

# Eliminating Hepatitis C by 2030: The Role of AbbVie

AbbVie is committed to working toward the World Health Organization's (WHO) 2030 hepatitis C virus (HCV) elimination goal by developing innovative medicines, fostering transformative partnerships and actively supporting external stakeholders who have declared intention to work toward HCV elimination.

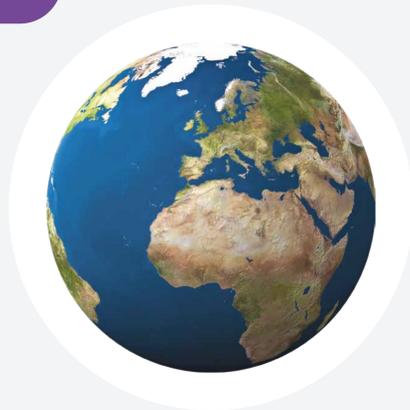
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## 1. THE HCV CHALLENGE

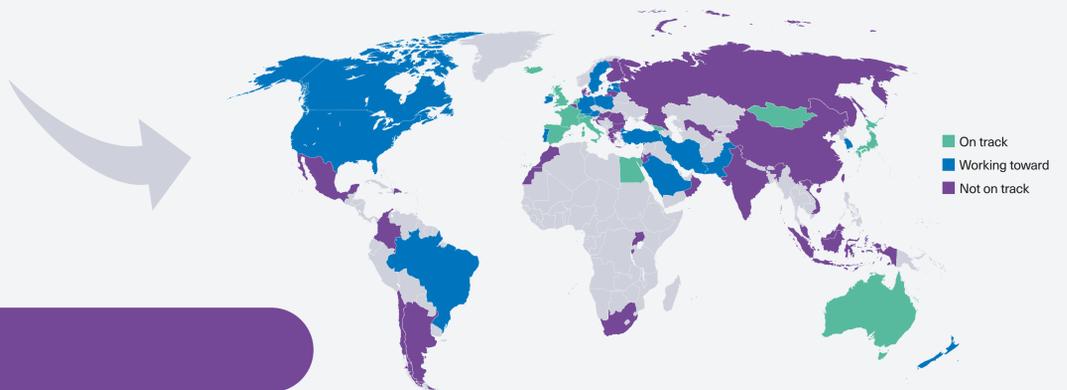
**71 million** people worldwide have chronic HCV<sup>1</sup>

- 11 million ▶ African region
- 15 million ▶ Eastern Mediterranean region
- 14 million ▶ European region
- 7 million ▶ Region of the Americas
- 10 million ▶ Southeast Asia region
- 14 million ▶ Western Pacific region

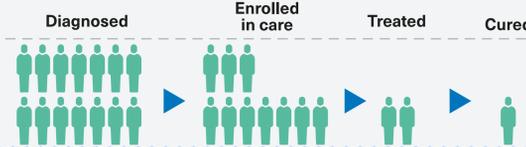
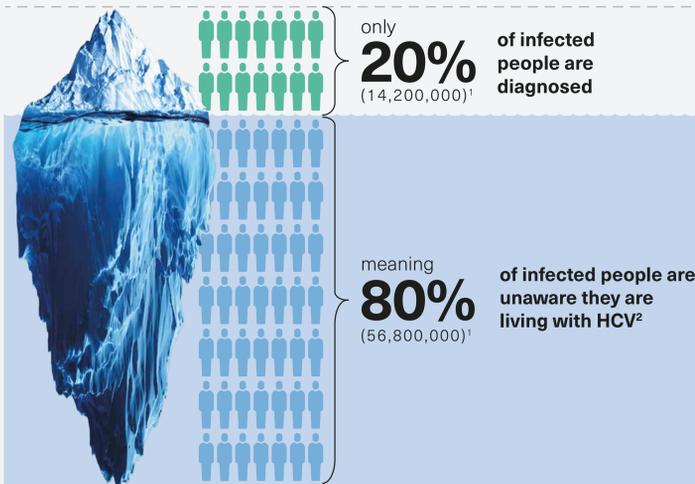


## World Health Organization's (WHO's) 2030 HCV elimination goal

**30** OUT OF **60** COUNTRIES were still **not on track** as of 2017 – only 13 years away from the 2030 HCV elimination goal<sup>2</sup>



