

5 th Hepatitis C Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting: Science Symposium November 18, 2019		
TIME	PRESENTATIONS	SPEAKERS
9:00-9:30	Welcome and Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities of the Scientific Committee of the National Hepatitis C Elimination Program, 2016-2019 	Dr. Amiran Gamkrelidze, NCDC Dr. Francisco Averhoff, US CDC Dr. Tinatin Kuchuloria, TEPHINET
9:30-10:00	Immediate and long-term clinical outcomes of DAA treatment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of the national hepatitis C elimination program: treatment outcomes and associated factors, 2015-2019 Long-term health outcome among HCV patients with advanced liver fibrosis treated through the HCV elimination program 	Dr. Lali Sharvadze, IDACIRC Dr. Maia Kajaia, Health Research Union
10:00-11:00	Evaluation of diagnostics and treatment delivery models both at specialized and non-specialized HCV care settings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrating HCV screening and simplified treatment services in primary healthcare Effectiveness of three models of HCV diagnostics in harm reduction: Impact on linkage to care—A pilot project in Georgia Integration of HCV RNA testing on existing GeneXperts in Georgia to assist in current HCV care decentralization efforts Evaluation of integration of HCV RNA testing on existing GeneXperts in Georgia to assist in current HCV care decentralization efforts (including Phlebotomy and Fingerstick) 	Dr. Akaki Abutidze, IDACIRC Dr. Sonjelle Shilton, FIND Dr. Maia Japaridze, FIND Dr. Maia Butsashvili, Health Research Union
11:00-11:30	BREAK	
11:30-12:30	Novel Approaches to Laboratory Diagnostics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation study of Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs) detecting antibodies against hepatitis C virus Evaluation of the diagnostic performance of HCVcAg as test of cure in for hepatitis C among PWID in Georgia Evaluation of dry blood spots for HCV RNA testing/sub study: Prospective evaluation of the Genedrive® HCV ID Kit in Georgia Using next generation sequencing (NGS) capacity for hepatitis C surveillance in Georgia 	Dr. Maia Alkhazashvili, NCDC Dr. Nazibrola Chitadze, NCDC Dr. Maia Alkhazashvili, NCDC Dr. Adam Kotorashvili, NCDC
12:30-1:00	Improving Access to Care and Treatment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminating HCV infection in prison settings in Georgia 	TBD, IDACIRC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparing engagement in HCV care and treatment outcomes between HIV negative and HIV positive persons within the national hepatitis C elimination program 	TBD, IDACIRC
1:00-2:00	LUNCH	
2:00-3:00	Surveillance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing a Georgian PWID cohort study to estimate incidence of HCV infection HCV-attributable hepatocellular carcinoma among persons with hepatobiliary cancer diagnoses in Georgia: 2015-2016 Impact on mortality of HCV treatment with direct acting anti-viral medications, Georgia, 2015-2018 HCV reinfection in people living with HIV in Georgia 	Dr. Nikoloz Chkhartishvili, IDACIRC Dr. Ana Aslanikashvili, NCDC Dr. Lia Gvinjilia, TEPHINET TBD, IDACIRC
3:00-3:15	Economic evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimation of the cost effectiveness of the HCV treatment program in Georgia 	Dr. Josephine Walker, University of Bristol
3:15-3:45	BREAK	
3:45-4:30	Hepatitis B <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevalence and risk factors for the hepatitis B infection – 2015 serosurvey results Progress and challenges in HBV prevention, care and treatment Epidemiology and treatment outcomes of HBV infection among HCV patients treated with Direct Acting Antivirals (DAAs) 	Dr. Ana Kasradze, NCDC Dr. Jaba Zarkua, Clinic Mrcheveli Dr. Maia Butsashvili, Health Research Union
4:30-5:00	Mother-to -Child Transmission of Viral Hepatitis B and C <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of the maternal and child state program in Georgia HCV Screening and linkage to care in antenatal clinics 	Dr. Khvicha Getia, NCDC Dr. Muazzam Nasrullah, US CDC

