

HCV-behandeling bij drugsverslaafde patienten: een reality check

Cathy Matheï

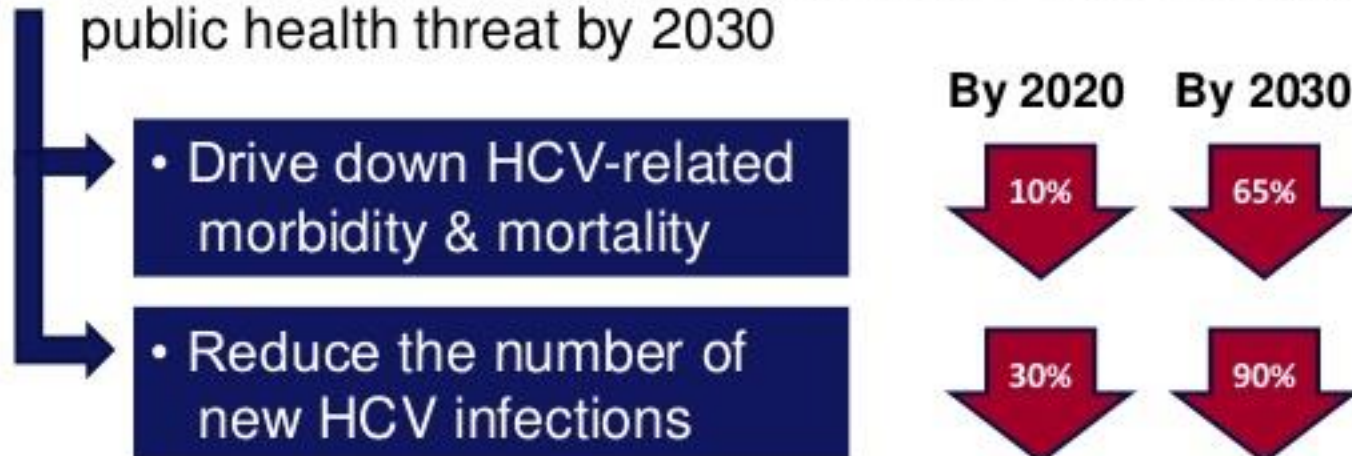
Free Clinic, Antwerpen

KU Leuven



The WHO goal of elimination...

- World Health Organisation's (WHO) Global Health Sector Strategy (GHSS) on Viral Hepatitis, 2016-2021*
 - Working towards eliminating hepatitis C as a major public health threat by 2030



* http://www.who.int/hepatitis/strategy2016-2021/Draft_global_health_sector_strategy_viral_hepatitis_13nov.pdf?ua=1

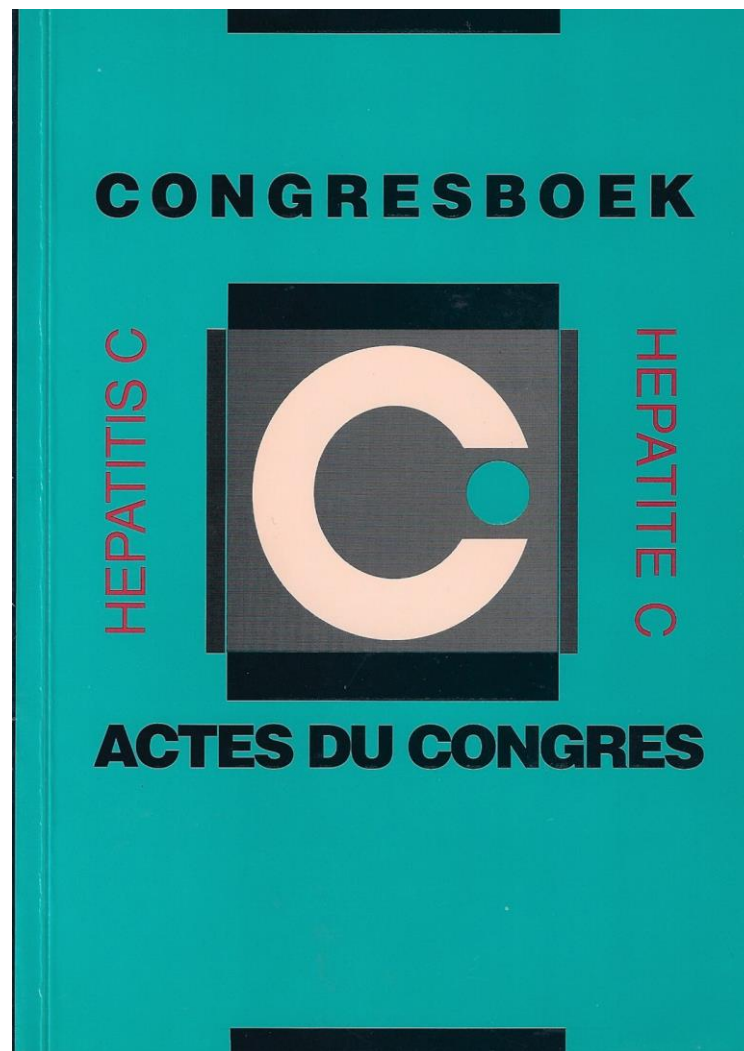
Challenges

- 2/3 of chronic HCV patients in developing countries
- PWID most important source of new HCV infections worldwide
- Active PWID should be targeted
 - Hidden population
 - Stigma
 - Limited access to conventional healthcare
 - Chaotic unstable patients

20 years Hepatitis C management at Free Clinic Antwerpen



Low threshold centre, working with PWUD,
OST, NSP,
C-Buddy care,
and counseling.



1997

first conference HCV and drug use in Belgium.

