



European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

What do we know about the prevalence of HCV among PWID? Overview of HCV data and facts

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OUTLINE

- 1. EMCDDA — who we are**
- 2. The impact of hepatitis C virus infection among people who inject drugs**

1. EMCDDA — who we are

Who we are

A decentralised EU agency

Formally established in 1993

Based in Lisbon, Portugal
(operating since 1995)

The hub of drug-related information in the EU



EMCDDA — mandate

Recast Regulation of December 2006

“Provide the Community and EU Member States with factual, objective, reliable and comparable information at European level concerning drugs and drug addiction and their consequences”

Working with

28 Member States of the
European Union

Turkey (candidate country)

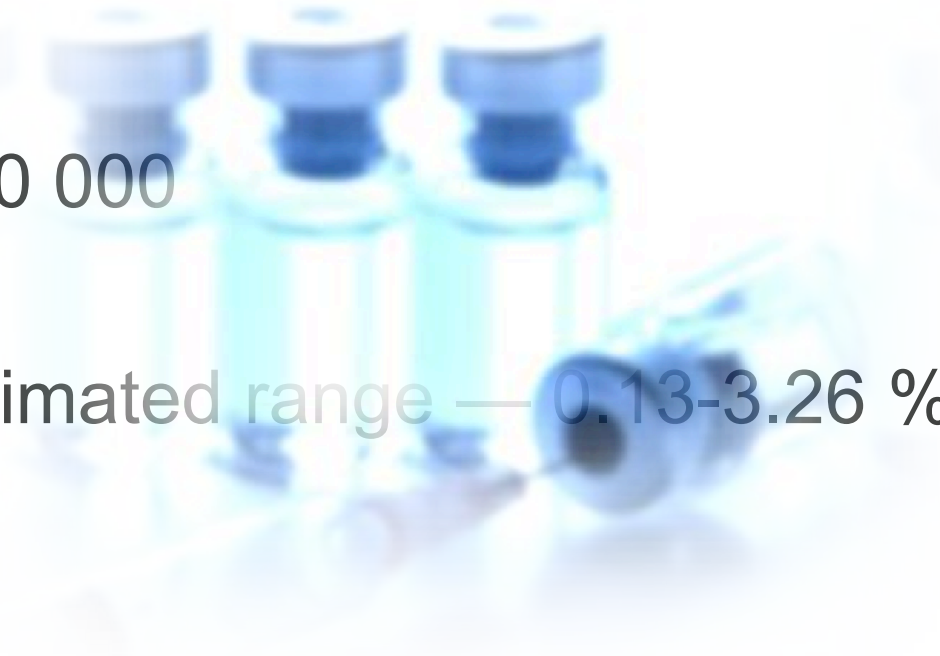
Norway



2. The impact of hepatitis C virus infection among people who inject drugs

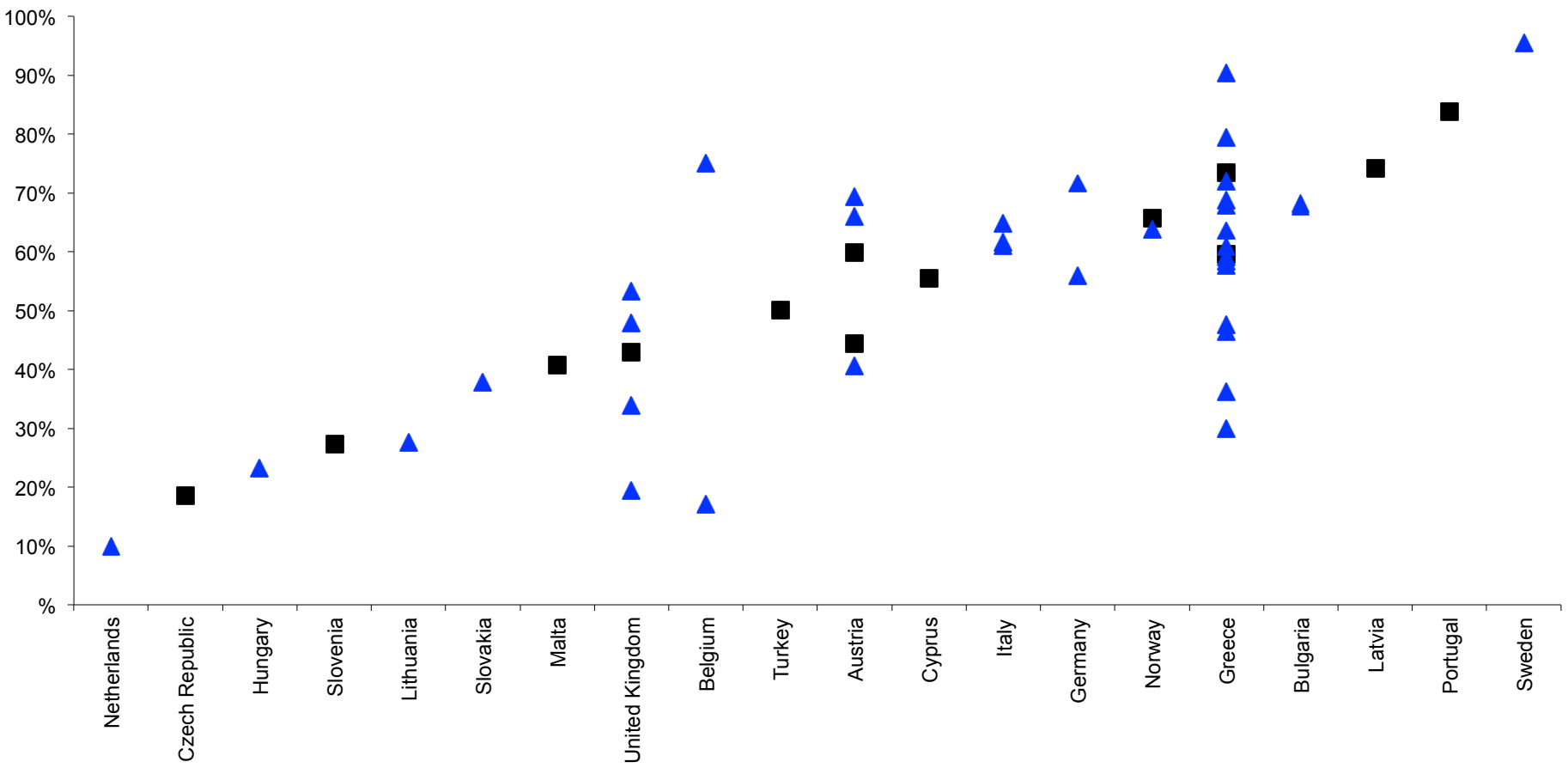
HCV in the European general population

- 9 million — infected
- Incidence — 6.9 per 100 000
- National prevalence estimated range — 0.13-3.26 %



Sources: Hepatitis C in the USA and Europe: two problems, one solution. The Lancet, Vol381 May 18, 2013. Hepatitis B & C Surveillance in Europe 2006-2011. European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control ECDC, Stockholm 2013. The burden of liver disease in Europe: a review of available epidemiological data. The Association for the Study of the Liver EASL, 2013. Baaten, G.G. et al. (2007) Population-based study of the seroprevalence of hepatitis A, B, and C virus infection in Amsterdam. J Med Virol, 79:1802-1810. Meffre, C. et al. (2010) Prevalence of hepatitis B and hepatitis C virus infection in France in 2004: social factors are important predictors after adjusting for known risk factors. J Med Virol, 82:546-555. Quoilin, S. et al. (2007) A population-based prevalence study of hepatitis A, B, and C virus using oral fluid in Flanders, Belgium. Eur J Epidemiol, 22: 195-202. Cozzolongo, R. et al. (2009) Epidemiology of HCV infection in the general population: a survey in a southern Italian town. Am J Gastroenterol 104: 2740-2746. Delaroque-Astagneau, E. et al. (2010) The impact of the prevention programme of hepatitis C over more than a decade: the French experience. J Viral Hepat, 17:435-443.