5 th Hepatitis C Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting: Day 1 November 19, 2019		
8:30-9:00	Registration	
9:00-9:30	Welcome and opening remarks	Ekaterine Tikaradze , Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia Ms. Elizabeth Rood , Chargé d’Affaires, US Embassy Dr. Carolyn Wester , US CDC Gregg Alton , Gilead Sciences Dr. Silviu Domente , WHO Georgia Office Head
9:30-10:00	Introduction of TAG members and role of the TAG <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purpose of the meeting and overview of agenda Introduction of TAG members Review 2018 TAG recommendations 	Dr. Carolyn Wester , US CDC (Chair) & Dr. Margaret Hellard , Burnet Institute, Australia (Co-Chair)
10:00-10:30	Progress and challenges of the HCV Elimination Program in Georgia 2015-2019	TBD , Ministry of IDPs from occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
10:30-11:00	Media Coverage/Break	
11:00-11:15	The interim impact and ongoing treatment requirements for achieving HCV elimination in Georgia	Dr. Peter Vickerman , Bristol University, UK
11:15-11:45	Key issues and challenges for achieving HCV elimination in Georgia (Dissection of Care Cascade by Strata and Strategy)	Dr. Francisco Averhoff , US CDC
11:45-1:30	Identify Persons Infected with HCV (and Linked to Care)	TAG moderators: Dr. Carlos Del Rio , Emory University, USA & Dr. Sharon Hutchinson , National Health Service, Scotland, UK Discussants: Vladimer Getia , NCDC, Muazzam Nasrullah , US CDC, Maia Alkhazashvili , NCDC, Alexander Turdziladze , NCDC, Tengiz Tsertsvadze , IDACIRC, Maka Danelia , NCDC Dr. Amiran Gamkrelidze , NCDC
11:45-12:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TAG 2018 recommendations, status of HCV screening: successes, challenges, and plans to address challenges 	
12:15-1:30	Discussion by TAG/Q & A	
1:30-2:30	Lunch	
2:30-3:30	Provide HCV Care and Treatment	TAG moderators: Dr. Graham Foster , University of London, UK & Dr. Jorge Mera , Cherokee Nation, US

2:30-2:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAG 2018 recommendations, status of HCV care and treatment: successes, challenges, and plans to address challenges including simplified testing and cure strategies in decentralization of HCV services 	<p><u>Discussants</u>: Irma Khonelidze, NCDC, Tengiz Tsertvadze, IDACIRC, Eka Adamia, MOH, Lali Sharvadze, IDACIRC, Akaki Abutidze, IDACIRC, Uka Kiladze, National family medicine center, Maia Butsashvili, HRU, Jaba Zarqua, Mrcheveli, Maka Gogia, GHRN</p> <p>Dr. Tengiz Tsertsvadze, IDACIRC</p>
2:50-3:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on HCV screening, care and treatment in Georgia's Corrections System 	<p>Mr. Tamta Demurishvili, Ministry of Justice of Georgia, Special Penitentiary Service</p>
3:00-3:30	Discussion by TAG/Q & A	
3:30-3:50	BREAK	
3:50-4:50	Promote Advocacy, Awareness, Education, and Partnerships for HCV-Associated Resource Mobilization	<p>TAG moderators: Dr. Tatjana Reic, European Liver Patients Association, Croatia & Dr. Jeff Lazarus, EASL International Liver Foundation, Switzerland</p> <p><u>Discussants</u>: Temur Radiani, Patient association, Maia Butsashvili, HRU, Konstantine Rukhadze, GeCAB</p>
3:50-4:05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAG 2018 recommendations, status of education/advocacy efforts: successes, challenges, and plans to address challenges 	<p>Dr. Marina Topuridze, NCDC</p>
4:05-4:50	<p>Round Table/Discussion by TAG/Q & A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temur Radiani, Hepatitis C Cured Patient Association, • Maia Butsashvili, Health Research Union • Konstantine Rukhadze, Georgia Community Advisory Board • Maka Gogia, Georgia Harm Reduction Network • Konstantine Labartkava, New Vector 	
4:50-5:50	Activities to Improve HCV Surveillance and Program Effectiveness	<p>TAG moderators: Dr. Antons Mozalevskis, WHO-EURO, Denmark & Dr. Priti Patel, US CDC</p> <p><u>Discussants</u>: Khatuna Zakhashvili, Vladimer Getia, NCDC, Maia Butsashvili, HRU, Tatia Kuchuloria, CDC, Lia Gvinjilia, Tsira Merabishvili, NCDC, Ketevan Galdavadze, NCDC, Maia Jafaridze, FIND</p>

