



Fast-Track Cities: Actioning HCV Elimination in European Urban Settings

HepHIV 2021 Conference Side-Meeting

Time/Date: 13:30-14:30 CET, 5 May 2021

Participants: Open to all conference participants – no pre-registration needed

Meeting Background

The *Paris Declaration on Fast-Track Cities* calls upon cities and municipalities around the world to accelerate local actions towards ending their HIV, TB, and viral hepatitis epidemics by 2030. COVID-19 has placed a significant strain on national and subnational health systems at a critical moment in the context of HCV elimination. According to mathematical modelling, the 1-year delay in advancing HCV programmatic targets may have resulted in 44,800 excess hepatocellular carcinoma cases and 72,300 excess liver-related deaths, relative to a no-delay scenario globally, from 2020 to 2030, with the most excess hepatocellular carcinoma and liver-related deaths among high-income countries.¹ However, clinician and community leaders across the European Fast-Track Cities network worked diligently and strategically over the past year to maintain a continuity of HCV services with the aim of mitigating disruptions across the HCV care continuum.

Meeting Objectives

The meeting will help define a strategy for actioning HCV elimination in European urban settings in alignment with World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations (UN) goals and targets. Moreover, the meeting will showcase urban HCV efforts in two European Fast-Track Cities that have leveraged their existing HIV responses to advance HCV elimination goals despite the challenges posed by their cities' COVID-19 epidemics.

Agenda

Time	Presentation	Presenter
Moderator: Dr José M. Zuniga , President/CEO, IAPAC and Fast-Track Cities Institute		
13:30h	Welcome, Context, and Introductions (5 minutes)	Dr José M. Zuniga President/CEO IAPAC and Fast-Track Cities Institute
13:35h	Leveraging Fast-Track Cities to End Urban HCV Epidemics: An Urban Agenda to Find and Cure the Missing Millions (10 minutes)	Mr Cary James President World Hepatitis Alliance

Case Studies		
13:45h	HIV and HCV Screening in the Midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Seizing an Opportunity across Homeless Shelters in London (10 minutes)	Prof. Jane Anderson Co-Chair Fast-Track London
13:55h	Urban HCV Micro-Elimination in Action: Examining the AEHVE Hep C Free Experience in Sevilla and Valencia as a Model for Europe (10 minutes, pre-recorded presentation)	Dr. Javier García-Samaniego Coordinator AEHVE Hep C Free
14:05h	Q&A and Open Discussion (20 minutes)	Faculty and Participants
14:25h	Review of Key Take-Away Messages (5 minutes)	Dr José M. Zuniga President/CEO IAPAC and Fast-Track Cities Institute

Reference

1. Blach S, Kondili LA, Aghemo A, et al. Impact of COVID-19 on global HCV elimination efforts. *J Hepatol.* 2021;74(1):31-36.