

Achievements under National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme (NVHCP)

Punjab was one of the first states where initiatives for Screening and Management of Hepatitis C was started in the year 2016. Punjab model of Hepatitis C care has been adopted nationally by GOI under NVHCP (National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme) in July 2018.

Hepatitis C:

1. Punjab was the first state to be initiate decentralized care of Hepatitis-C in the country which covered 25 sites, (22 district hospitals and 3 Govt. Medical Colleges) in the State.
2. The treatment centers for HCV in the State have increased from 25 to 68 in 2021 which includes 22 DHs, 3 GMCs, 17 ART, 14 OST, 9 Central Prisons and 1 SDH.
3. GMC Faridkot and Patiala have been designated as Model Treatment Centers in June 2020; thus, the State now has 3 Model Treatment Centers including PGI, Chandigarh.
4. Appx 2.27 lakh persons of Punjab have been screened for Hepatitis C till date and out of these 101588 were found to be having Hepatitis C Viral Load positive.
5. Appx. 82000 patients have completed the treatment.
6. Among the patients who have completed their treatment, the cure rate is approximately 93%.
7. All baseline tests, viral load tests and drugs for treatment are completely free for the patients.
8. In year 2017, the programme services were extended to ART & OST Centers for screening and management of PLHIVs and IVDUs in the State of Punjab, which was the first initiative this kind in the country.
9. In year 2019, 9 central prisons were enrolled for management of Hepatitis C among prison inmates, which is again first initiative in the country.

Hepatitis B:

1. In January 2020, the screening of Hepatitis B has been initiated in the State as decentralized mode.
2. In **June-2021**: Free viral load testing and treatment for **HBV** has been initiated at 27 centres (23 DH's, 3 GMC's, 1 SDH)
3. **July-2021**: On World Hepatitis Day, the treatment for Hepatitis B was also initiated and the treatment is being provided free of cost.