# HCV TREATMENT UPTAKE AMONG MARGINALIZED PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS: A REGISTRY-BASED STUDY

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# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

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# BACKGROUND

- In Western Europe 2/3 of the HCV disease burden is attributable to injecting drug use
- Approximately 17 000 individuals with chronic hepatitis C infection in Norway in 2017 (80% former or recent PWID)
- Improving HCV treatment uptake among people who inject drugs (PWID) is crucial to achieve the WHO elimination targets

### AIM

 Assess HCV treatment uptake and associated factors in a large cohort of PWID

## METHODS

- All users of the City of Oslo's low-threshold social and health services for PWID (2010-2016) were linked to HCV notifications (1990-2019) and prescriptions of HCV treatment, OAT and benzodiazepines (2004-2019)
- Sex-specific weighting to account for spontaneous clearance
- Factors associated with DAA treatment uptake analysed using logistic regression



#### CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STUDY POPULATION

Variable	Total, n (col%)	Overall treatment uptake, n (row%)	DAA treatment uptake, n (row%)
Total	2436 (100)	1118 (45.9)	1041 (45.9)
Birth cohorts			
1930-59	257 (10.5)	113 (44.0)	107 (46.9)
1960-69	762 (31.3)	352 (46.2)	337 (47.4)
1970-79	719 (29.5)	314 (43.7)	290 (43.1)
1980-89	569 (23.4)	278 (48.8)	252 (47.2)
1990-99	129 (5.3)	61 (45.9)	55 (45.4)
Gender			
Male	1689 (69.3)	814 (48.2)	765 (48.8)
Female	747 (30.7)	304 (40.7)	276 (39.6)
Low threshold housing			
No use	1188 (48.7)	557 (46.9)	505 (46.9)
Moderate use	1074 (44.1)	488 (45.4)	464 (45.5)
Heavy use	174 (7.2)	73 (41.9)	72 (42.7)
Drug consumption room			
No use	1201 (49.3)	543 (45.2)	501 (44.8)
Moderate use	610 (25.1)	277 (45.4)	258 (45.9)
Heavy use	625 (25.6)	298 (47.7)	282 (48.1)
Drop-in health clinics			
Nouse	769 (31.5)	335 (46.1)	331 (46.3)
Moderate use	1242 (51.1)	566 (45.6)	520 (45.4)
Heavy use	425 (17.4)	197 (46.3)	190 (46.8)
OAT status			
Never	595 (24.4)	258 (43.4)	233 (43.2)
Former	55 (2.3)	22 (39.9)	19 (45.2)
Current	1786 (73.3)	838 (46.9)	789 (46.8)

# RESULTS

- 2436 individuals with chronic HCV infection were included
- Cumulative overall HCV treatment uptake was 45.9% (1118/2436)
  - Treatment rates were 1.42 (1.1-1.8) in the pre-DAA phase (2010-2013), 3.51 (3.0-4.0) in the early DAA phase (2014-2016), and 18.4 (17.2-19.7) in the late DAA phase (2017-2019)
  - DAA uptake was associated with gender and OAT status

## TREATMENT UPTAKE STRATIFIED BY GENDER



#### ANNUAL HCV TREATMENT RATES

Α

В



# FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH DAA TREATMENT UPTAKE

Factor	DAA uptake, n/N (%)	aOR (95% CI)	Р
Birth cohorts 1930-59 1960-69	107/228 (46.9) 337/711 (47.4)	1 1.04 (0.77-1.40)	0.820
1970-79 1980-89 1990-99	290/673 (43.1) 252/534 (47.2) 55/121 (45.4)	0.86 (0.64-1.17) 1.02 (0.74-1.40) 1.05 (0.67-1.66)	0.347 0.918 0.820
Gender Male Female	765/1569 (48.8) 276/698 (39.6)	1 0.68 (0.57-0.82)	<0.001
OAT status Former/never Current	280/687 (40.8) 761/1560 (48.2)	1 1.34 (1.11-1.62)	0.002
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# CONCLUSIONS

- Treatment uptake among PWID increased in the DAA era
- Strategies to enhance treatment uptake among women and individuals not engaged in OAT should be addressed
- After publication we will engage in dialogue with stakeholders to see how the community can benefit from the findings in this study