



**International Meeting
on HCV Micro-Elimination
in HIV/HCV Co-Infection**

Tbilisi, Georgia • 14-15 October 2019



Georgian AIDS Association



Infectious Diseases, AIDS &
Clinical Immunology
Research Center



Ivane Javakhishvili
Tbilisi State University



Georgian-French Joint
Hepatology Clinic



Welcome

We are pleased to welcome you to the International Meeting on HCV Micro-Elimination in HIV/HCV co-infection in Tbilisi, Georgia—a country that has made significant progress in combating the HCV epidemic.

Georgia's efforts to eliminate hepatitis C are exemplary and illustrates that with strong leadership, commitment to scientific excellence and partnership can make a difference even in resource limited settings. The experience of Georgia provides valuable lessons learned for the world and countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA), which are hardest hit by HIV and HCV epidemics in the entire European region.

The meeting will bring together regional and international key opinion leaders, clinicians, public health experts and civil society representatives to address challenges of HCV micro-elimination among people living with HIV with particular focus on the EECA region. It provides a platform for exchanging knowledge and practical experiences on tackling hepatitis C, including various aspects related to public health policy, prevention and clinical management.

During the two days of the meeting invited experts and participants will engage in stimulating presentations and discussions to examine the latest evidence on how to translate science into effective program implementation on the road to achieving elimination targets.

We wish you a fruitful meeting!

Chairs



Jurgen Rockstroh, MD

University of Bonn

President of the European AIDS Clinical Society



Tengiz Tsertsvadze, MD

Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical
Immunology Research Center

Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University
President of the Georgian AIDS Society

Organizing and Scientific Committee



Jurgen Rockstroh, MD
University of Bonn
Bonn, Germany



Tengiz Tsertsvadze, MD
Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical
Immunology Research Center
Tbilisi, Georgia



Massimo Colombo, MD
EASL International Liver Foundation
Milan, Italy



Antons Mozalevskis, MD
WHO Regional Office for Europe
Copenhagen, Denmark



Nikoloz Chkhartishvili, MD
Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical
Immunology Research Center
Tbilisi, Georgia



Akaki Abutidze, MD
Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical
Immunology Research Center
Tbilisi, Georgia

Program

MONDAY, 14 October, 2019

09:00 – 09:30 Registration

09:30 – 10:00 Opening and welcome remarks

10:00 – 11:30 Opening Plenary
Chairs: Francesco Negro, Tengiz Tsertsvadze

10:00 – 10:30 Progress towards HCV elimination in WHO European Region
Antons Mozalevskis

10:30 – 11:00 Micro-elimination as path to global elimination of hepatitis C
Massimo Colombo

11:00 – 11:30 Global perspectives on hepatitis C micro-elimination in PLHIV
Jurgen Rockstroh

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 – 14:00 Country Experiences
Chairs: Jurgen Rockstroh, Amiran Gamkrelidze

12:00 – 12:30 Swiss experience on eliminating hepatitis C
Francesco Negro

12:30 – 13:00 Progress towards hepatitis C elimination in Georgia
Tengiz Tsertsvadze

13:00 – 13:20 Integrated HIV/HCV/TB testing model
Amiran Gamkrelidze

13:20 – 14:00 Panel discussion: HCV elimination in Eastern European and Central Asian (EECA) region
EECA country representatives
Moderators: Antons Mozalevskis and Niclas Luhmann

14:00 – 15:00 Lunch

- 15:00 – 16:15 **Management of HCV Infection**
Chairs: Francesco Negro, Lali Sharvadze
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- 15:00 – 15:30 Contemporary treatment of hepatitis C in HIV/HCV co-infection
Jurgen Rockstroh
- 15:30 – 16:00 Monitoring and risk of hepatocellular carcinoma after successful DAA therapy
Massimo Colombo
- 16:00 – 16:15 Longer-term liver outcomes among HIV/HCV co-infected patients after curing hepatitis C
Natalia Bolokadze
- 16:15 – 16:45 Coffee break
- 16:45 – 17:45 **Emerging Issues in Liver Disease**
Chairs: Massimo Colombo, Elza Vashakidze
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- 16:45 – 17:15 Extrahepatic manifestations of hepatitis C
Francesco Negro
- 17:15 – 17:45 HBV re-activation in HBV/HCV co-infected patients
Lali Sharvadze
- 17:45 – 18:00 Wrap-up of first day
- 20:00 Reception

Program

TUESDAY, 15 October, 2019

10:00 – 11:50 **Challenges to HCV (micro)elimination**
Chairs: Antons Mozalevskis, Tengiz Tsertsvadze

10:00 – 10:30 **Acute HCV infection and re-infection among MSM:
Implications for micro-elimination**
Jurgen Rockstroh

10:30 – 10:50 **Challenges to HCV micro-elimination in HIV/HCV co-infection
in Georgia**
Nikoloz Chkhartishvili

10:50 – 11:10 **HCV re-infection in people living with HIV in Georgia**
Pati Gabunia

11:10 – 11:30 **HCV elimination in prison settings**

11:30 – 11:50 **The role of civil society in HCV elimination**
Konstantine Labartkava

11:50 – 12:20 **Coffee break**

12:20 – 13:30 **Finding Undiagnosed**
Chairs: Pati Gabunia, Akaki Abutidze

12:20 – 12:40 **WHO recommendations and approaches to HIV
and viral hepatitis testing and diagnosis**
Niklas Luhmann

12:40 – 13:00 **Gaps in HIV diagnosis in Georgia**
Nino Badridze

13:00 – 13:20 **HIV and HCV prevention services in Georgia**
Ketevan Stvilia

13:20 – 13:30 **Discussion**

13:30–14:30 **Lunch**

14:30 – 16:10 **Models of Care**
Chairs: Niklas Luhmann, Nikoloz Chkhartishvili

14:30 – 14:50 **Improving access to HCV services**
Ekaterine Adamia

14:50 – 15:10 **Integrating HCV care in primary healthcare**
Akaki Abutidze

15:10 – 15:30 **Integrating HCV care in harm reduction services**
Maia Butsashvili

15:30 – 16:10 **Panel discussion: Integrated models of care in EECA**
(Moderated by Antons Mozalevskis and Niklas Luhmann)
EECA country representatives

16:10 – 16:40 **Coffee break**

16:40 – 17:10 **The Role of Science in HCV Elimination**
Chairs: Tengiz Tsertsvadze

16:40 – 17:00 **Activities of Scientific Committee of the National Hepatitis C
Elimination Program**
Tinatin Kuchuloria

17:00 – 17:10 **Discussion**

17:10 – 17:30 **Wrap-up and closure**