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Country: Hungary

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Hematology and Infectious Diseases

Function: Hepatologist

Main expertise: He has great experience in the field of infectious diseases and hepatology especially in viral hepatitis. His latest area of research is the study of adverse childhood experiences in the background of addictions and health impairment.

National plans, good practices/successful programs, challenges and the way forward

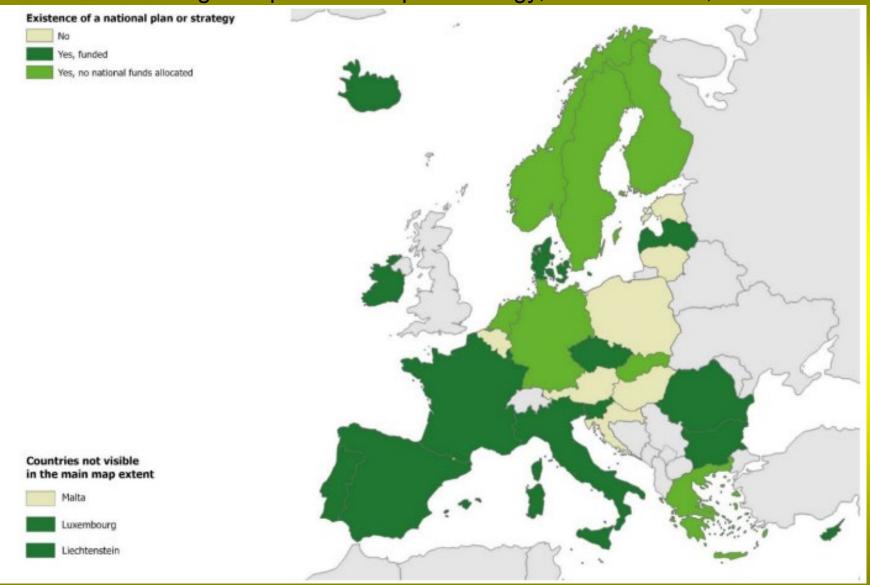
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Disclaimer

Sponsorship, trials, advisory boards: Abbott, Abbvie, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Gilead, Janssen-Cilag, MSD, Novartis, Pfizer, Roche, Swixx.

Existence of a **national plan or strategy** that covers the response to viral hepatitis and funding to implement the plan/strategy, in the EU/EEA, 2023



The good news about national plans

- We have a national guideline for screening and treatment for HCV and HBV/HDV updated yearly since 2006. Screening recommendations. No treatment restrictions. HepReg for HCV treatment.
- Committee for National Hepatitis Strategy was established in December 2018 and renewed in February 2024, the work is ongoing

Recommendations from the National Hepatitis Committee

- Pregnant women HCV screening also mandatory with HBV screening
- Mandatory screening of all workers in healthcare
- Mandatory screening of all students in healthcare related school
- Mandatory screening of all police and prison employees,
- Opt out screening for all incarcerated people

Good practices/successful programs

Screening of health care workers (part time results)

	Screened for anti- HCV (N)	Anti-HCV positive (N)	Anti-HCV (%)	Screened for HCV RNA (N)	HCV RNA positive (N)	HCV RNA positive (%)
Laboratory I.	5 009	42	0,84%	5 009	6	0,12%
Laboratory II.	3 916			3 916	11	0,28%
Laboratory III.	3 095	7	0,23%	3 095	3	0,10%
Laboratory IV.	2 730	22	0,81%	1 613	13	0,81%
Sum	14 750	71	0,66%	13 633	33	0,24%

Voluntary screening for HCV in prisons

Source	Time period	Number screened	Anti-HCV positive	HCV RNA positive
Tresó Bálint (2016)	2007-2009	4894	241 (4,92%)	178 (3,64%)
Takács Ádám (2024)	2022	3570	397 (11,12%)	231 (6,47%)
Recent data	2023.12- 2024.08.	1064	129 (12,12%)	77 (7,23%)

Future: telemedicine for HCV, HBV and HIV

^{1.} Tresó Bálint: Hepatitisz vírusok veszélyeztetett populációkban. PhD értekezés. ELTE 2016.

