

ECDC Scope and purpose document

Directly transmitted and Vaccine-preventable Diseases Unit/STI, Blood-Borne Viruses and TB Section

Webinar: Introduction to the ECDC-EUDA European Toolkit for the Elimination of Viral Hepatitis in Prisons (EuroHePP)

23 September 2026, 15:00-16:00 CEST, online

Specific contract No 1 ECDC. 20983

Background

In August 2025, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the European Union Drugs Agency (EUDA) published the [European Toolkit for the Elimination of Viral Hepatitis in Prisons](#).

The toolkit was developed to support the implementation and scale up of hepatitis B and C prevention and care in prisons across Europe. It includes a practical, interactive framework for driving forwards towards hepatitis elimination in prison settings. The toolkit is primarily designed for anyone working in health services in the prison setting. However, the information is also relevant to other audiences, including other staff working in the prison, peer workers and policymakers.

This toolkit aims to support the user in developing tailored strategies for scaling up or implementing viral hepatitis prevention, testing and treatment services in prison, and offers a framework for monitoring and evaluating these services. It can be part of national and regional elimination efforts, aligning with the World Health Organization's 2030 targets to eliminate hepatitis and save lives.

Aim and objectives

The overall aim of the webinar is to support those working in health services in the prison setting, as well as other staff working in the prison, peer workers and policymakers in understanding how to translate the recommendations in the ECDC-EUDA European Toolkit for the Elimination of Viral Hepatitis in Prisons into concrete actions.

At the end of the webinar, participants will have:

- Gained an understanding of the different elements of the toolkit and the public health importance of the elimination of hepatitis in prison settings;
- Learned how the toolkit can be applied in practice;
- Acquired knowledge of other countries' good practices in terms of scaling up hepatitis B and C prevention and care in prisons; and
- Identified transferable actions and next steps for their local context.

Target audience

The webinar is aimed toward health professionals working in prisons since they are the target audience of the toolkit, however other staff working in the prison, peer workers, public health professionals and policymakers may also find value in it.

Platform, format and approach

The webinar will be hosted online using Zoom for a duration of 60 minutes. The format will include expert plenary presentations, an applied case study and open discussion/Q&A.

Background materials

We have selected relevant documents related to the webinar content as background material. These materials provide support to the planned webinar presentations and discussions:

- [ECDC/EUDA: European Toolkit for the Elimination of Viral Hepatitis in Prisons \(EuroHePP\) \(2025\)](#)
- [ECDC/EUDA: Guidance on the prevention and control of blood-borne viruses in prison settings \(2018\)](#)
- [ECDC/EUDA: Public health guidance on active case finding of communicable diseases in prison settings \(2018\)](#)
- [EUDA: Prison and drugs in Europe: current and future challenges \(2021\)](#)
- [EUDA: Prisons and drugs: health and social responses \(2023\)](#)
- [Correlation Harm Reduction Network \(C-EHRN\): Behind the Walls - A Guide to Harm Reduction Access and Practices in Prisons \(2025\)](#)
- [International Network on Health and Hepatitis in Substance Users \(INHSU\): Global Guidelines for Viral Hepatitis Service Delivery in Prisons \(2024\)](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\): Recommended package of interventions for HIV, viral hepatitis and STI prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care for people in prisons and other closed settings \(2023\)](#)

Agenda

23 September 2026, 15:00-16:00 CEST		
Time	Purpose and activity	Presenter/facilitator
15:00	Welcome, house rules and webinar objectives	Erika Duffell, ECDC
15:05	Introduction to the EuroHePP Toolkit	Olivia Dawson, International Network on Health and Hepatitis in Substance Users
15:15	Model of Care presentation: HAV and HBV vaccination for people in prison and prison staff (Milan, Italy)	Nicola Cocco, San Vittore Prison
15:30	Model of Care presentation: Person-centred approach for continuity of HCV care and treatment after release (Montpellier, France)	Dr Fadi Meroueh, Villeneuve-lès-Maguelone Prison
15:45	Plenary Q&A	Lara Tavoschi, University of Pisa
15:55	Take-home messages and evaluation	Erika Duffell, ECDC

Expected outputs and evaluation

Before the webinar concludes, participants will be asked to respond to 5-7 quantitative standardised evaluation questions regarding feedback on the webinar organisation and overall impact. A General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)-compliant webinar recording will be publicly accessible for later viewing on the ECDC Learning Portal for infectious diseases.

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