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### Observational Study

### Hepatitis C virus infection in Argentina: Burden of chronic disease

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### Abstract

**AIM:** To estimate the progression of the HCV epidemic and measure the burden of HCV-related morbidity and mortality.

**METHODS:** Age- and gender-defined cohorts were used to follow the viremic population in Argentina and estimate HCV incidence, prevalence, hepatic complications, and mortality. The relative impact of two scenarios on HCV-related outcomes was assessed: 1) increased sustained virologic response (SVR), and 2) increased SVR and treatment.

**RESULTS:** Under Scenario 1, SVR raised to 85-95% in 2016. Compared to the base case scenario, there was a 0.3% reduction in prevalent cases and liver-related deaths by 2030. Given low treatment rates, cases of hepatocellular carcinoma and decompensated cirrhosis decreased <1%, in contrast to the base case in 2030.

Under Scenario 2, the same increases in SVR were modeled with gradual increases

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