The epidemic history of hepatitis C among injecting drug users in Flanders, Belgium

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ARTICLE

C. Matheï · E. Wollants · J. Verbeeck · M. Van Ranst ·
G. Robaey · P. Van Damme · F. Buntinx

Molecular epidemiology of hepatitis C among drug users in Flanders, Belgium: association of genotype with clinical parameters and with sex- and drug-related risk behaviours

Published online: 19 August 2005
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Epidemiol. Infect. (2004), 132, 1–10. © 2004 Cambridge University Press
DOI: 10.1017/S0950268804002973 Printed in the United Kingdom

Prevalence of hepatitis C in drug users in Flanders: determinants and geographic differences

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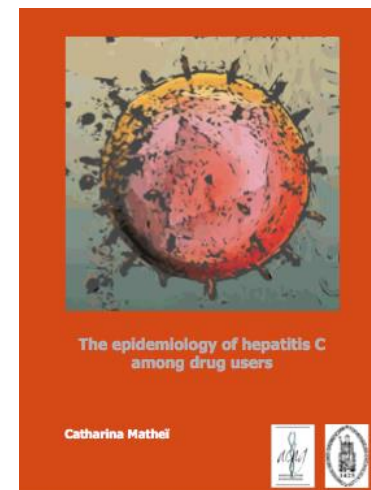
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Continuum of care



Diagnosis

Screening
Case-
finding
Diagnosis
Awareness



Linkage to care



Treatment

Assessment
Initiation
Adherence
completion

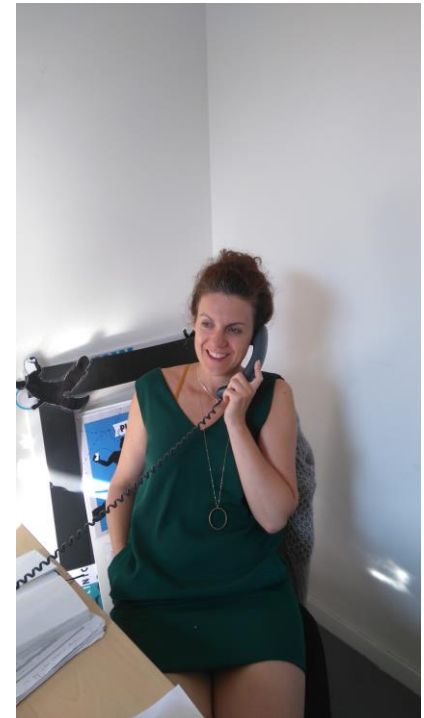


Prevention of reinfection





- Screening for infectious diseases
- Pre- and post counseling
- Hepatitis C nurse:
 - case management + outreach
- OST
- Medical care
- Social care/support







- NSE + provision of other paraphernalia
- Information-education
- Screening + counseling
 - Swab-to know week
 - Oraquick on saliva + HCV-RNA
- Referral

