

TEAM LATVIA DISCUSSION RESULTS

Team LATVIA are:

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**SCREENING AND
PREVENTION**
FOR VIRAL HEPATITIS
AND HIV IN CEE

2018
June 28-29
SOFIA

*Common challenges
joint solutions*



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- Challenge 1 → Action 1
- Challenge 2 → Action 2
- and so on...



Analysis of the situation

- ~53 000 estimated HCV patients (~2% of population)
- ~1 800 new cases of HCV per year
- ~1000 - 2000? Treated patients per year
- Long & Short term **strategic papers**
- Patients **registry** & digital queue
- Steady **political support** (since mid 2015)
- Growing state **funding** (15m in 2018) & Free treatment
- Treating F3-F4 → **starting F2's** this year

2 | Challenges in a List

- 🔴 Centralisation of treatment & Limited personnel capacity
- 🔴 Outdated national HCV prevalence data
- 🔴 Maintaining the current funding level & achieving a steady growth of funds
- 🔴 Alternative sources of med's (Non EU countries)
- 🔴 Treating marginal groups
- 🔴 Limiting most outrageous infection sources

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Challenge vs. Action



3.1 | Centralisation & Limited personnel capacity

- Centralised diagnostics & treatment
- 2 hospitals in Riga (and Latvia)
- Capacity of infectologists are being stretched

- Decentralised treatment in progress
- Regional hospitals / partners are being negotiated
- Doctors are being trained by LIC personnel

- Decentralised diagnostics in future? (no FibroScan in regions)



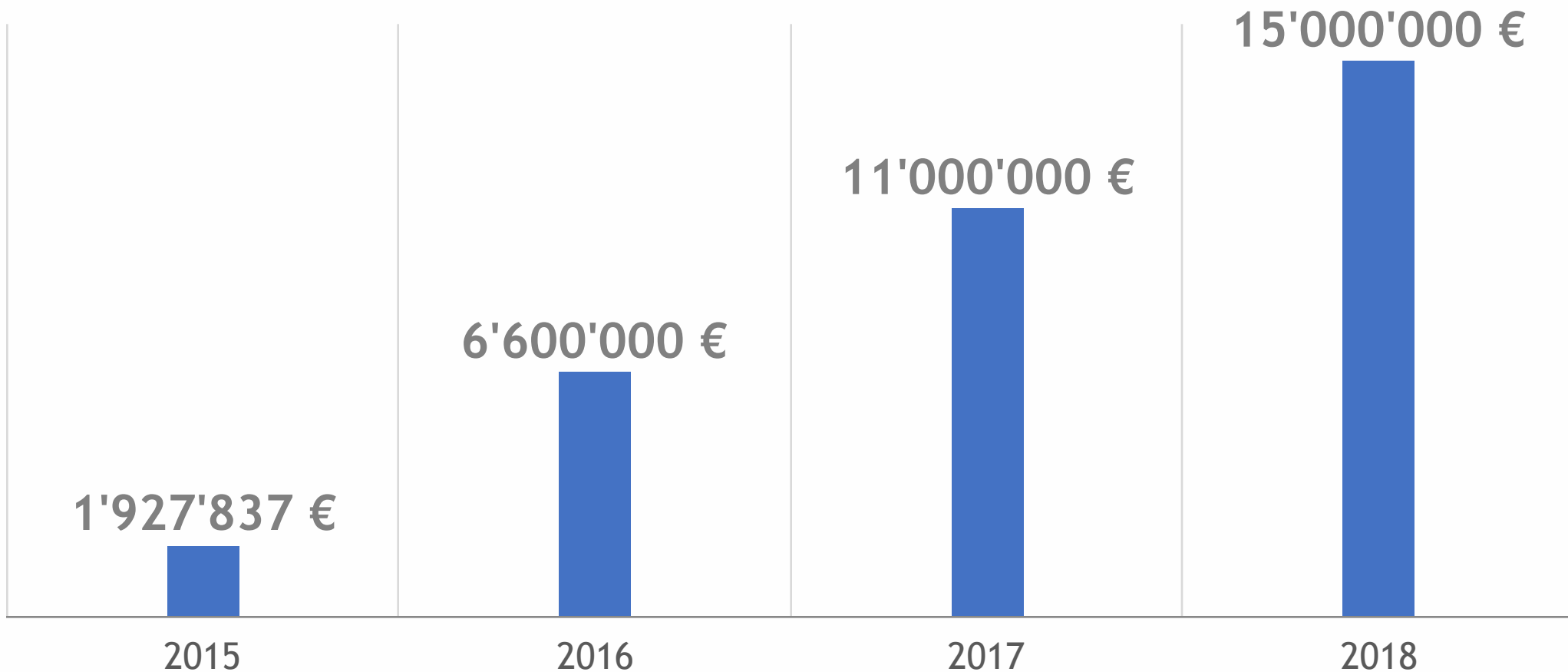
3.2 | Outdated national HCV prevalence data