HCV antibody prevalence among PWID, 2011-12

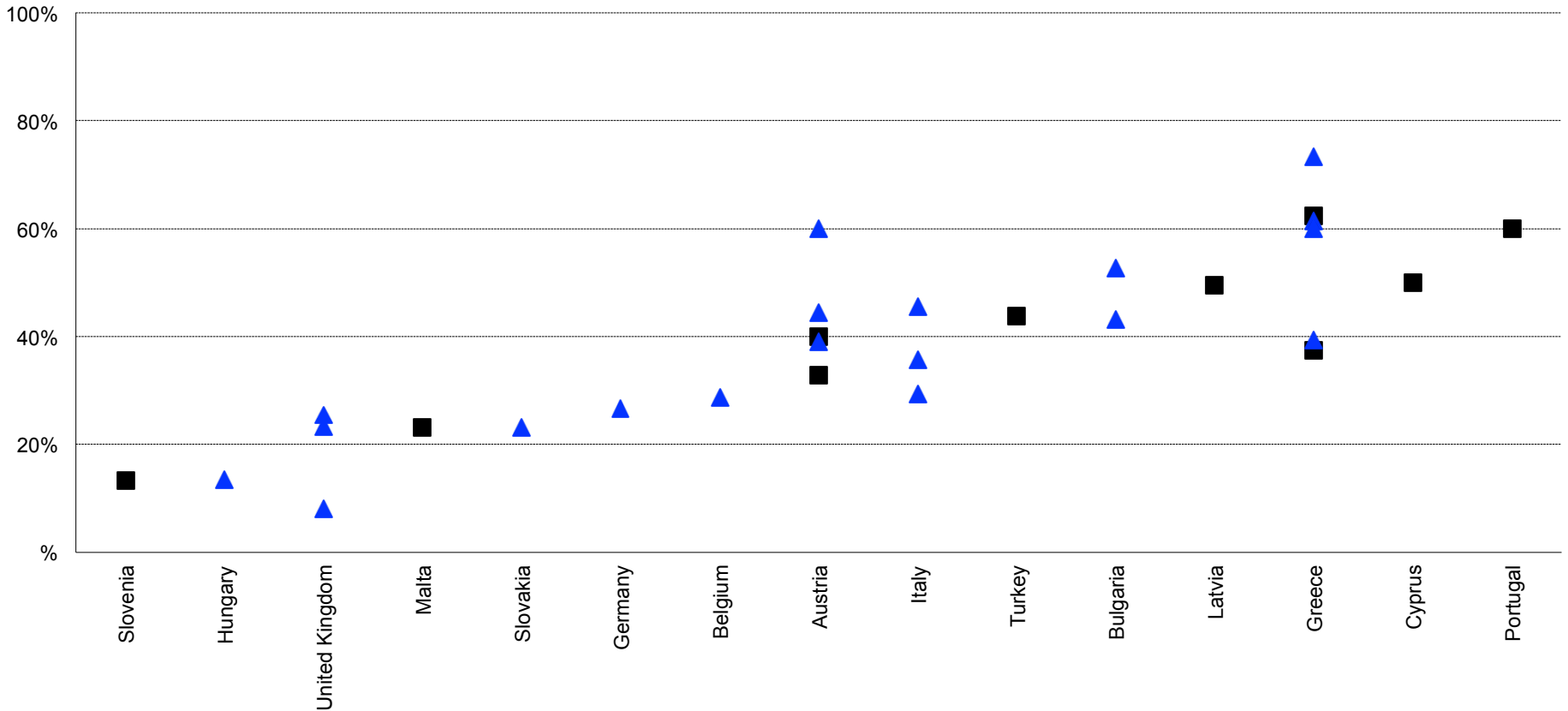


Studies with national coverage
 Studies with sub-national coverage

Trends in HCV antibody prevalence, 2007-12

