



79<sup>th</sup>



International  
Scientific  
Conference of  
the University  
of Latvia

# Characteristics of patients with hepatitis C and distribution of viral genotypes in Lithuania

*Čiupkevičienė Eglė, Šumskienė Jolanta, Kupčinskas Limas*

# Introduction

- In 2016, the World Health Assembly passed a resolution to eliminate hepatitis C as a public health threat by 2030.
- Effective drugs are now available; however, most patients remain unaware of the hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection, which may be recognized only in the late stages when the complications have occurred.
- Different virus genotypes may affect the pathobiology of disease.
- Thus, identifying patients at high risk of HCV infection and ensure proper treatment is a health care challenge.
- **Aim** of the study – to evaluate the characteristics of patients with hepatitis C and HCV genotype distribution in Lithuania.

# Methods

The study was carried out in three hospitals in Lithuania, which are the inpatient and outpatient centers consulting and treating patients with HCV infection. All patients who attended a routine visit at each hospital within 6 months and fulfilled the selection criteria were selected. Information was collected from the patient's medical documentation. Altogether **201 patients (51.7% men and 48.3% women)** were involved in the study.

## ***Selection criteria:***

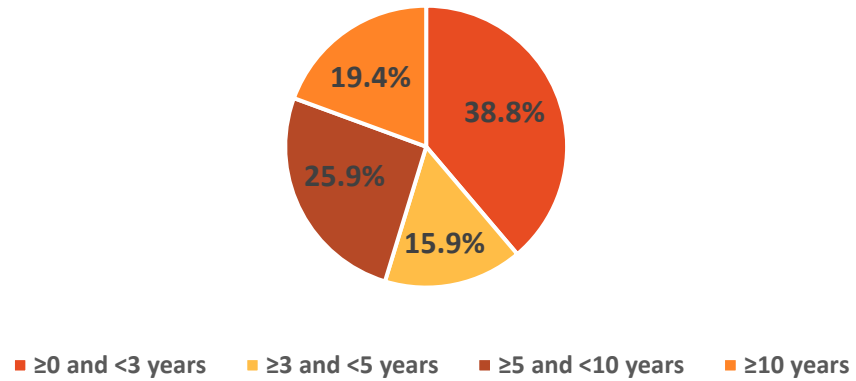
- positive HCV-RNR test;
- defined HCV genotype;
- age  $\geq$  18.

## ***Collected information:***

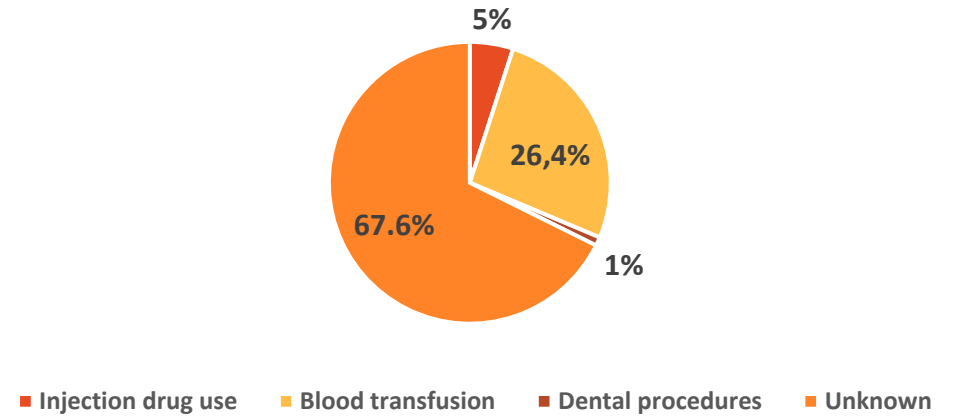
- demographic data;
- alcohol consumption and substance use;
- suspected mode of infection;
- duration of HCV infection;
- genotype;
- liver fibrosis stage;
- hepatocellular carcinoma status.