🔴 Latest research data from 2009 → estimates 40 000 HCV infected persons in Latvia

🔴 Updated estimate → 53 000 infections (educated guess)

- Must update the data
- Repeat the same research
- Initiative from researchers (case of miscommunication)

3.3 | Maintaining the current level of growth



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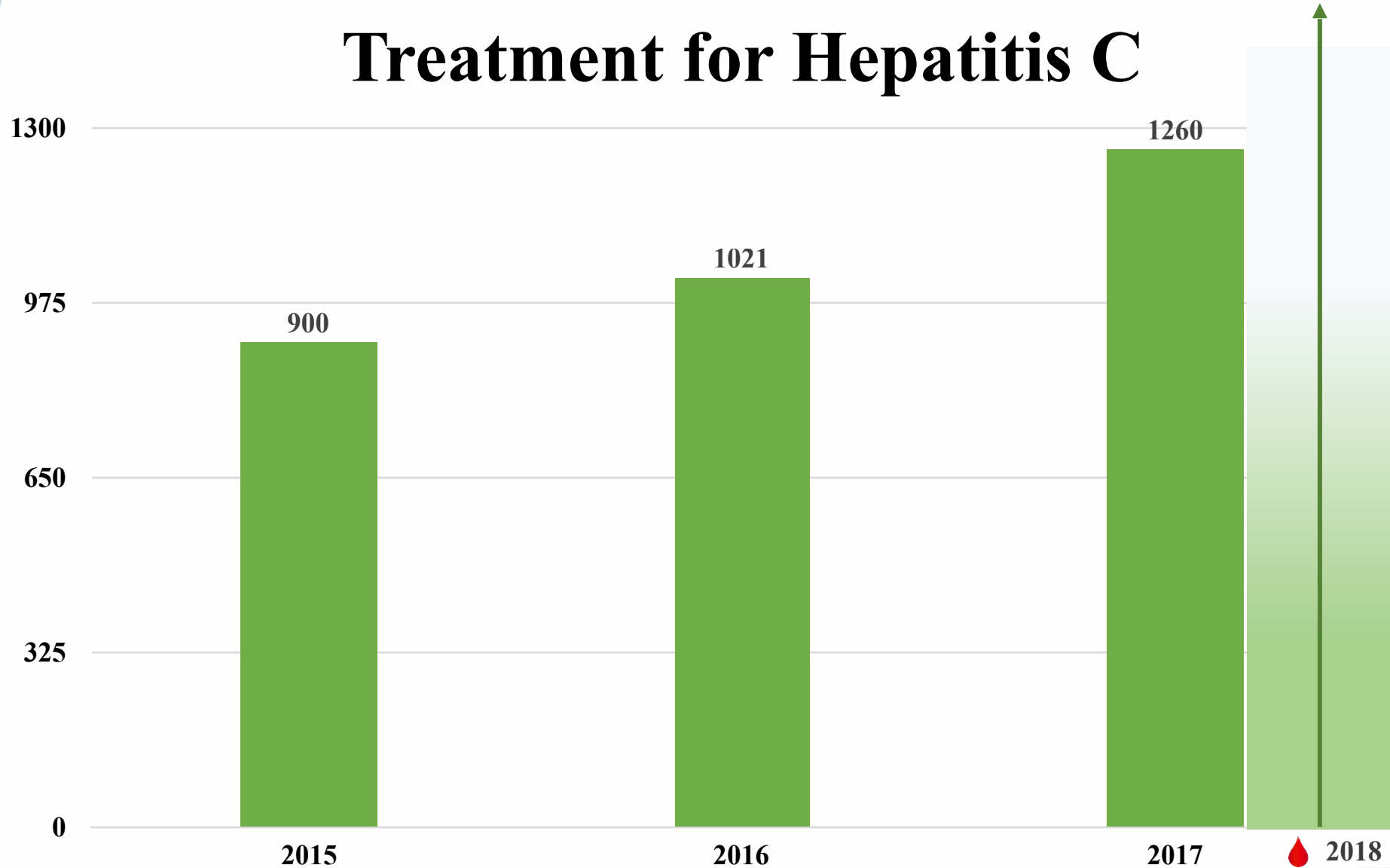
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Number of Patients who Received Treatment for Hepatitis C