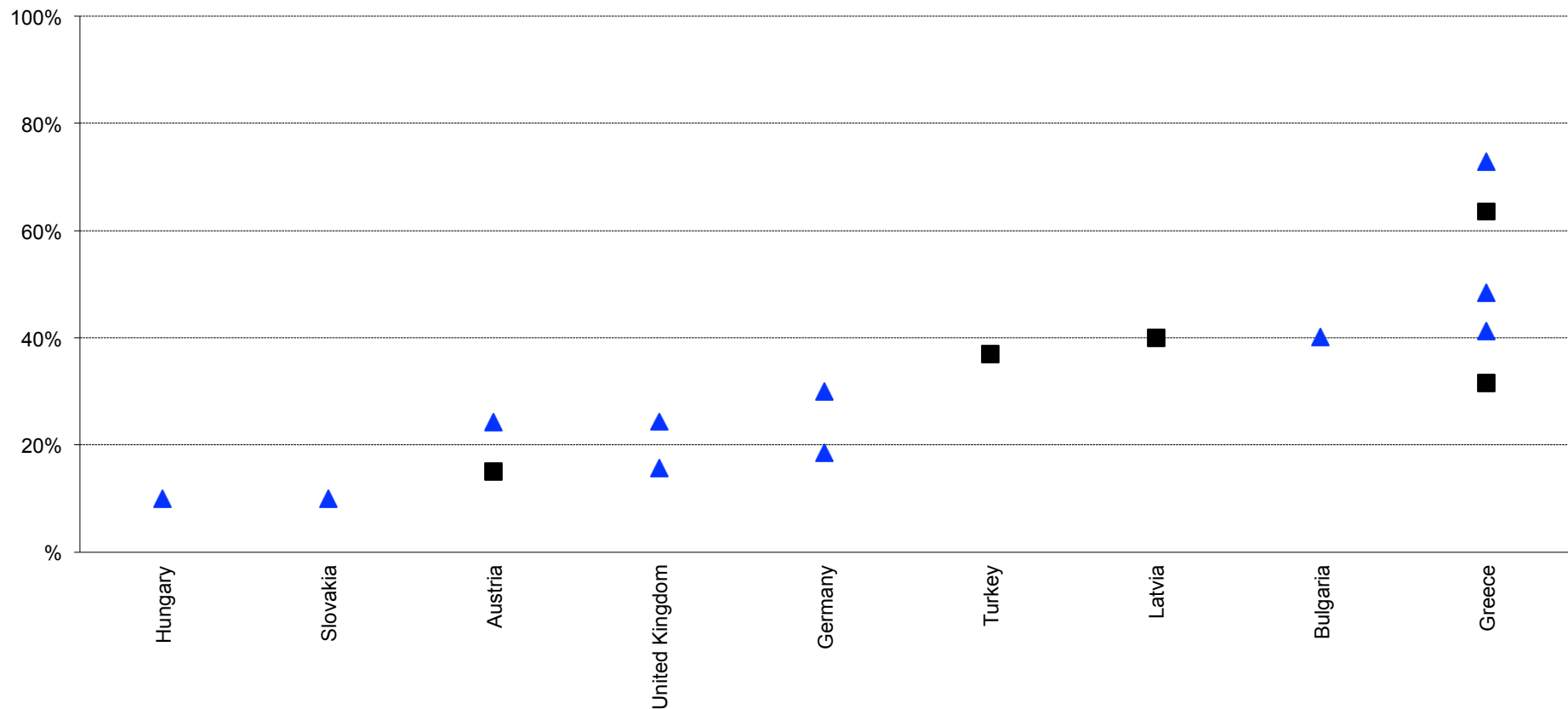
- Declining HCV prevalence in PWID: Norway
- Increasing HCV prevalence in PWID: Czech Republic, Greece, Cyprus, Latvia, Malta, Austria and Turkey
- Stable trend: Portugal

