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Background

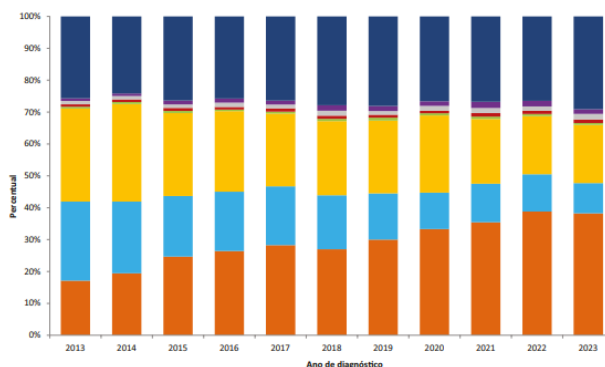
Viral hepatitis represents a serious public health problem worldwide, including the use of narcotic substances. It is necessary to carry out analyzes that demonstrate the Brazilian scenario and that can contribute to the planning of public policy actions.

Methods

To evaluate the database of the Notifiable Diseases Information System (SINAN) to present the Brazilian epidemiological scenario of hepatitis C cases with probable/mechanism source of infection and drug use.

Results

Between 2000 and 2023, 785,571 cases of viral hepatitis were diagnosed in SINAN in Brazil. Of these, 318,916 (40.6%) were hepatitis C. It was observed that 129,084 cases with probable source of known infection, drug use corresponded to 26.6% of occurrences, followed by blood transfusion (21.7%) and sexual intercourse (22.8%). In 2023, the cases of sexual infections were twice as large as cases of drug-related infections and four times higher than infections transfusion. As to the probable source or mechanism of infection, lack of information is observed in 59.5% of the cases diagnosed in the period.



Fonte: SINAN/SVS/MS.

Notas: (1) Excluídos os casos ignorados.

(2) Casos notificados no SINAN até 31 de dezembro de 2023.

(3) Dados preliminares para 2023.

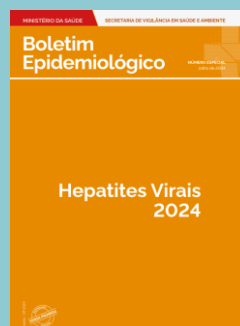
(4) Tratamento cirúrgico, tratamento dentário, pessoa/pessoa ou outras formas.

Figure 1: Percentage of cases of hepatitis C according to probable source or mechanism of infection and year of diagnosis. Brazil, 2013 to 2023.

Font: SINAN - Information System for Notifiable Diseases

Conclusion

Given the above, it is concluded the need to qualify the Epidemiological Surveillance in the territory in order to reduce the percentage of reported cases without probable source of infection and ignored. Another point is the need for detailed analysis on the types of drug use considered probable source of infection so that it can develop strategies that meet the need of this population.



Note

1. BRAZIL. Epidemiological Bulletin Virail Hepatitis Brazilian, DF: Ministry of Health of Brazil. 2024.