hepatitis
swab to know 



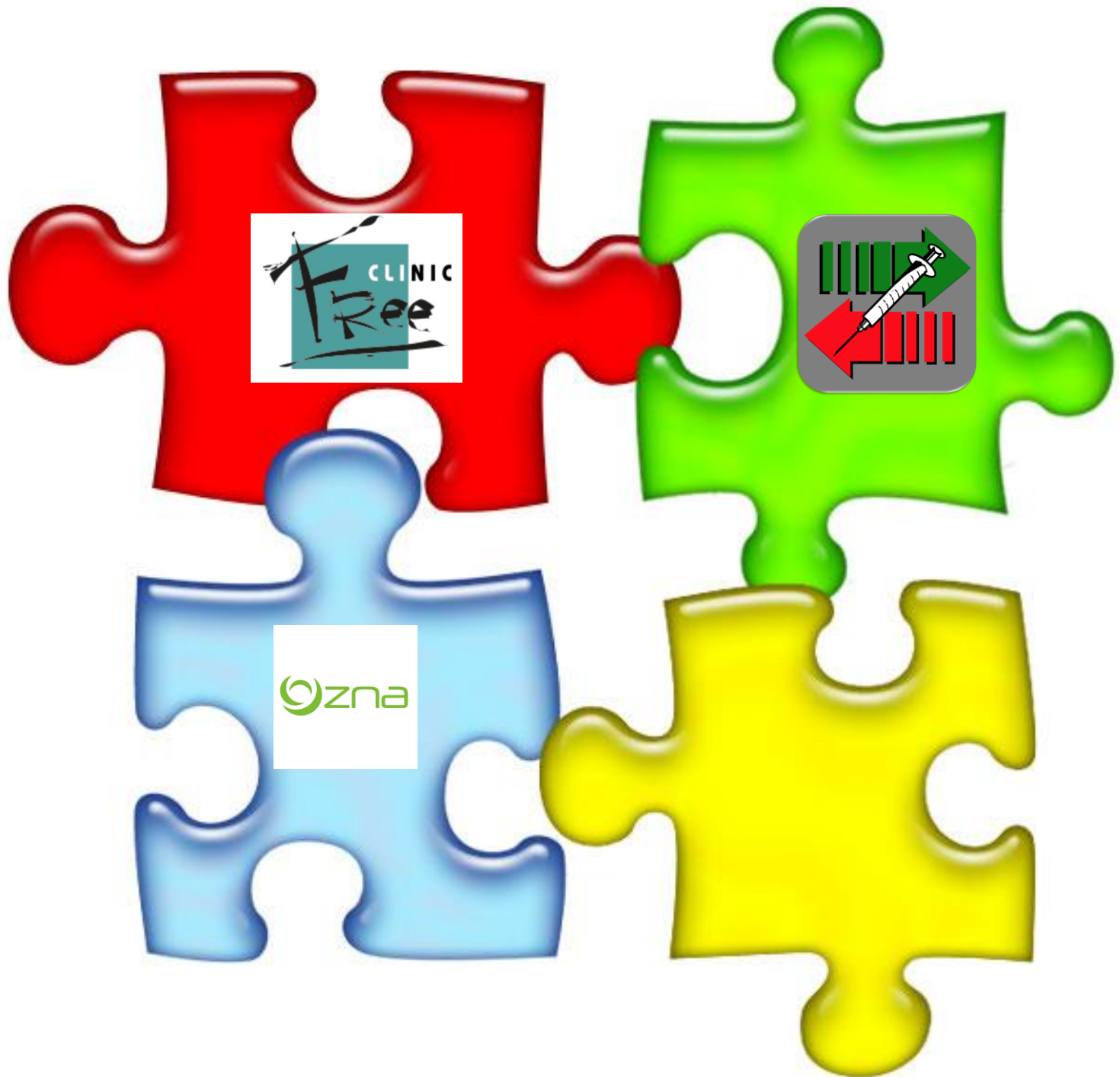
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vraag info bij je
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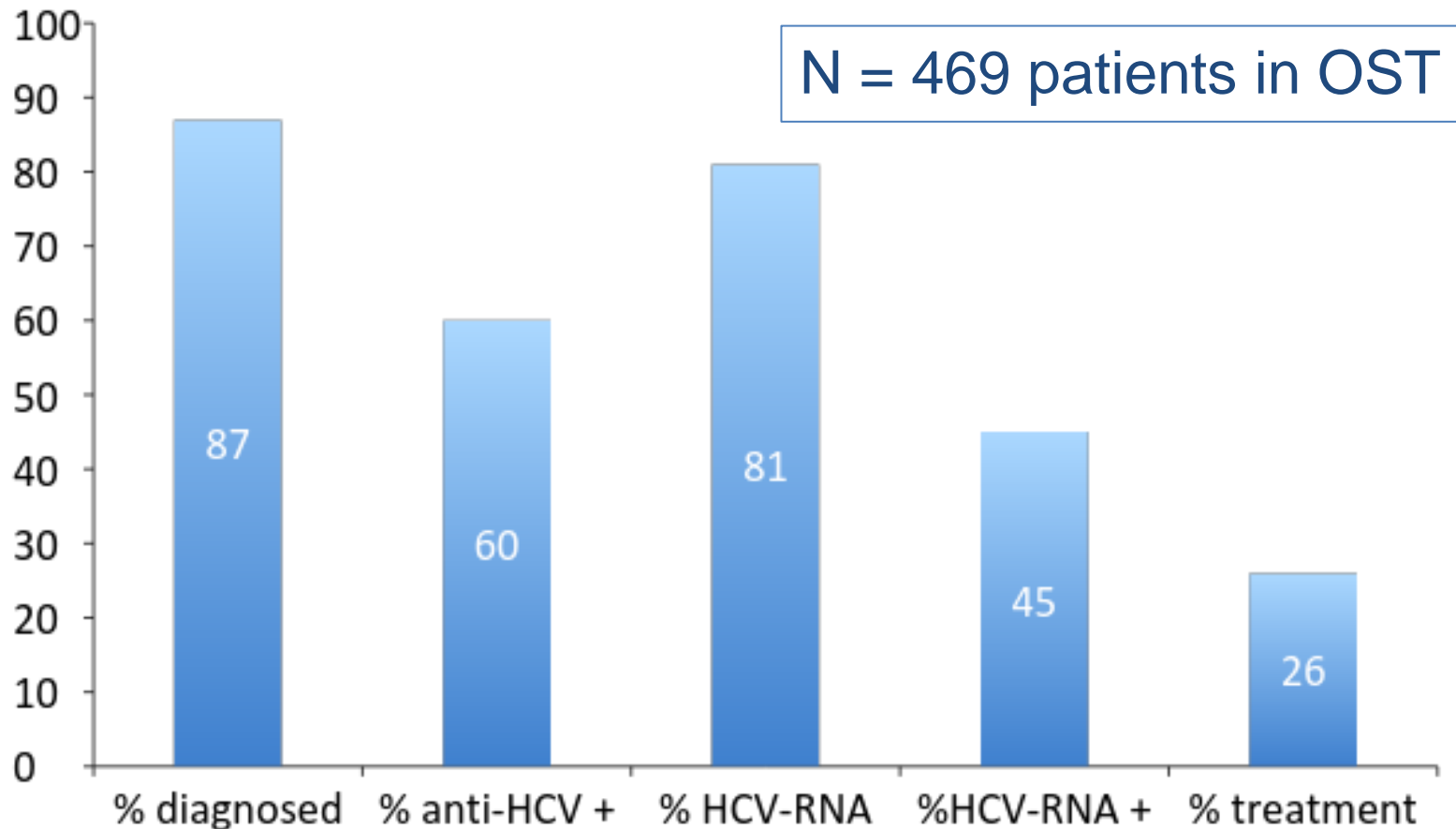
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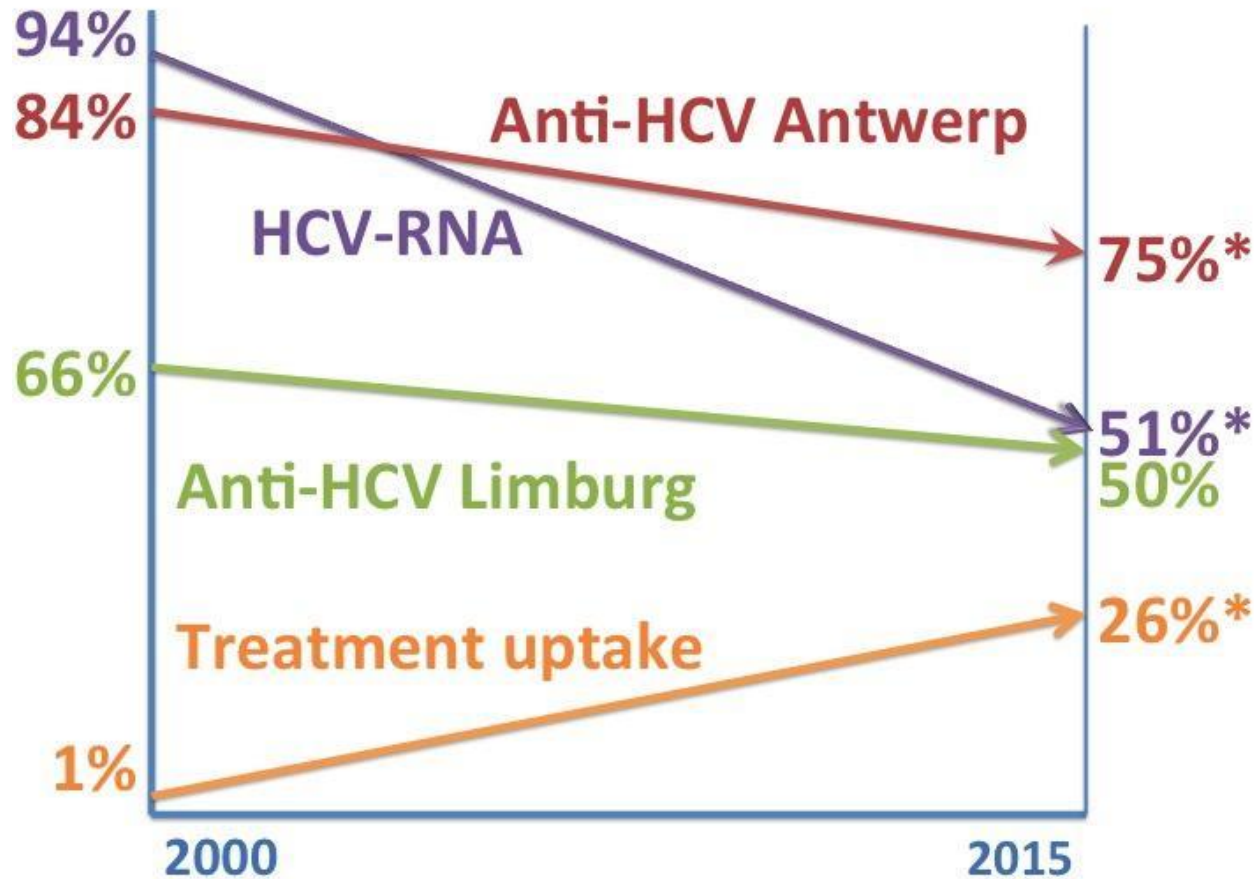


