

HepCare Europe Manifesto



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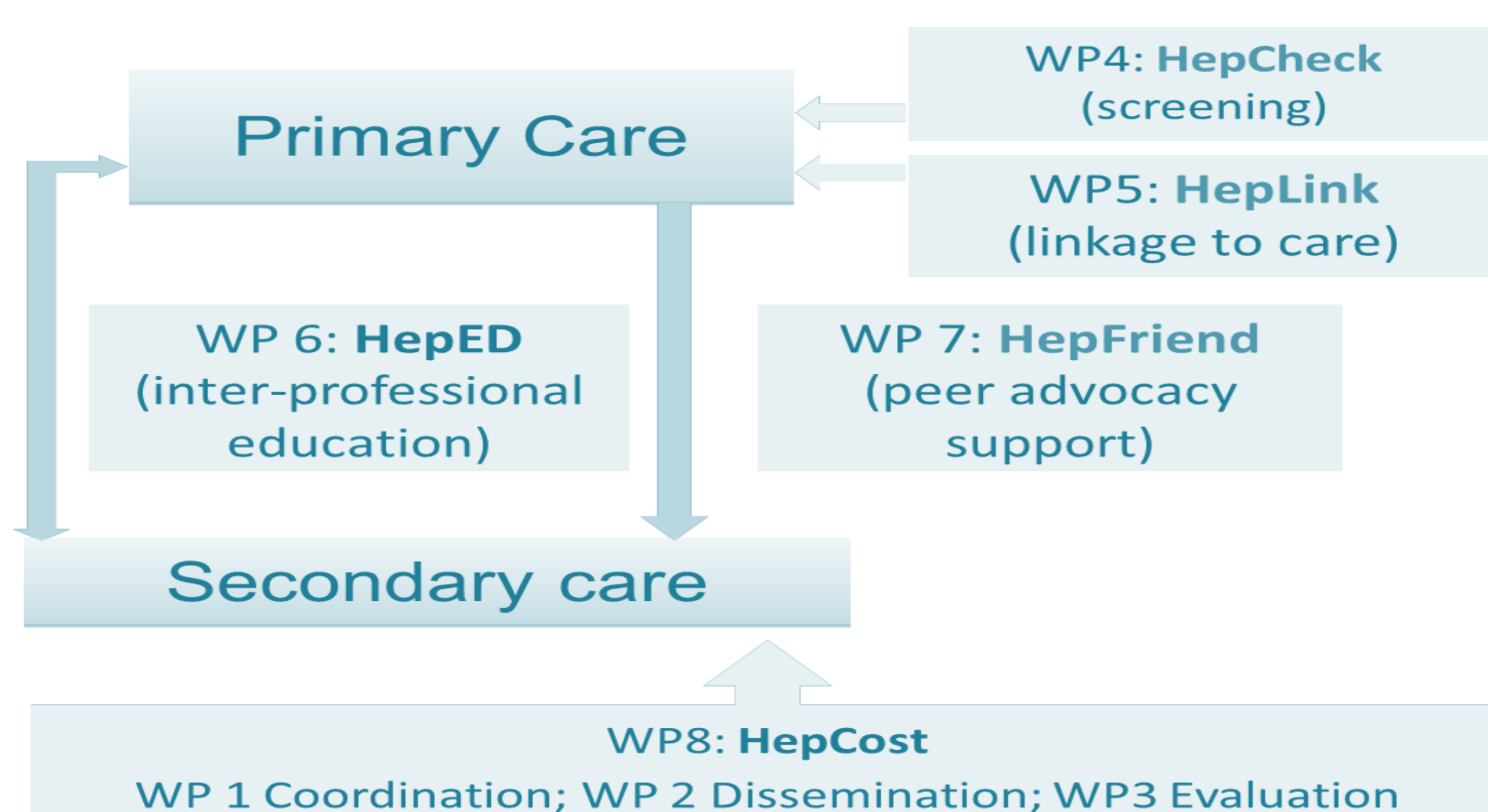
BACKGROUND

HepCare Europe is a three-year, **EU-funded project** involving collaboration with four member states. The **vision** for the project is to create an innovative, **integrated system** for Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) **screening and treatment among key 'at-risk' groups**, including people who inject drugs and the homeless, through **outreach** to the community and integration of primary and secondary care services.

With clinical sites in **Dublin, London, Seville and Bucharest**, and economic evaluation in Bristol UK, the consortium has developed a number of work packages, focused on operationalizing the multiple components of testing, care and cure that are key components of the strategy to eradicate HCV in the European Union.

METHOD

A system of work packages aimed at intensified screening (**HepCheck**), Linkage to Care (**HepLink**), Education (**HepEd**) and intensified Peer Support (**HepFriend**) and cost effectiveness (**HepCost**) aimed to improve testing and linkage to care for the homeless, prisoners and PWID.



REFERENCES

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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RESULTS

HEPCHECK

- No. of individuals offered screening **2822**
- No. of individuals screened **2129**
- HCV Ab positive **728 (34.2%)**

HEPLINK

- No. of primary care/ community sites recruited **29**
- No. of patients recruited **485**
- No. of primary care/ community sites received HCV education **55**
- No. of primary care/ community sites received HCV nurse support/ outreach **22**

HEPFRIEND

- Patients contacted **395**
- Peers recruited **29**

HEPED

- No. of Health Care Professionals trained **>500**
- No. of Masterclasses held **12**

CONCLUSION

HEPCARE EUROPE PROJECT HAS LINKED UP STAKEHOLDERS IN PRISONS, COMMUNITY SETTINGS, NGO'S AND MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS, DEVELOPING NEW COLLABORATIONS THAT SHOW THE POTENTIAL FOR CONTINUED AND EXPANDED PROGRESS IN HCV ELIMINATION. HEP CARE COLLABORATIONS HELPED SITES TO ACCESS A HIGHER NUMBER OF PATIENTS WITH RISK BEHAVIOURS BY REDUCING COSTS AND OTHER SCREENING BARRIERS. SITES ALSO UTILIZED NEW APPROACHES, WITH SPAIN DIAGNOSING HCV IN A SINGLE BLOOD DRAW AND THE UK UTILISING MOBILE UNITS FOR HARD TO REACH POPULATIONS. OUTREACH CLINICS AND SPECIALIST NURSES IMPROVED LINKAGE TO CARE OUTCOMES FOR PATIENTS IN MARGINALIZED GROUPS. WITH SITES INFLUENCING SERVICE DELIVERY IN THEIR RESPECTIVE SURROUNDING AREAS, THE FUTURE OF HEP CARE AIMS TO FURTHER DEVELOP THE INTERVENTION BY INCREASING ITS GEOGRAPHICAL REACH, TARGETING HIGH "TRANSMITTER" GROUPS, RE-ENGAGING PATIENTS LOST TO FOLLOW-UP AND ENHANCING INTEGRATED APPROACHES.