

HEPATITIS C MICRO-ELIMINATION PROGRAMS, A GOOD SOLUTION FOR ACHIEVING THE ERADICATION

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Poster

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Five HCV micro-elimination programs screening 42,976 persons in six Romanian counties found prevalence ranging from 0.52 to 1.58 percent, with higher rates in females and significant urban-rural and industrial-residential differences.

KEY POINTS

- The programs screened persons over 40 years old using rapid anti-HCV testing following awareness campaigns, with all positive patients investigated and treated if eligible
- HCV prevalence was significantly higher in urban versus rural areas and in industrial versus residential settings, but did not vary significantly by age
- Increased HCV infection risk was associated with prior blood transfusions, shared personal hygiene products, dental interventions, and surgery
- The authors propose that micro-elimination programs can complement national screening efforts in disadvantaged populations with limited healthcare access as part of the WHO 2030 HCV elimination goal
- The study was supported by AbbVie SRL, Bucharest, Romania

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