- Streetwise hepatologist
- Advocate for treatment of PWID for more than 10 years
- Yearly seminar in Antwerp
- Close collaborations with Free Clinic staff, very easily accessible
- Clinical trials
- Every Wednesday special "consultation hour" for PWID accompanied by hep C nurse and C-buddies

Hepatitis C care continuum Free Clinic 2015



Evolution over time



* $p < 0.05$

Mitigating the burden of hepatitis C virus among people who inject drugs in Belgium

Catharina Matheï¹, Stefan Bourgeois², Sarah Blach³, Christian Brixko⁴, Jean-Pierre Mulkay⁵, Homie Razavi³, Geert Robaey^{6,7,8}

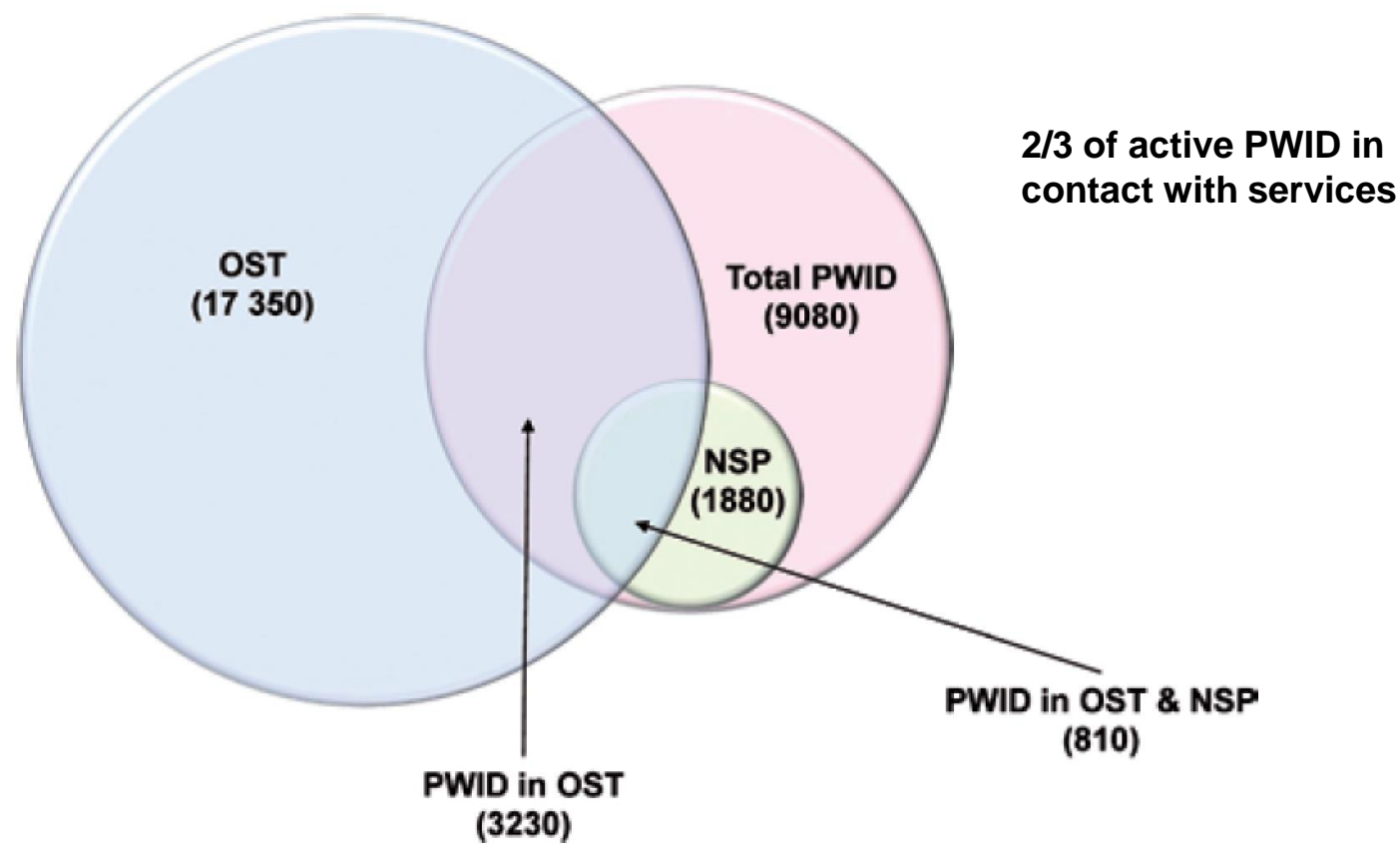


Fig. 1. — Size of the OST, NSP and PWID populations, 2015

Mitigating the burden of hepatitis C virus among people who inject drugs in Belgium

