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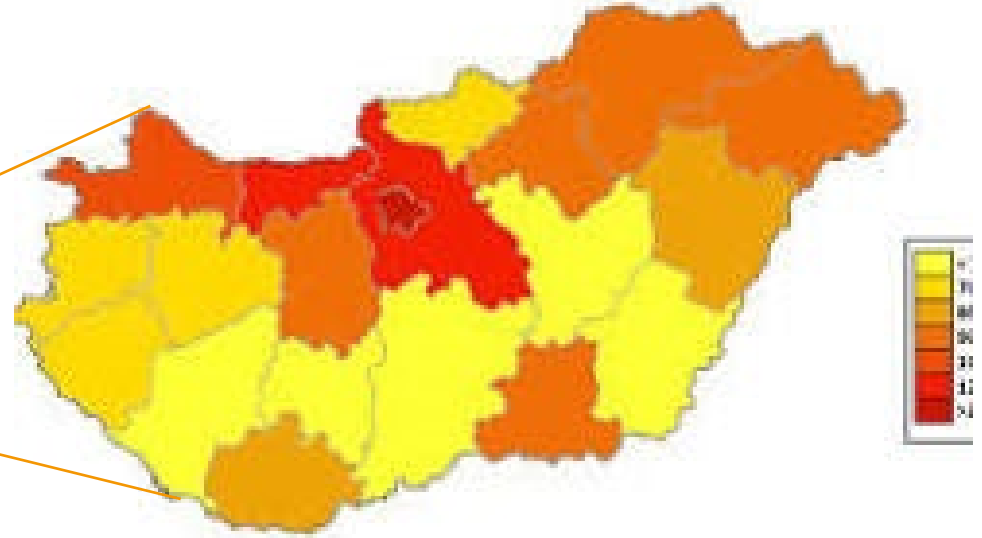
# Introduction to the Healthcare System of Hungary

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# Hungary

- Population: 9,6 M (in 2022)
- 19 countys with uneven sizes and number of inhabitants + the Capital



# Institutional Framework of National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF)

The purpose of healthcare services is to contribute to health promotion, education and recovery, to temper deterioration of health and to help the reintegration of people with altered health states to work and into the community.

# Preventive medical care

- Main preventive measures related to viral hepatitis:
  - Blood donor and organ donor screening for HBV (1991), HCV (1992-1993)
  - Screening for HBV and/or HCV in certain subpopulations
  - School based vaccination for HBV since 1999/2020 academic year in 8th grade at the beginning, now in the 7th grade
    - » After birth for infants born to HBV infected mothers
- No population-based, general screening for HBV or HCV
  - No reliable epidemiology data
- Population-based, organized other screening programs in Hungary
  - Breast cancer
  - Lung cancer/tuberculosis
  - Cervix cancer
  - Colorectal cancer

# General constitution of the health care system in Hungary

- Primary care
- Outpatient care
- Inpatient care
- Emergency medical care after daytime working hours
- Paramedic services and patient transport
- Nursing care
- Hospice care
- Rehabilitation
- Pharmacies and medical aid stores

# People entitled to medical care in Hungary

- Patients **with social security coverage** can get medical care **free of charge**.
  - Every patient with social security coverage is entitled to receive adequate, continuously available medical care with unbiased, equal treatment
  - **Hungarian nationals and legal non-nationals can have coverage** through adequate social security tax payment
    - » Paid automatically by employers to cover employees
    - » Can be individually paid by all other eligible individuals
- People **without social security** coverage are charged after medical services.
  - Exceptions: paramedic services, epidemiological and other **emergency medical care**
- The recourse of medical services is subsidized by the state, and the extent of this financial support is determined by distinct criteria.
  - The subsidization is derived **from the state's central budget, delivered by the NHIF**
  - There are certain medical services available for people with social security coverage, that are subjects to a complete or partial payment of the service fee.

# People without social security coverage

- Most of unemployed individuals do not pay social security tax
- Individuals working in the black work/grey work segment are typically not insured
- Homeless people have typically no coverage
- Illegal non-nationals cannot have social security coverage
- However:
  - Criminals in prisons are automatically covered, can have all medical care, including treatments for viral hepatitis
  - Upon admission to a homeless accommodation facility, legal homeless individuals (including PWIDU) can have immediate social security coverage, access to all medical services, including treatments for viral hepatitis



# Diagnosis and treatment of viral hepatitis

## (for individuals with social security coverage)

- All diagnostic modalities are available and covered by NHIF
  - Dedicated, centralized molecular biology labs for PCR
  - Limited access to elastographies
- Treatments for HBV and HCV are completely covered by NHIF
  - Prescription: authorized ID specialists or gastroenterologist in hepatitis care centres

# Summary

- Medical care is based on social security coverage or self-payment
  - A high proportion of HBV/HCV infected patients are not covered, not visiting medical facilities, not screened, not treated (PWID, homeless, unemployed)
- All diagnostic and therapeutic options are available in Hungary
- No population-based HBV/HCV screening program currently

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!