Z. Takács Ádám: Hepatitis C vírus előfordulása és genotípus meghatározása a magyar büntetés-végrehajtási intézetek fogvatartottjai körében.
Diplomamunka. Debreceni Egyetem 2024.
Dr. Ujhelyi Eszter: data on filel

HepaGo HCV screening and treatment

HepaGo screening: drug users, MSM, prostitutes									
Year	Number	anti-HCV+	PCR done	PCR -	PCR +	Treatment not begun	Partial dose	PCR done (EOT)	SVR
2019.	220	52	52	2	50	12	6	32	32
2020.	80	20	12	3	9	0	1	6	6
2021.	360	36	22	2	20	4	2	12	12
2022.	572	41	21	11	10	6	2	7	7
2023.	1046	105	32	4	28	10	3	15	15
2024.	780	71	16	6	10	1	1	6	6
SUM	3058	325	155	28	127	33	15	78	78
%		10,6	47,7	18,1	81,9	26,0	11,8	61,4	100,0

Other programs

- Screening of plasma donors: direct referral to centers via Hepreg
- Screening in rehab and probation
- Screening in "health days" and concerts
- Screening in segregates and gay bars

All occasional and sponsored by companies

The way forward



WHO – ACE-IQ question categories

Direct traumas

- 1) Emotional 2) Physical and 3) Contact sexual abuse
- 4) Emotional and 5) Physical neglect

Family related traumas

- 6) One or no parents, parental separation or divorce,
 - 7) Household member treated violently
- In the household: 8) Alcohol and/or drug abuser,
 - 9) Someone chronically depressed, mentally ill, institutionalized or suicidal
 - 10) Incarcerated household member

Environmental traumas

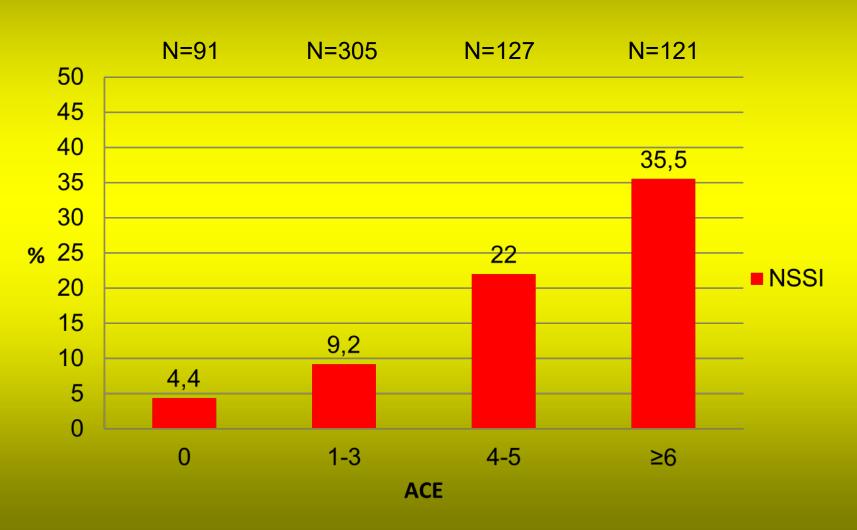
- 11) Collective and 12) Community violence
- 13) Bullying