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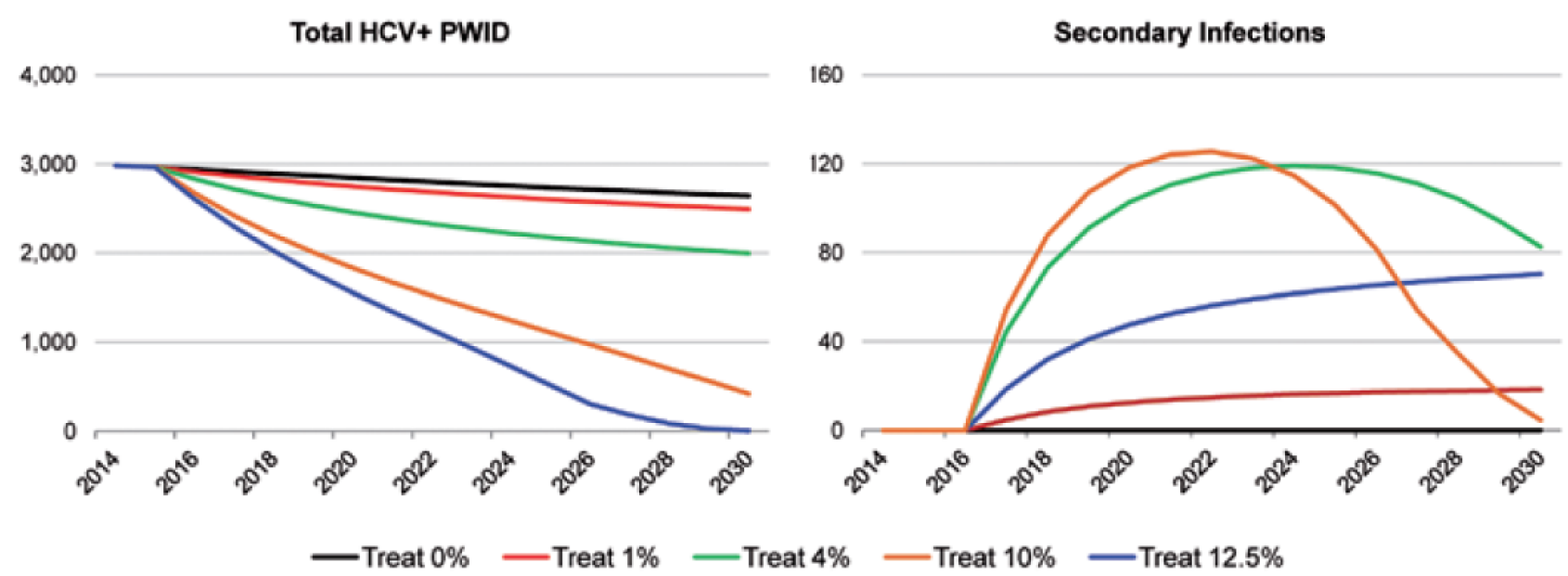
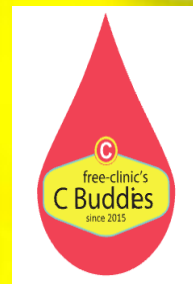
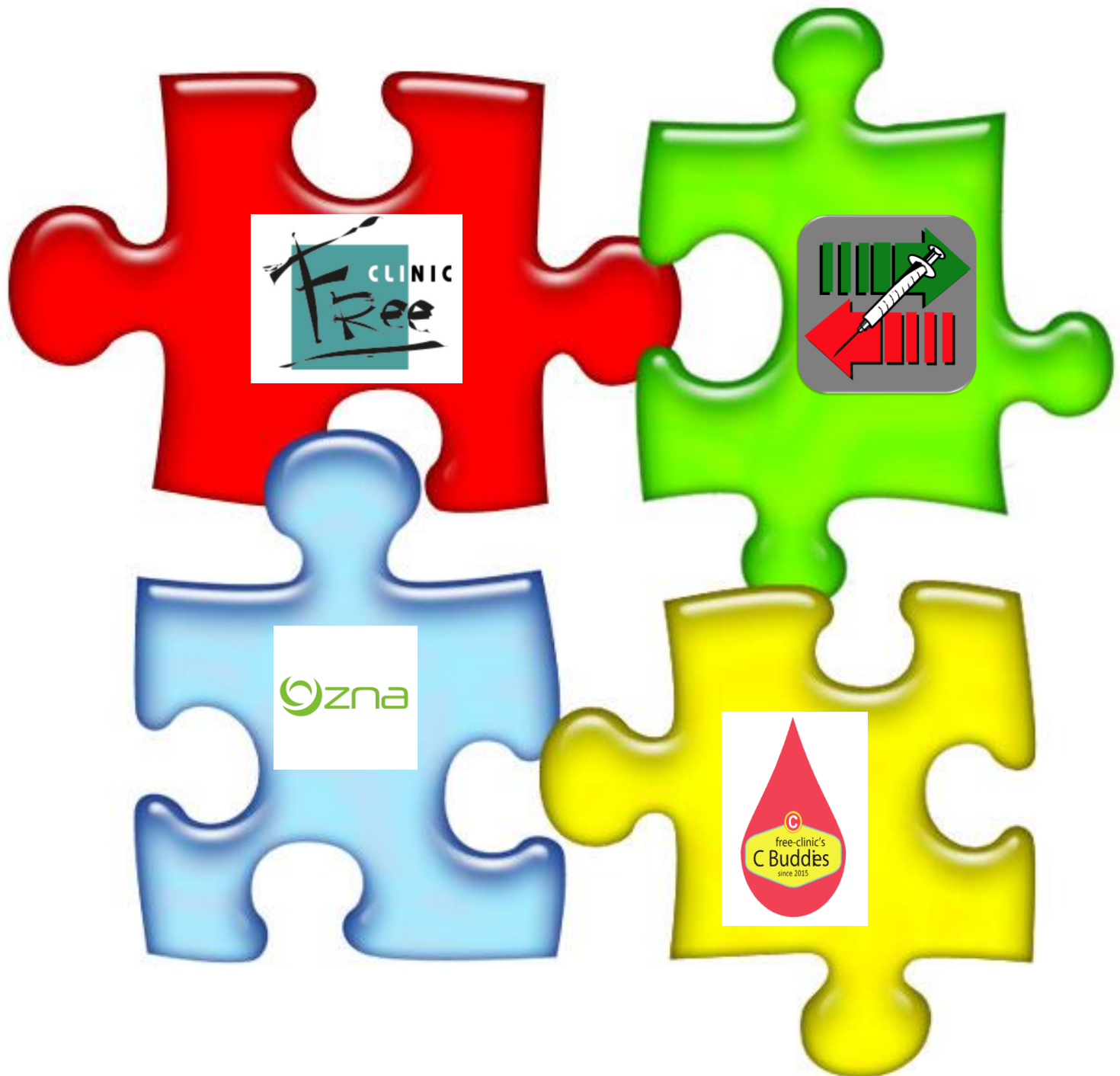
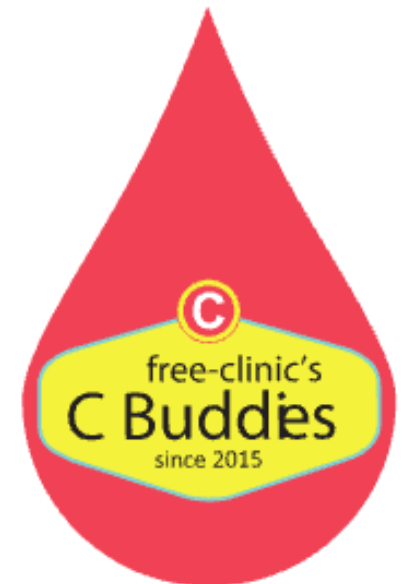
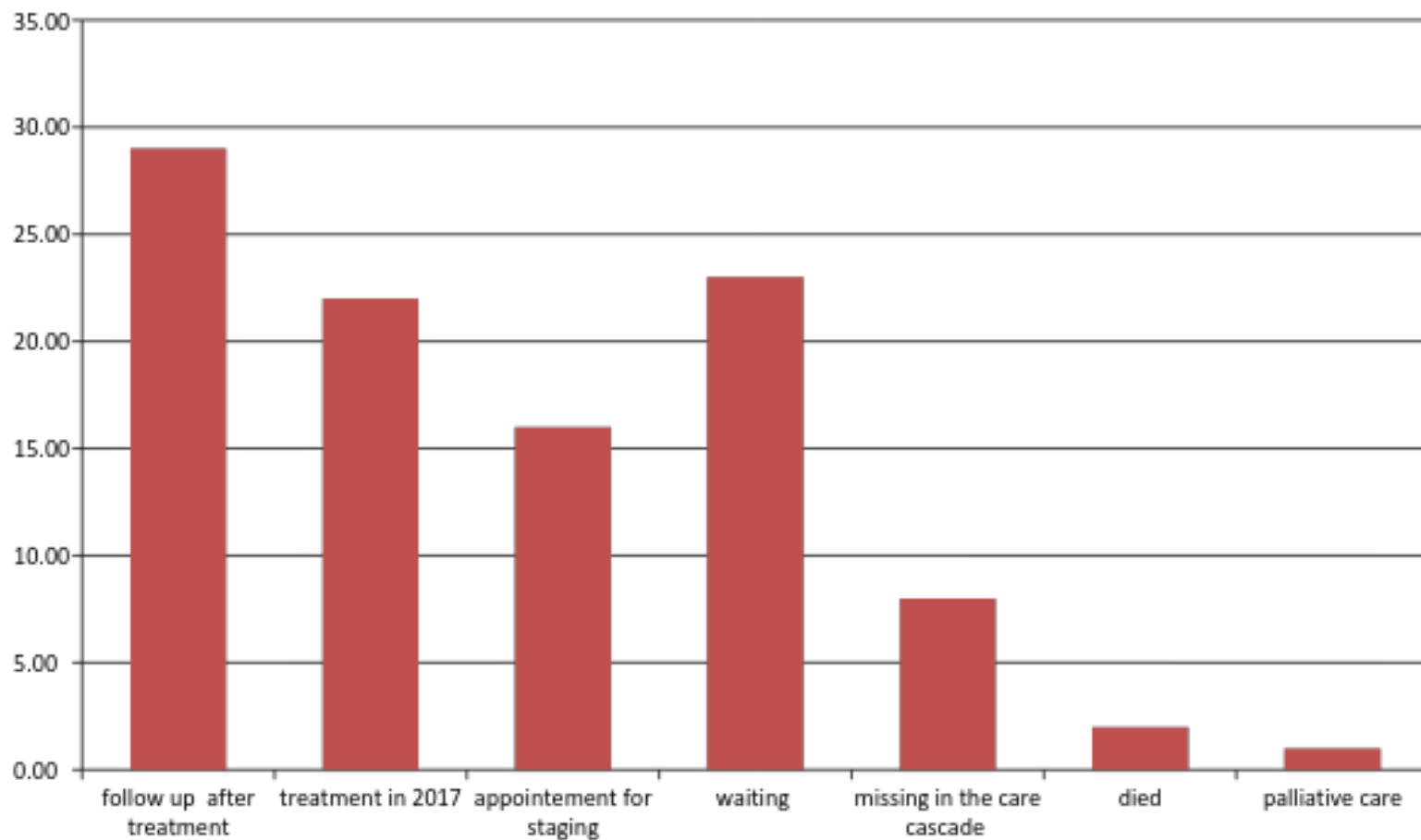
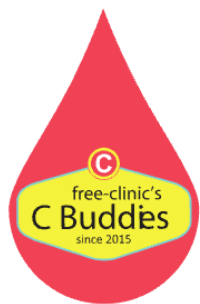


