“SURESTE SIN C” PROJECT: RESULTS OF HEPATITIS C SCREENING IMPLEMENTATION IN AN INTEGRAL FORM IN A HOSPITAL CENTER

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A hospital-based HCV microelimination program in Madrid incorporating automated preoperative screening and multi-service training increased HCV serology requests by 109% and identified additional viremic patients, particularly in surgical services.

KEY POINTS

- Between January-October 2019 and the same period in 2022, HCV serology requests increased from 3,709 to 7,743 (109% increase), with the greatest rises in surgical services (251% increase) and psychiatry (558% increase).
- The program included automated HCV serology in surgical preoperative protocols, HCV training across hospital services and primary care, and efforts to locate lost-to-follow-up patients.
- In surgical services specifically, Anti-HCV positive detections increased from 8 to 45 patients (462% increase), and viremic patients increased from 0 to 5.
- Overall Anti-HCV prevalence was 4.37% in the first period (48 viremic patients, 1.44%) and 1.88% in the second period (29 viremic patients, 0.42%).
- The authors conclude that preoperative HCV screening automatization and inter-service collaboration effectively increased detection of infected patients, including occult HCV cases.

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