A total of 32 questions, mild or severe, 0-13 points

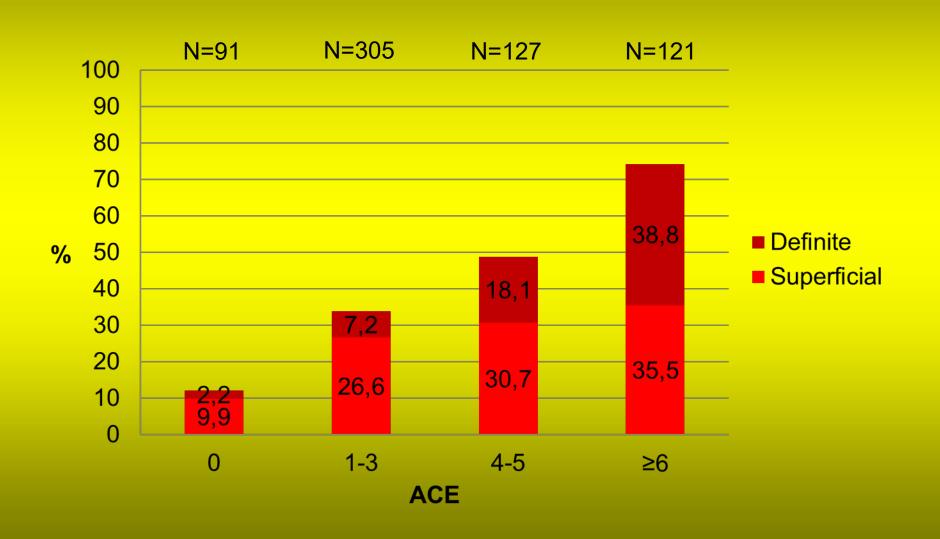
Phase 2 study: distribution of groups and average ACE scores (n = 644)

Group	Number of subjects	Average of ACE scores
Intravenous drug users with HCV infection	69	<mark>4,94</mark>
Patients of addiction hospital ward	85	<mark>4,18</mark>
Alcohol consumers with liver disease (outpatients)	11	<mark>2,36</mark>
Patients who got HCV from blood transfusion after the age of 18	21	1,19
University students	114	2,49
Job seekers	50	2,41
Residents of economically deprived region	50	2,38
People who go to their general practitioner to newer their driving license	57	1,95
Rehabilitation Foundation	47	<mark>4,38</mark>
Convicts (prison)	44	3,23
Anonymous HIV/HCV screening	6	2,17
Patients with obesitas (NAFLD)	8	<mark>2,63</mark>
HIV patients	51	1,90
Homeless people	29	<mark>4,79</mark>
Hungarian employees of an American computer technology company	2	0,5
Total	644	<mark>3,10</mark>

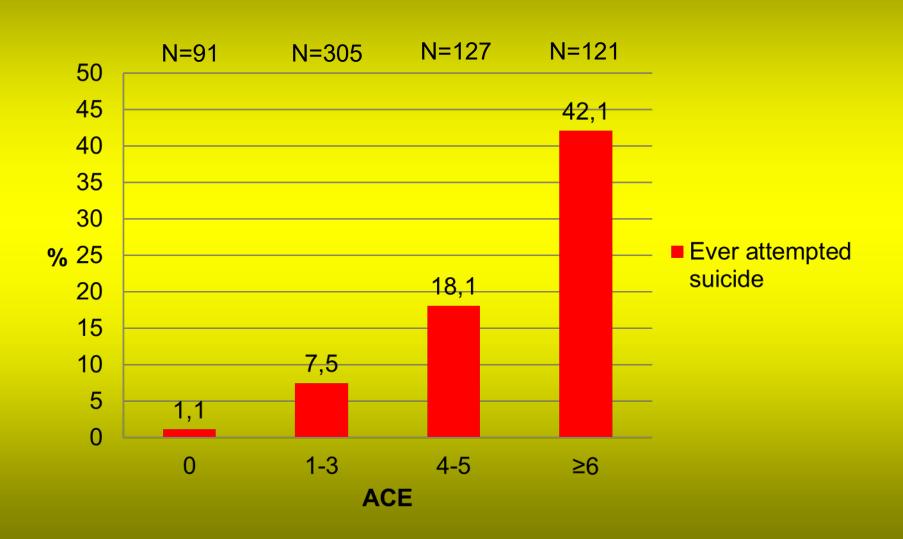
Non-Suicidal Self Injury (NSSI) (N = 644)