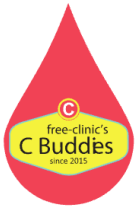
Fig. 3. — Annual viremic cases, and new secondary infection, by percent of the total HCV+ PWID population treated, 2014-2030



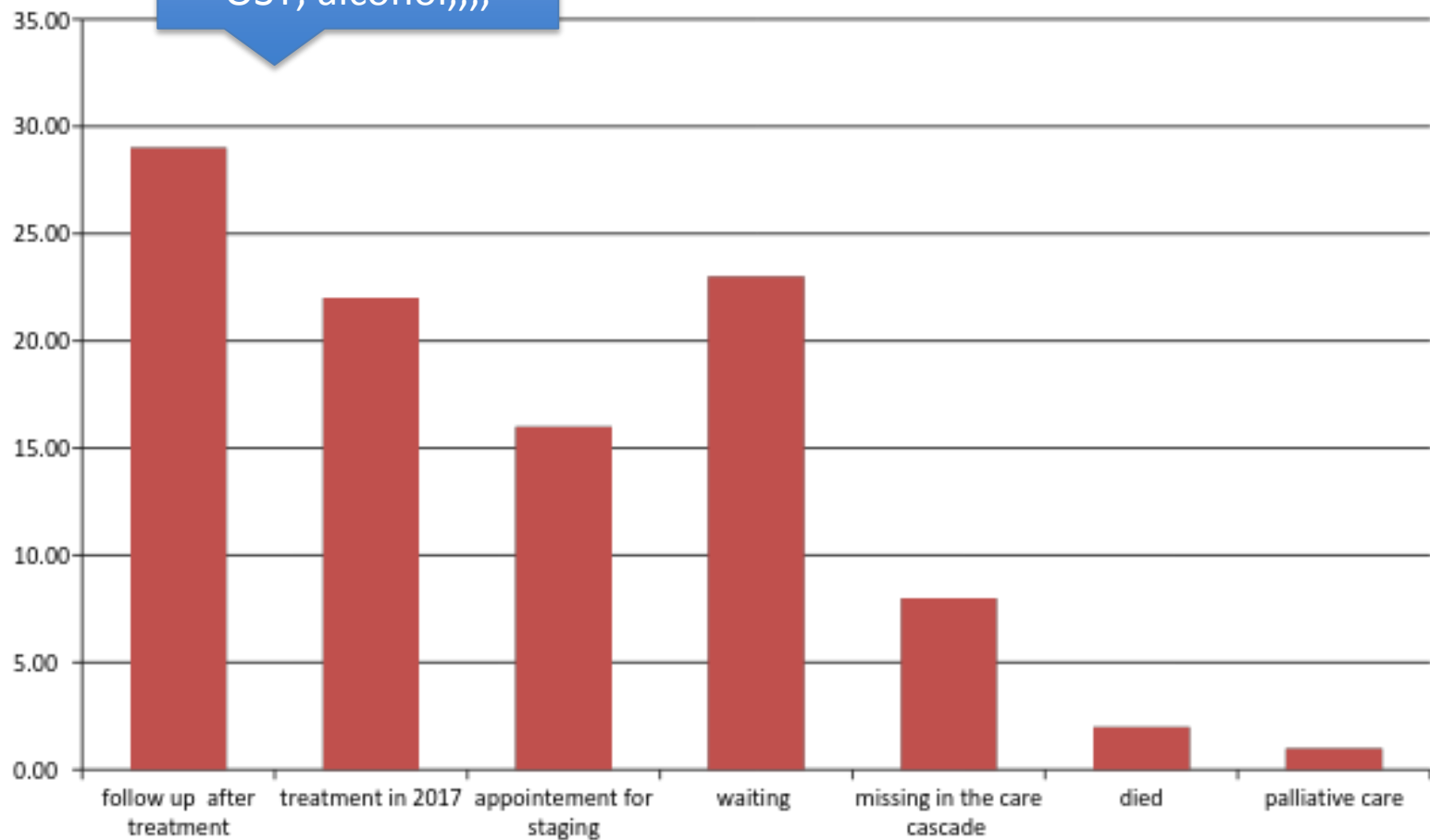
- A peer-driven project was initiated in 2009, stopped in 2011. Giving practical and emotional support during the “hard old school treatment
- Restarted in 2015
- Provide support along the whole care continuum. Support changed in the DAA era.
 - Meet
 - Education
 - Motivation for test-taking
 - Recall appointments
 - Accompanying to specialists
 - Advise
 - Daily support

