

# World Hepatitis Day : our contribution to it commemoration in Argentina.

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## BACKGROUND

- ✓ Since 63rd World Health Assembly in May 2010, every year on 28 July WHO and partners mark World Hepatitis Day to increase the awareness and understanding of viral hepatitis and the diseases that it causes.
- ✓ We, as National Reference Laboratory for Viral Hepatitis in Argentina, have adhered to this commemoration day through different activities during one day around to July 28th in 2012, 2014, 2015 and 2016, most of them in collaboration with the Argentine Association for the Study of Liver Diseases and all with the local Health authorities of the Autonomous city of Buenos Aires, that is our geographic location.

## METHODS

- ✓ We organized a working day installing booths each year in different strategic high transit people points of the city.
- ✓ We delivered viral hepatitis information in different printed flyers format, in regard of agents, route of infection, screening, care, treatment and medical advice; including information about the Sentinel Units Network (SU) developed in our country and local hospitals.
- ✓ We also offered for free to be screened for antiHCV and antiHBc and a small survey for risk factors (RF) were performed.

## RESULTS

- ✓ The blood samples were processed in our laboratory using commercially available ELISA kits for those markers.
- ✓ Positive samples for antiHBc were processed also for HBsAg and if it resulted negative, also for antiHBs.
- ✓ In those positive for HBsAg and/or antiHCV, viral load were performed.
- ✓ All past or present infected individuals were referred to the nearest hepatologists of our network for medical attention

### World Hepatitis Day: Places were we commemorated in Buenos Aires City, Argentina



2012 Planetario place, n : 123



2014 Rosedal Park, n : 73

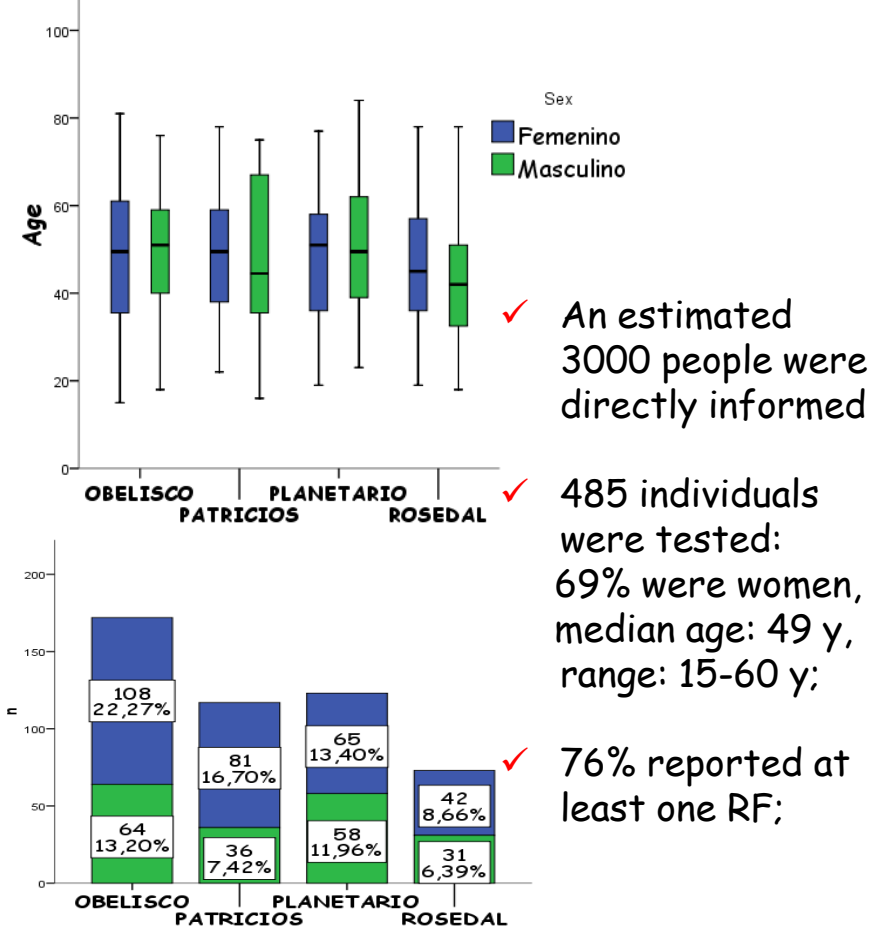


2015 Obelisco surroundings n : 172

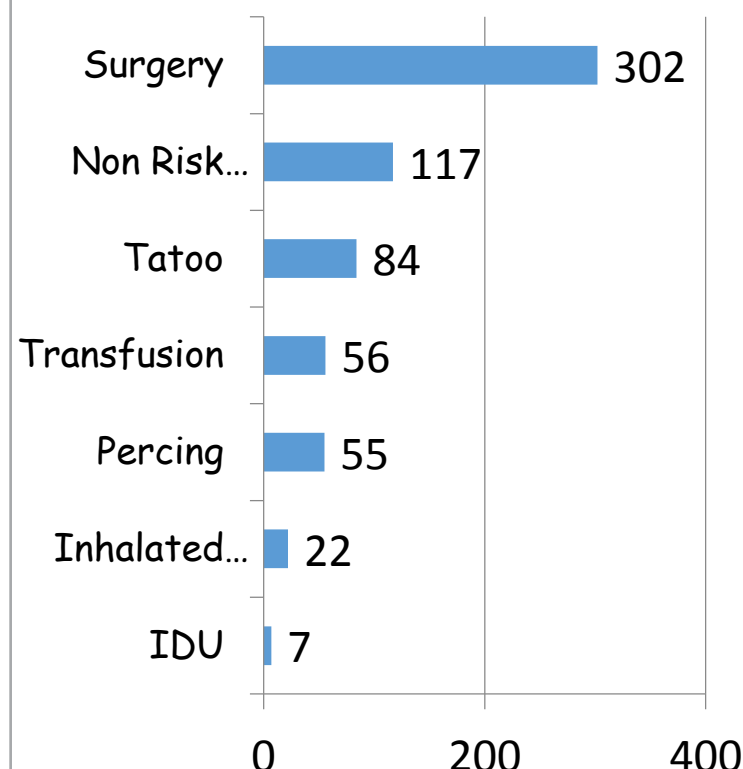


2016 Patricios Park n : 117

### Sample characterization



### Risk factor in participants



### Results over 485 samples

Location	n	antiHBc POS n (%)	antiHCV POS n (%)
Planetario	123	17 (13,8%)	5 (4,1%)
Rosedal	73	2 (2,7%)	1 (1,4%)
Obelisco	172	10 (7,8%)	4 (2,3%)
Patricios	117	13 (11,1%)	2 (2,7%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>42 (8,7%)</b>	<b>12 (2,5%)</b>

\*From the antiHBc POS : 42

2 samples were HBsAg POS. (4,8%)

\*From the antiHBc POS / HBsAg Neg : 40

32 samples were antiHBs POS (80%)

## CONCLUSIONS

"World Hepatitis day" is a very worthwhile activity to give visibility to this long-neglected epidemic.

### Contact Information

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## CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None