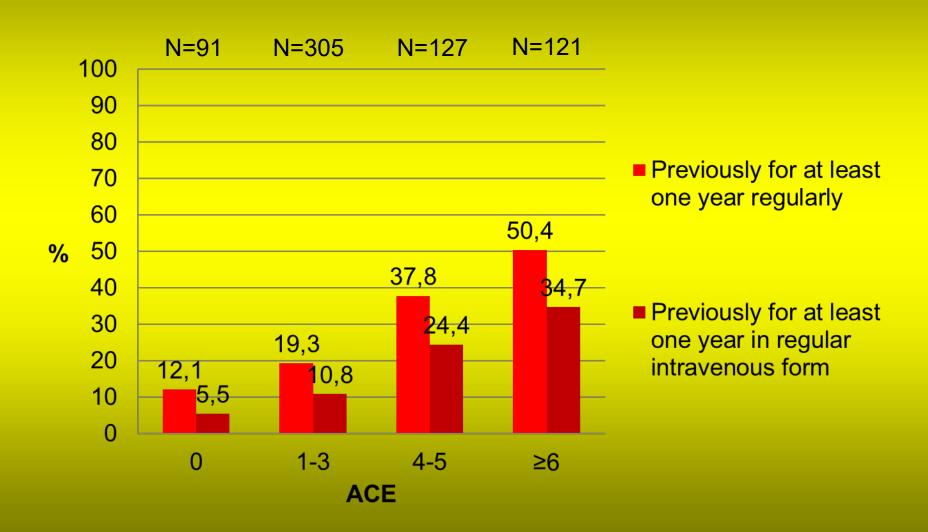
Suicidal ideation (N = 644)



Suicide attempts (N = 644)



Previous drug use (N = 644)



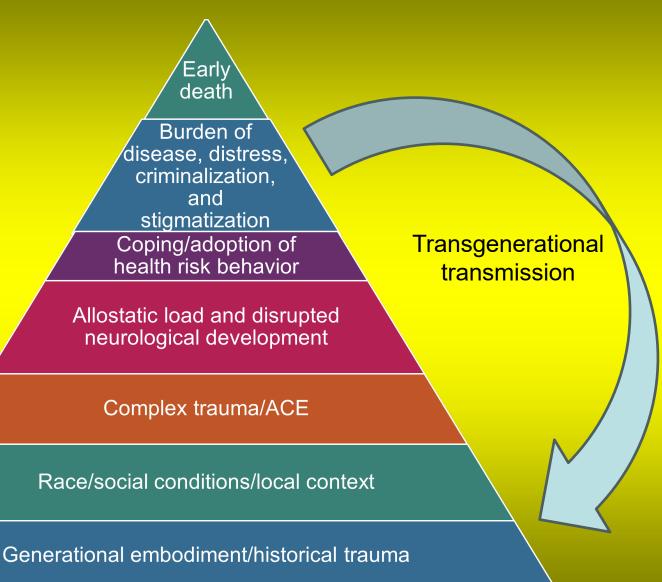




There's no health without mental health.



Current image of the pyramid



A series of "mental vaccinations" must be given!

Prevention and early targeted interventions!

Universal Interventions:

Actively promote parent resilience and build positive parenting skills.

Universal education on parental ACEs, available resources, and resilience

Community-based formalized social-emotional learning through parenting groups (e.g. Parent Cafe)

Targeted interventions for families at risk:

Refer to intensive interventions in families experiencing the negative impacts of parental ACEs.

Evidence-based home visiting programs (e.g. Healthy Families America, Healthy Start)

Parenting programs (e.g. Parents as Teachers, Triple P Positive Parenting Program)

Partnerships between health, education, and social services to improve developmental outcomes of children (e.g. Early Head Start, Head Start)

Intensive, effective coaching to promote positive parenting skills and improve the parent-child relationship

Summary

- ACEs are common
- It is fundamentally important to treat the psychological background of the diseases
- Prevention is the goal, but psychological treatment can also reduce the chance of transmission, so it is also prevention!
- Is a drug addict a criminal? No!

They are mentally ill persons who use drugs to relieve their suffering.



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Thank you for your attention!