4:50-5:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TAG 2018 recommendations, status of HCV surveillance: successes, challenges, and plans to address challenges	Maia Tsereteli, NCDC
5:15-5:50	Discussion by TAG/Q & A	
5:50-6:00	Summary of Day 1 and Closing Remarks	Dr. Carolyn Wester, US CDC
6:30	Reception/Dinner at Republic (4 th floor) hosted by FIND	

5 th Hepatitis C Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting: Day 2 November 20, 2019		
TIME	PRESENTATIONS	SPEAKERS
9:00-9:15	Opening Remarks, Review Day 1	Dr. Carolyn Wester , US CDC (Chair) & Dr. Margaret Hellard , Burnet Institute, Australia (Co-Chair)
9:15-10:15	Prevent HCV Transmission i. Harm Reduction	TAG moderators: Dr. Margaret Hellard , Burnet Institute, Australia, Dr. Sharon Hutchinson , National Health Service, Scotland, UK <u>Discussants:</u> Irma Khonelidze, NCDC, Maka Gogia, GHRN, Kote Rukhadze, GeCab, Alexander Asatiani, NCDC
9:15-9:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAG 2018 recommendations, update on prevention, screening and linkage to treatment of PWID • Decentralization of HCV screening, care, and treatment in harm reduction settings 	Dr. Ketevan Stvilia , NCDC
9:45-10:15	Discussion by TAG/Q & A	Dr. Maia Butsashvili , Health Research Union
10:15-10:35	BREAK	
10:35-11:15	Prevent HCV Transmission (continued) ii. Blood Safety	TAG moderators: Dr. Evan Bloch , Johns Hopkins University, US & Dr. Anders Widell , Lund University, Sweden <u>Discussants:</u> Khatuna Zakhshvili, NCDC Vladimir Getia, NCDC, Eteri Kipiani, NCDC, Maia Alkhazashvili, NCDC, Marina Baidauri, MOH, Radu Cojocar, CDC, Levan Avalishvili, Jo Ann clinic
10:35-11:05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAG 2018 recommendations, status of blood safety program in blood banks: successes, challenges, and plans to address challenges • Blood Bank screening quality assurance: Current practices and future directions 	Dr. Maia Alkhazashvili , NCDC
11:05-11:15	Discussion by TAG/Q & A	Dr. Nazi Chitadze , NCDC
11:15-11:45	Prevent HCV Transmission (continued) iii. Infection Control in Healthcare, Non-traditional Healthcare and Other Community Settings	TAG moderators: Dr. Priti Patel , US CDC & Dr. Antons Mozalevskis , WHO-EURO, Denmark <u>Discussants:</u> David Tsereteli, NCDC, Giorgi Chakhunashvili, NCDC, Marina Baidauri, MOH

11:15-11:25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TAG 2018 recommendations, status of infection prevention and control: successes, challenges, and plans to address challenges 	TBD, Ministry of IDPs from occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
11:25-11:45	Discussion by TAG/Q & A	
11:45-12:20	Improve HCV Laboratory Diagnostics	TAG moderators: Dr. Anders Widell, Lund University, Sweden & Dr. Evan Bloch, Johns Hopkins University, US Discussants: Nazi Chitadze, NCDC, Vladimer Getia, NCDC, Irma Khonelidze, NCDC, Maia Jafaridze, FIND, George Kamkamidze, Neolab, Lana Gatserelia, IDACIRC Dr. Maia Alkhazashvili, NCDC
11:45-12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TAG 2018 recommendations, status of laboratory and diagnostics efforts: successes, challenges, and plans to address challenges including role of diagnostics in decentralization of HCV services 	
12:00-12:20	Discussion by TAG/Q & A	
12:20-1:20	Lessons Learned from Other Countries	TAG moderators: Dr. Carlos Del Rio, Emory University, USA & Dr. Jorge Mera, Cherokee Nation, USA Dr. Margaret Hellard, Burnet Institute, Australia Dr. Sharon Hutchinson, National Health Service, Scotland, UK Dr. Jorge Mera, Cherokee Nation, USA Dr. Graham Foster, University of London, UK
12:20-1:00	Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australia Scotland, UK Cherokee Nation England, UK 	
1:00-1:20	Round Table Discussion	
1:20-4:20	Lunch for All and Free Time TAG Members Lunch	
4:20-5:50	TAG Recommendations and 2019 Priorities	Dr. Carolyn Wester, US CDC & Dr. Margaret Hellard, Burnet Institute, Australia & TAG members
5:50-6:00	Closing Remarks	Dr. Carolyn Wester, US CDC