# Results (1)

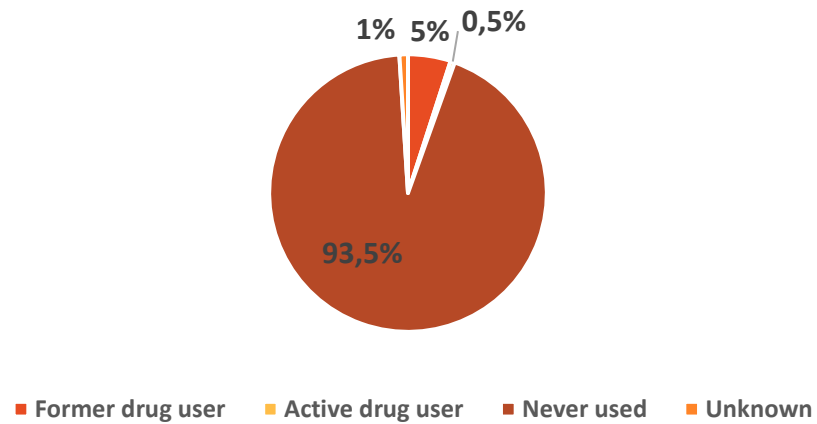
### Duration of HCV



### Suspected mode of infection

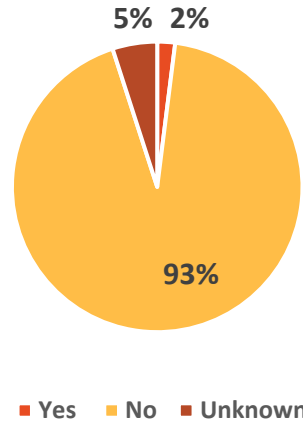


### Drug abuse

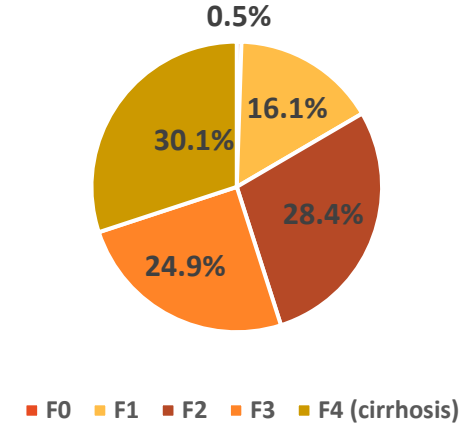


# Results (2)

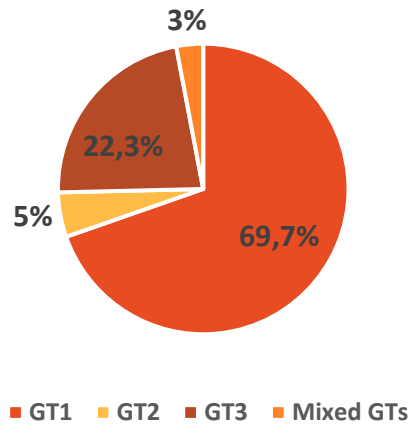
### Hepatocellular carcinoma status



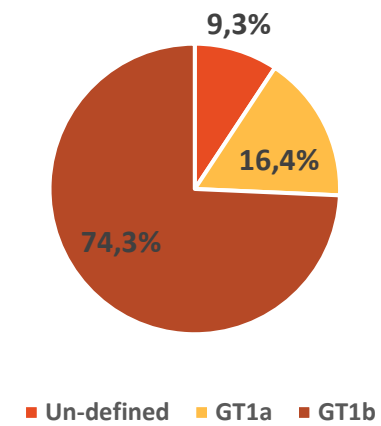
### Fibrosis stage



### HCV genotype distribution



### GT1 subtype distribution



# Conclusions

- Genotype 1 is the most common HCV genotype in Lithuania.
- Intravenous drug use was not the main mode of transmission of the infection.
- A high proportion of fibrosis grade 3 and 4 indicates the need for screening for this latent infection in the general population, especially in risk groups.