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## SNAP-SHOT DATA ON HBV AND HCV INFECTIONS COLLECTED FROM SELECTED PEDIATRIC HOSPITALS IN POLAND

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There are no large cross-sectional studies on pediatric HBV and HCV epidemiology in Poland. The data obtained from official governmental register and the data published by opinion leaders group are in disagreement.

The aim of the study was to collect the snap shot data on epidemiological situation for HBV or HCV infection in selected pediatric centers. We wanted to determine the number of patients with HBV or HCV infection, the number of children with liver cirrhosis or HCC in the course of chronic viral liver disease. We described the availability of therapeutic options for HBV or HCV infections in different medical centers. The questionnaire survey was sent

to the hospital involved in liver disease therapy in children. Thirteen centers responded to the questionnaire.

Six responding centers are infectious disease hospitals. Six centers defined themselves as pediatric hospitals and one site is a gastroenterology, hepatology and liver transplantation center. All centers provide medical care on inpatient and outpatient basis for children aged 0-18 years. The number of patients treated at every site varies from 900 to 7000 per year (total around 36 000). HBV infection was reported in 1033 children, HCV infection in 356 and combined HBV-HCV infection in 60. Eighty of these cases were reported from infectious diseases sites. HBV related liver cirrhosis was diagnosed in 9 and HBV related HCC in 2 children. HCV related liver cirrhosis was found in 9 subjects. No case of HCC in children with HCV infection was noted. Majority of centers stated that their data underestimate the real frequency of the HBV and HCV infections.

The therapy for HBV infection is provided by 6 centers. 28 patients got interferon and 56 got lamivudine treatment in 2007. HCV infection is treated in 6 centers; 42 children got interferon+ribavirine and 17 got PEG-interferon+ribavirine treatment.

Our data shows that the number of patients with HBV infection and combined HBV-HCV infection is lower than it was in the middle of nineties of 20. century. The number of patients with HCV infection is growing up. Patients with HBV/HCV infection are grouped in infectious diseases hospitals. Most centers stated that there are no major limitations in the access to antiviral therapy.

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#### ZAKAŻENIA WIRUSAMI HEPATOTROPOWYMI U DZIECI W WYBRANYCH SZPITALACH PEDIATRYCZNYCH – BADANIE ANKIETOWE

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