

Table S1. The questionnaire

Statement – knowledge assessment		Yes	No	I don't know
K1	Chronic HCV can lead to serious complications such as liver cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K2	Due to the asymptomatic course of infection HCV or non-typical symptoms only 1 in 5 persons is aware of infection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K3	Symptoms and results of chronic HCV can affect not only the liver but also other organs such as: heart, kidneys, skin, brain and pancreas.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K4	Alcohol consumption by HCV infected persons can speed up the process of liver damage.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K5	HCV vaccination can be used to prevent new infections with the virus.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K6	Persons with HCV can safely share their toothbrushes and shaving razors with other persons.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K7	HCV can be transmitted during sexual encounters.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K8	Using new, never before used needles, syringes and other items decreases the risk of HCV infection.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K9	Children of mothers with HCV can be infected during labour.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K10	HCV can be transmitted through the use of common kitchen utensils (e.g. cups, plates, cutlery, etc.).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K11	HCV can be transmitted through coughing, sneezing, handshakes and hugging.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K12	Effective HCV antiviral treatment can lead to a complete eradication of the virus in nearly 100% of patients.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
K13	Persons with a history of successful HCV antiviral treatment and virus eradication cannot become reinfected with the virus.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

K - knowledge

Question – risk factor assessment		Yes	No	I don't know/Not applicable
R14	Have you ever had a blood or blood product transfusion?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R15	Have you ever undergone a medical procedure which included the breaking of tissue continuity (surgical procedures, blood drawing, dental procedures, endoscopic procedures)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R16	Have you ever undergone cosmetic procedures which included sharp implements, aesthetic medicine procedures such as piercings, tattoos, etc.?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R17	Are you undergoing long-term dialysis?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

R18	Are you suffering from haemophilia?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R19	Have you ever been hospitalized?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R20	Is your work related to occupational exposure to blood product pathogens?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R21	Have you ever been exposed to blood product pathogens at work?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R22	Have you been diagnosed with HBV and/or HCV during pregnancy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R23	Have you ever shared personal cosmetic-hygenic utensils with other persons (e.g. shaving razors or other sharp cosmetic utensils)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R24	Have you ever injected or inhaled drugs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R25	Have you ever had a random sexual encounter with no protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R26	Have you been diagnosed with HIV?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R27	Have you ever performed a blood test for HCV?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

R – risk factor

Personal Information:

1. Gender

☐ Female ☐ Male

2. Age:

3. Place of residence

- ☐ Village
- ☐ City under 50,000 inhabitants ☐ City between 51,000 and 200,000 inhabitants
- ☐ City between 201,000 and 500,000 inhabitants
- ☐ City above 500,000 inhabitants

4. Education

- ☐ Primary/Vocational ☐ High School graduate
- ☐ Higher education
- ☐ Other

5. How do you assess your knowledge on HCV:

1 - no knowledge

|__1__|__2__|__3__|__4__|__5__|__6__|__7__|__8__|__9__|__10__|

10-very high level of knowledge

Table S2. The total number of unmodifiable risk factors

	The total number of unmodifiable risk factors	
	N	%
0	130	9.98
1	218	16.73
2	532	40.83
3	268	20.57
4	135	10.36
5	20	1.53

Table S3 The total number of modifiable risk factors

	The total number of modifiable risk factors	
	N	%
0	706	54.18
1	433	33.23
2	130	9.98
3	29	2.23
4	5	0.38