3.4 | Alternative sources of med's (Non EU countries)

- India & Egypt med's are being used
- Legally Gray area
- No quality control / guarantee
- Hepatologists are allowed to supervise this treatment
- Pushes down official prices
- Alternative chance as low as 350€
- Info campaign ??

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3.5 | Treating marginal groups

🔴 Same rights to everyone VS availability, information & motivation

🔴 Prisons:

- HCV
 - Optional screening
 - no mobile fibroScan
 - some info campaigns
- HIV
 - screening & treatment → OK while imprisoned
 - not so much afterwards

🔴 Drug addicts: Lack of funds e.g. no political support

🔴 HIV → Eliminate vertical transmission (Mother → Child)

Transmission of Hepatitis C



Veselības ministrija

Veselības aprūpe
19%

Nav zināms
34%

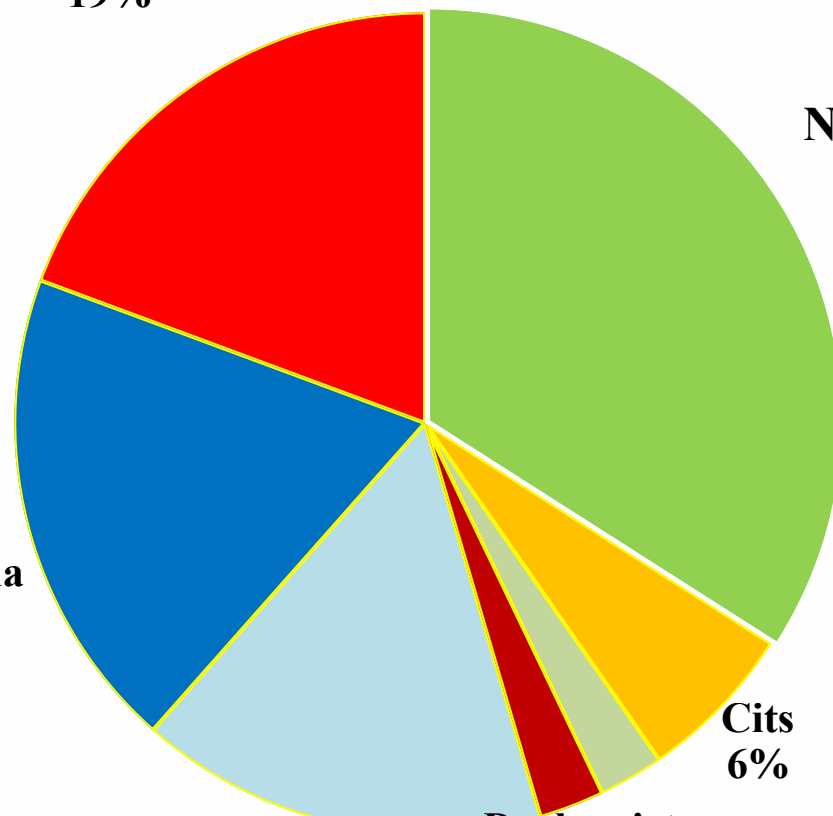
Injicējamo narkotiku lietošana
19%

Cits
6%

Dzimumkontakts
16%

Darba vietā
3%

No mātes (jaundzimušie)
3%



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3.6 | Limiting most outrageous infection sources

🔴 Illegal beauty & tattoo salons

- Info campaign
- Increased quality / disinfection requirements

🔴 Health care

- Legal base is OK
- Implementation & re-Education needs some work

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3.extra | Giving Recognition Where It's Due



Thank You!

Any Questions or Comments?

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