

THE SILENT PANDEMIC: Tackling hepatitis C with policy innovation

- 1989 Identification of HCV
- 1991 First approved treatment for HCV
- 2006 WHO declares HCV a global health problem
- 2011 New wave of HCV treatments known as direct-acting antivirals

HIGH PREVALENCE OF HCV AMONG PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS (PWIDs)

63%

of the world's roughly 16 million PWIDs have HCV



DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

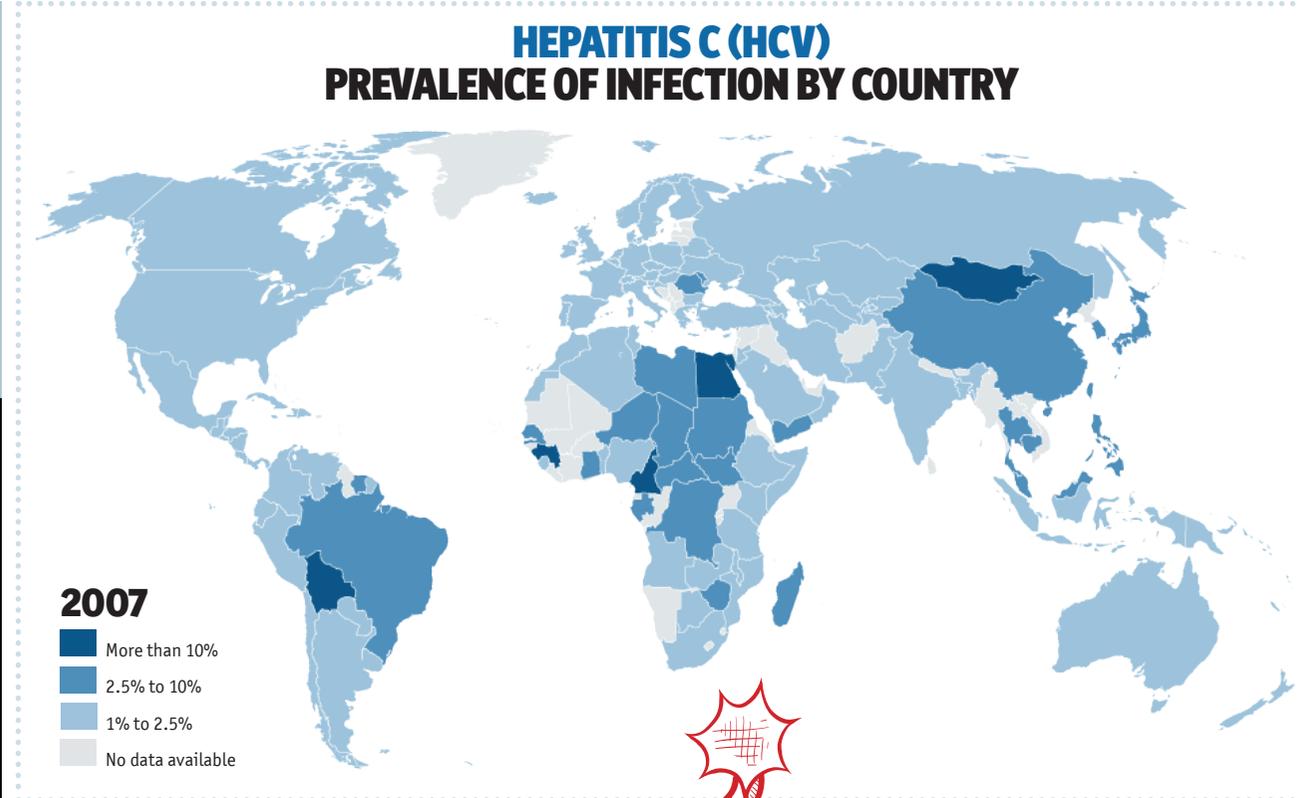
1 THE SPREAD OF HCV

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Poor medical care is a leading route of transmission for HCV



Approximately **10%** of people in Egypt are chronically infected with HCV



2 WHY HCV IS A 'TIME BOMB'

People could be infected for years without knowing it, and not receive treatment even though it's available

JUST **10%** of those diagnosed in the UK receive treatment



ONLY 20%

of patients diagnosed had heard of hepatitis B or C before being told they had it

60%-70%

of those with HCV develop chronic liver disease such as liver cancer



3 POLICY INNOVATION NEEDED TO ELIMINATE HCV

"You have the virus, the doctor, the health system. If you address just one [aspect of the issue], it's unlikely that you will be successful"
says the WHO's Dr Briand.

ADOPTING A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH



OBTAINING GOOD DATA



AWARENESS



PREVENTION



REACHING PATIENTS MOST IN NEED



Sources: The Lancet, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Journal of Viral Hepatitis, WHO

SUPPORTED BY:

