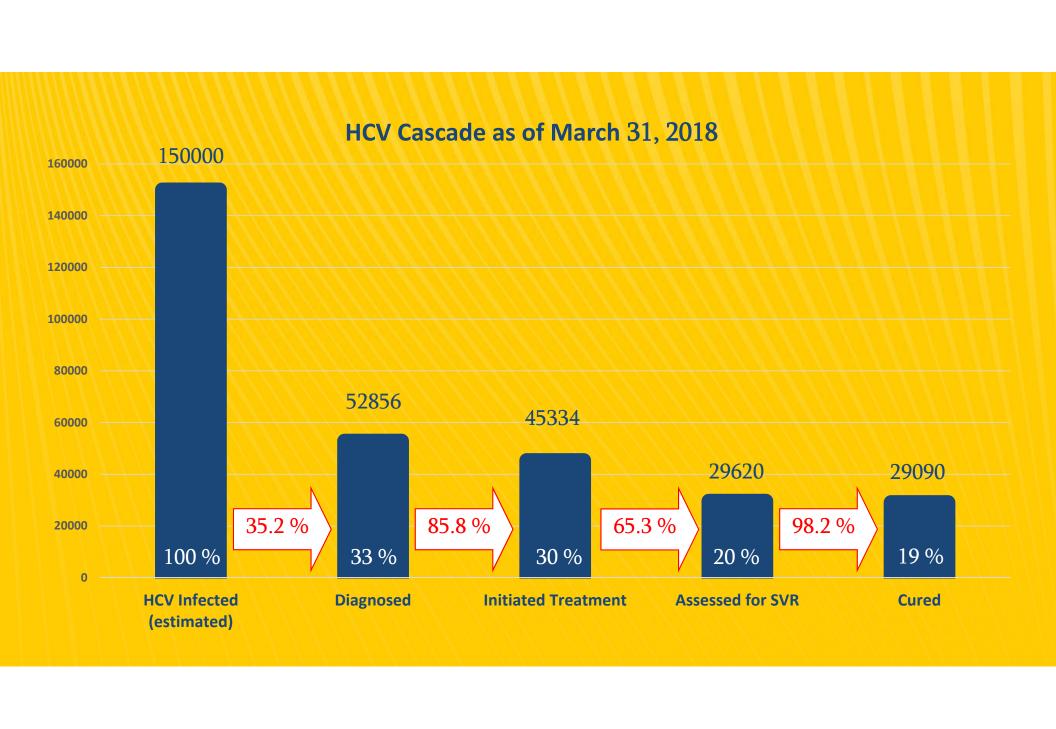
Lack of KAP targeted IEC activities

Road to Elimination - SVR VS New Infections - Analyses (HILL A. - 2017)

- Countries that could meet Elimination by 2030 are those that could sustain 5:1 ratio of treatment per new infection. (Ratio 5:1)
- Countries that could miss the targets are those that have treated no one or fewer than 1 person per 5 new infections. (Ration 1:5)

Georgia - Ratio1:5





Where is the way out? (1)

- Immediate Decriminalization of Drug Use
- Free of Charge Diagnostics
- Increased Geographical Coverage
- Wide Scale Decentralization No time for Pilots
- One Stop Shop
- Decentralization of Confirmatory lab testing
- O Where are our PanGenotypics???
- Simplification of Treatment enrolment and Treatment monitoring procedures

Where is the way out? (2)

- Control of Reinfection and Treatment of Reinfected Patients
- Improving Information Systems and Databases
- Screening programs tailored to specifics of all KAPs
- Increase role of peer based support programmes on all levels including provision of information, screening, diagnostics, treatment, monitoring and adherence.
- IEC Activities tailored to specifics of all KAPs
- Additional Services HBV Vaccination and Treatment
- Video Surveillance is a Violation of Patient Rights!

Thank you for Attantion!!!



ვიპოვოთ 100 000 დაკარგული ადამიანი!