HCV antibody prevalence among young PWID (under age 25), 2011-12



■ Studies with national coverage ▲ Studies with sub-national coverage

HCV antibody prevalence among new PWID (injecting less than 2 years), 2011-12

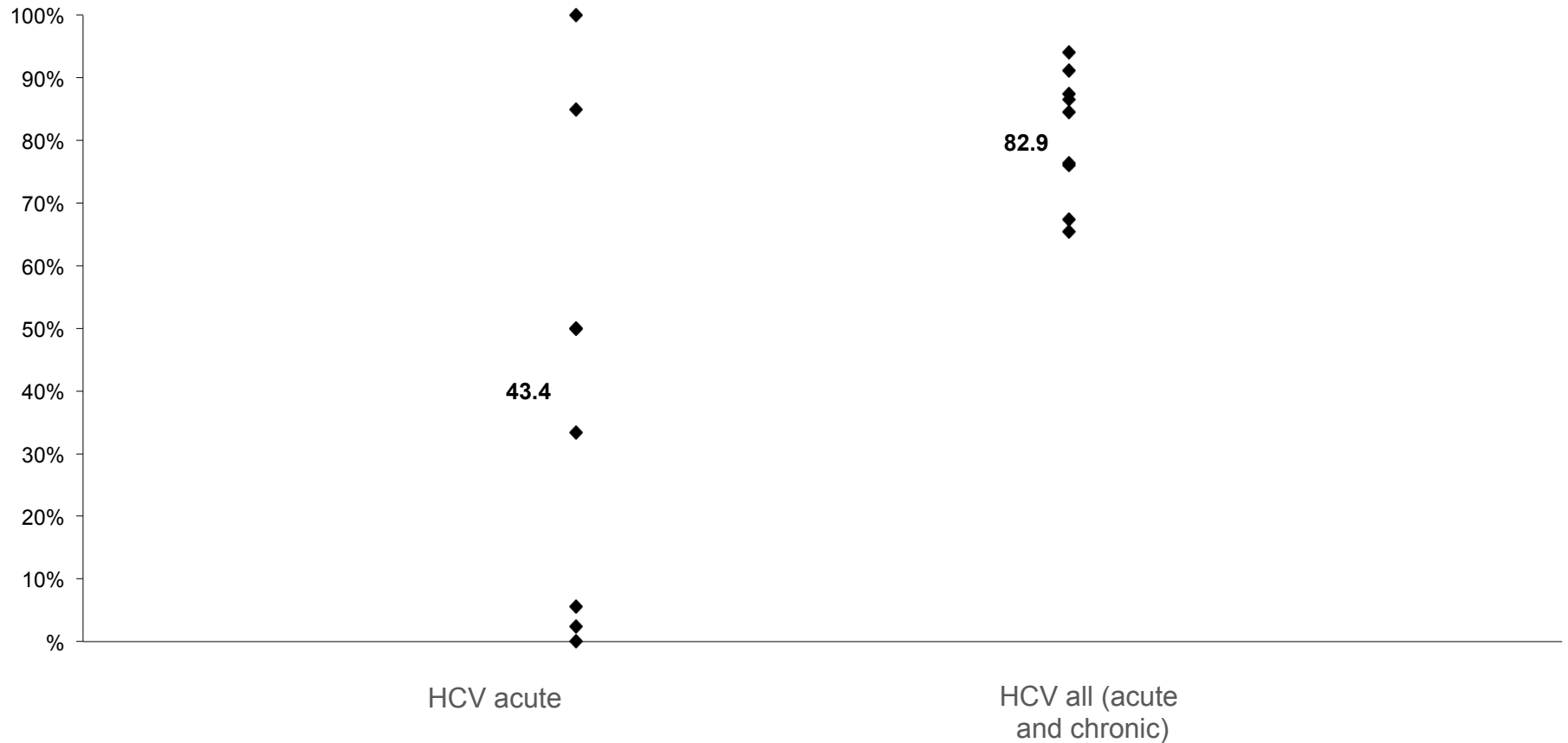


■ Studies with national coverage

▲ Studies with sub-national coverage

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% PWID among HCV notifications w/ known risk factor, 2011/12



Data strengths and limitations

Hepatitis notifications

- Reliability? — 70-80 % of acute cases are asymptomatic; underreporting can be 50-98 %
- Difficulties in case definition and ascertainment of acute cases

Prevalence data

- Denominator is PWID population, not the general population, different interpretation
- Prevalence among young and new injectors relatively robust indicator of incidence among PWID

Source: Hagan, H. et al. (2002), Case-reporting of acute hepatitis B and C among injection drug users. J Urban Health, 79(4): 579-585. emcdda.europa.eu

Thank you