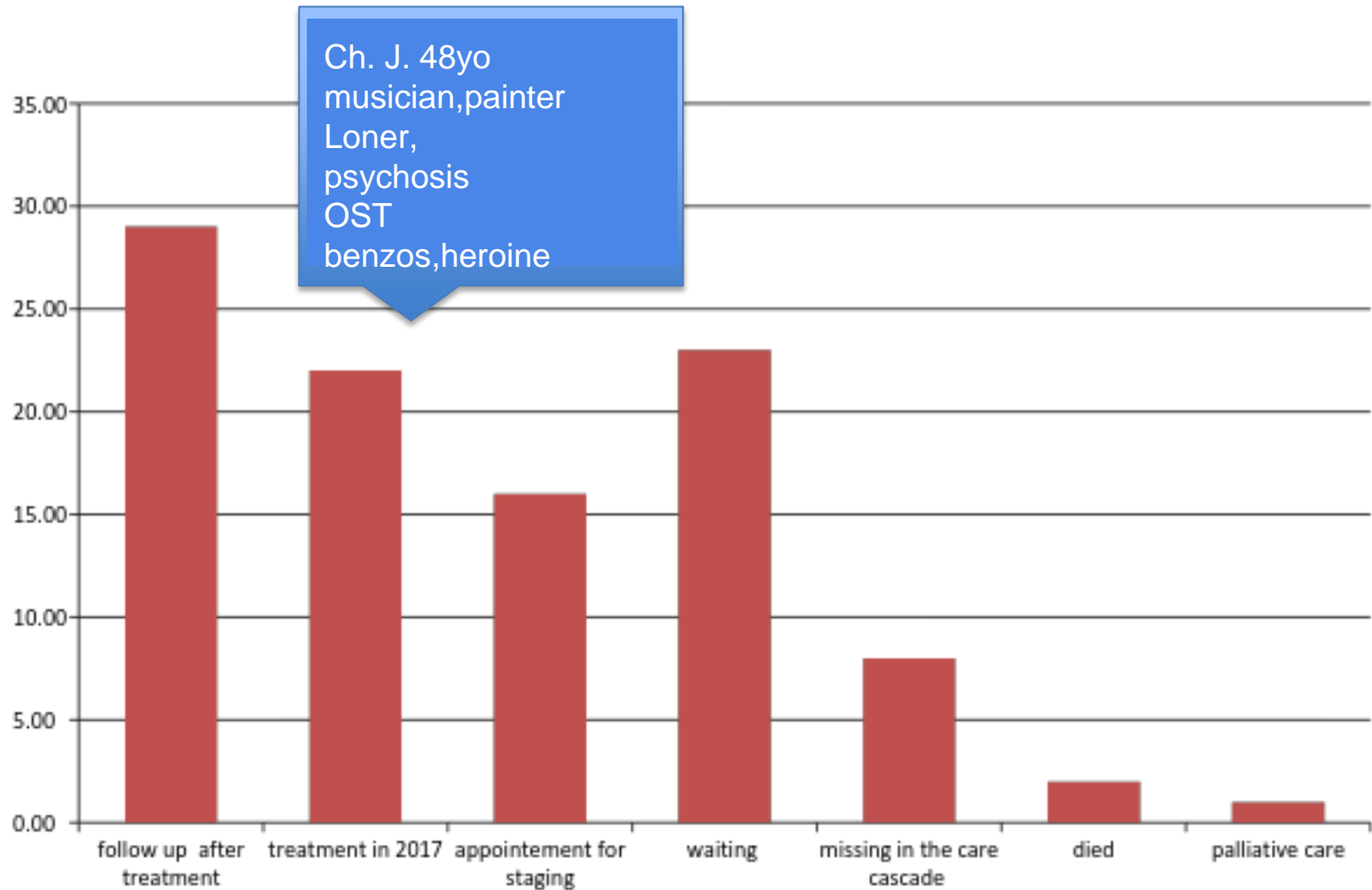
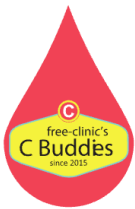


