**PATIENT REPORTED EXPERIENCE AND OUTCOME OF HEPATITIS C TREATMENT IN PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS OR RECEIVING OPIATE SUBSTITUTION THERAPY. A PEER INITIATED SURVEY IN DENMARK.**

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**Background:**
There is limited knowledge about how people with recent injecting drug use or on opiate substitution therapy(OST) experience access to -and process of Hepatitis C treatment with direct acting antivirals(DAA). In addition, only a few studies have reported on the patient related outcomes of hepatitis C treatment in people who inject drugs. Investigating the patient perspective and their experience with treatment might help identify potential barriers to treatment.

**Methods:**
Peer initiated survey. Target population: People on OST or with recent injecting drug use treated with DAA(past 24 months). Survey was answered on a Likert scale (five options on level of agreement). The questionnaires included Patient Reported Experiences(PREM)) and Patient Reported Outcomes(PROM). The PREM and PROM were developed targeting people who inject drugs by Centre for Social Research in Health, University of New South Wales Survey. The instruments were translated and adapted according to WHO guidelines. Respondents were recruited on social media or at follow-up at three hospitals and two OST centers.

**Results:**
Results are preliminary as study is enrolling (target 200 respondents). As of April 1st 2019 28 persons had initiated and 20 persons completed the full survey. Median age 52 years (IQR 46-58). DAA was provided at an OST center in 45% of cases.
Selected results PREM: Half the respondents stated side effects from DAA treatment and 35% stated blood draws as a barrier. Poor understanding or feeling of discrimination from treatment provider was reported by 20%. PROM: Two thirds of respondents stated more energy and capacity to be with family and friends after treatment. Half the respondents did not feel confident about avoiding re-infection.

**Conclusion:**
Although very preliminary results, these patient reported measurement instruments developed shows potential in documenting experience and outcome of DAA treatment as well as barriers and unresolved issues that needs to be addressed.

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