## 2. GAPS IN THE HCV CARE CASCADE



**only 60%** of patients diagnosed will be referred to a specialist and enrolled into care

**only 7%** of the infected population is treated annually

**>95%**

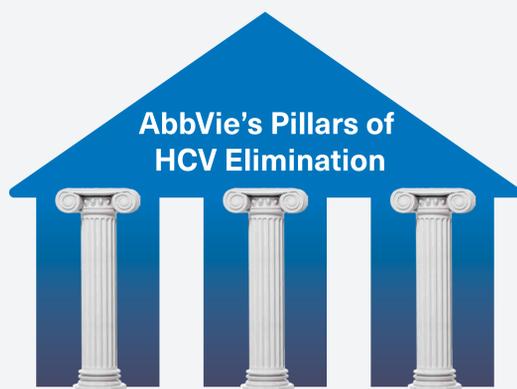
of people with HCV<sup>1</sup> have the potential to be cured with direct-acting antivirals (DAA)

However, HCV infection rate

↑ remains high due to low levels of diagnosis and linkage to care<sup>1</sup>

AbbVie is actively supporting strategic information systems that collect surveillance and epidemiology data that will guide measures to achieve HCV elimination<sup>2</sup>

## 3. ABBVIE'S COMMITMENT



### AbbVie's Pillars of HCV Elimination

**Commitment to ongoing medical education**

**Facilitation of simplification of the HCV cascade**

**Support for elimination programs**

AbbVie supports an estimated **300** micro-elimination projects (including **53** studies) worldwide to elevate and prioritize HCV elimination

Targeting traditionally underserved patients who are also in high-risk populations, such as people who use drugs (PWUDs) and prisoners, will increase the proportion of HCV-infected individuals who are treated and reduce transmission rates

### Ongoing Initiatives

AbbVie has partnered with healthcare professionals and external stakeholders on research and projects most likely to have the biggest impact on HCV elimination. Supported studies and projects were prioritized according to the patient population, reproducibility and robust data collection process



#### General Population

A study in Israel (N=10,000) developed a smart screening algorithm to identify hidden HCV infection using alanine aminotransferase elevation as a marker. The aim was to produce a clear algorithm for screening the general population

Reasons for patients with HCV not initiating treatment were being studied in Germany (N=1000) to identify and address issues surrounding the low treatment initiation rates



#### Engaging PWUDs

PWUDs have a higher risk of HCV infection and are difficult to treat due to lack of trust and commitment to the health system. Engaging this specific group of individuals will decrease the prevalence of HCV significantly

To increase diagnosis rates, a study in Spain implemented a portable FibroScan® (Waltham, MA) in Harm Reduction Centers. This allowed diagnosis in one step and therefore resolved the issue of patients skipping visits to the hospital



#### Engaging Patients Lost to Follow-up

A project in The Netherlands was designed to retrieve HCV-infected patients who were lost to follow up. 269 patients were eligible for retrieval and, overall, 17.4% were traced

The retrieval of previously diagnosed patients with HCV through screening of laboratory diagnostics and referring eligible patients for DAA treatment is feasible and could help to reduce HCV infection



#### Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM)

Men who have sex with men (MSM) have an increased risk of HCV infection. Free screening and treatment was offered in a study in Austria to increase the number of HCV-MSM who achieve sustained virologic response at Week 12 (SVR12)



#### Engaging Prisoners

A two-pronged approach was used in Portugal to help HCV elimination in prisons:

1. Educating physicians about removing the hurdles of treating HCV in prisons
2. Educating prisoners about the importance of HCV treatment, adherence, and prevention of re-infection



#### Engaging General Practitioners

A project in Switzerland is focused on lowering the threshold to access HCV care by enabling general practitioners to carry out HCV therapies themselves (with the support of a specialist) and strengthening their role in the testing, diagnosis and treatment of patients with HCV



53 studies

21 countries

40% addressing underserved populations

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AbbVie sponsored the study, contributed to its design; and participated in the collection, analysis, and interpretation of the data and in the writing, reviewing, and approval of the abstract. All authors had access to relevant data, and participated in the writing, review, and approval of the final presentation.  
Author Disclosures  
JL Calleja: Consultant and lecturer: AbbVie, Gilead Sciences, Bayer and MSD; T Saadi: Consultant of AbbVie; JS Tavares: Nothing to disclose; K Lohmann: AbbVie employee and may hold stock or options; M Lysenko: AbbVie employee and may hold stock or options; NG Román: AbbVie employee and may hold stock or options; J Dias: AbbVie employee and may hold stock or options; E-H Bakker-Voetman: AbbVie employee and may hold stock or options; S Cunha: Nothing to disclose; B Maeschli: Nothing to disclose; T Reiberger: Received grant support from AbbVie, Boehringer-Ingelheim, Gilead, MSD, Philips Healthcare, Gore, speaking honoraria from AbbVie, Gilead, Gore, Intercept, Roche, MSD; consulting/advisory board fees from AbbVie, Bayer, Boehringer-Ingelheim, Gilead, Intercept, MSD, Siemens; travel support from Boehringer-Ingelheim, Gilead and Roche.

Presented at the International Viral Hepatitis Elimination Meeting (IVHEM), November 22-23, 2019, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.



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