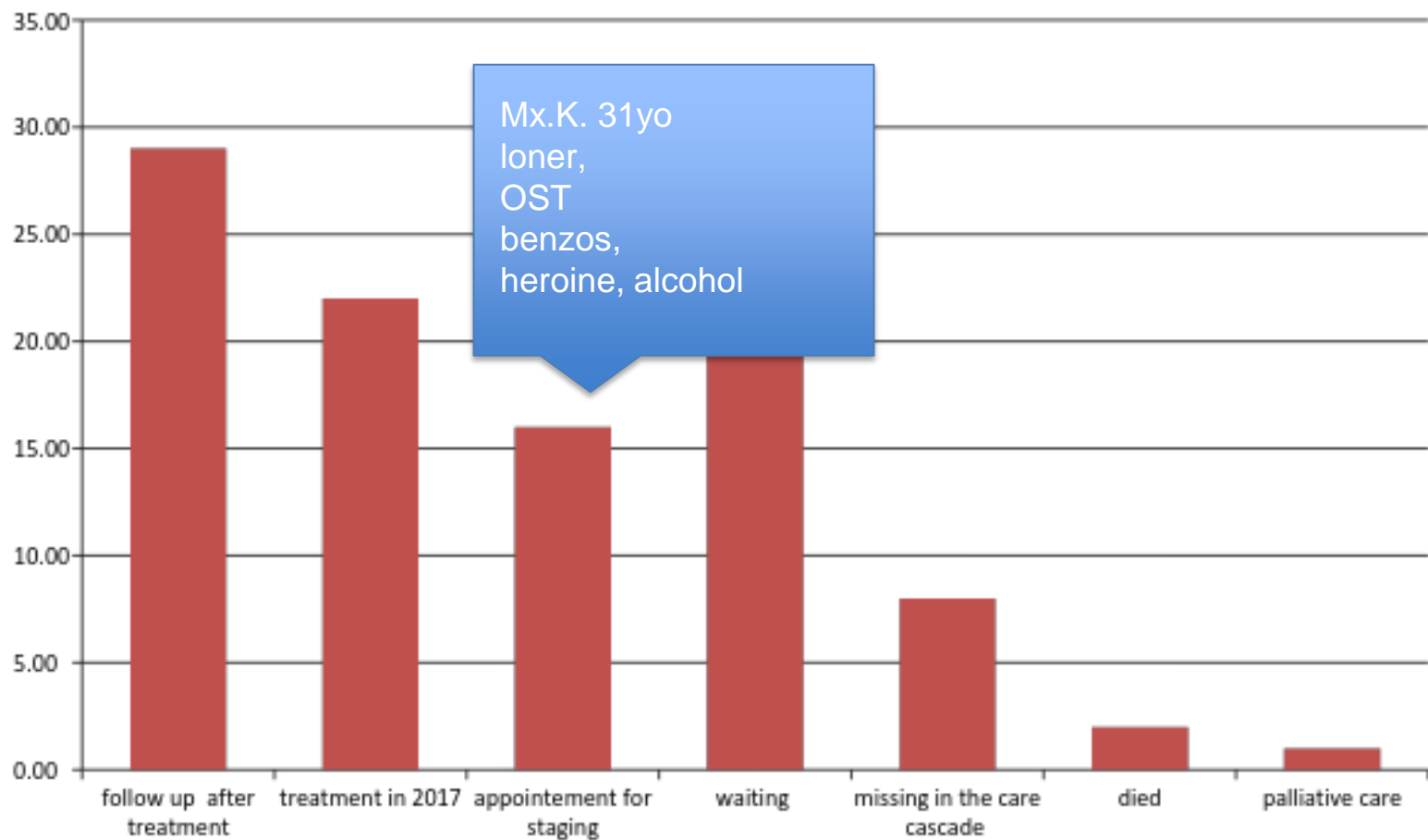
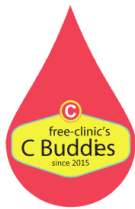


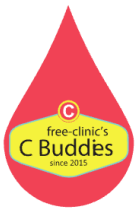


JP, male 49y
Homeless
Encephalopathy
SVR in 2017
OST, alcohol,,,,

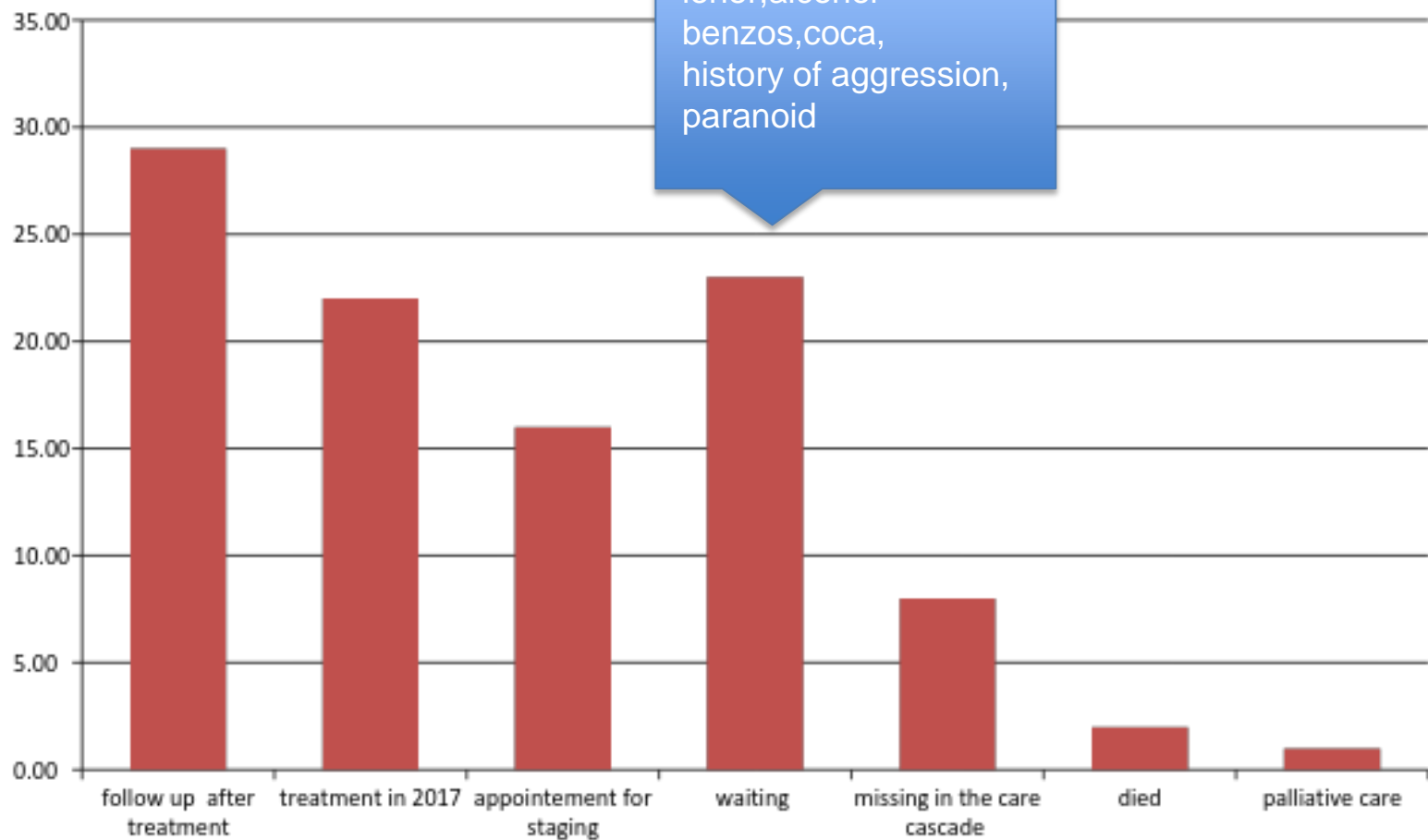


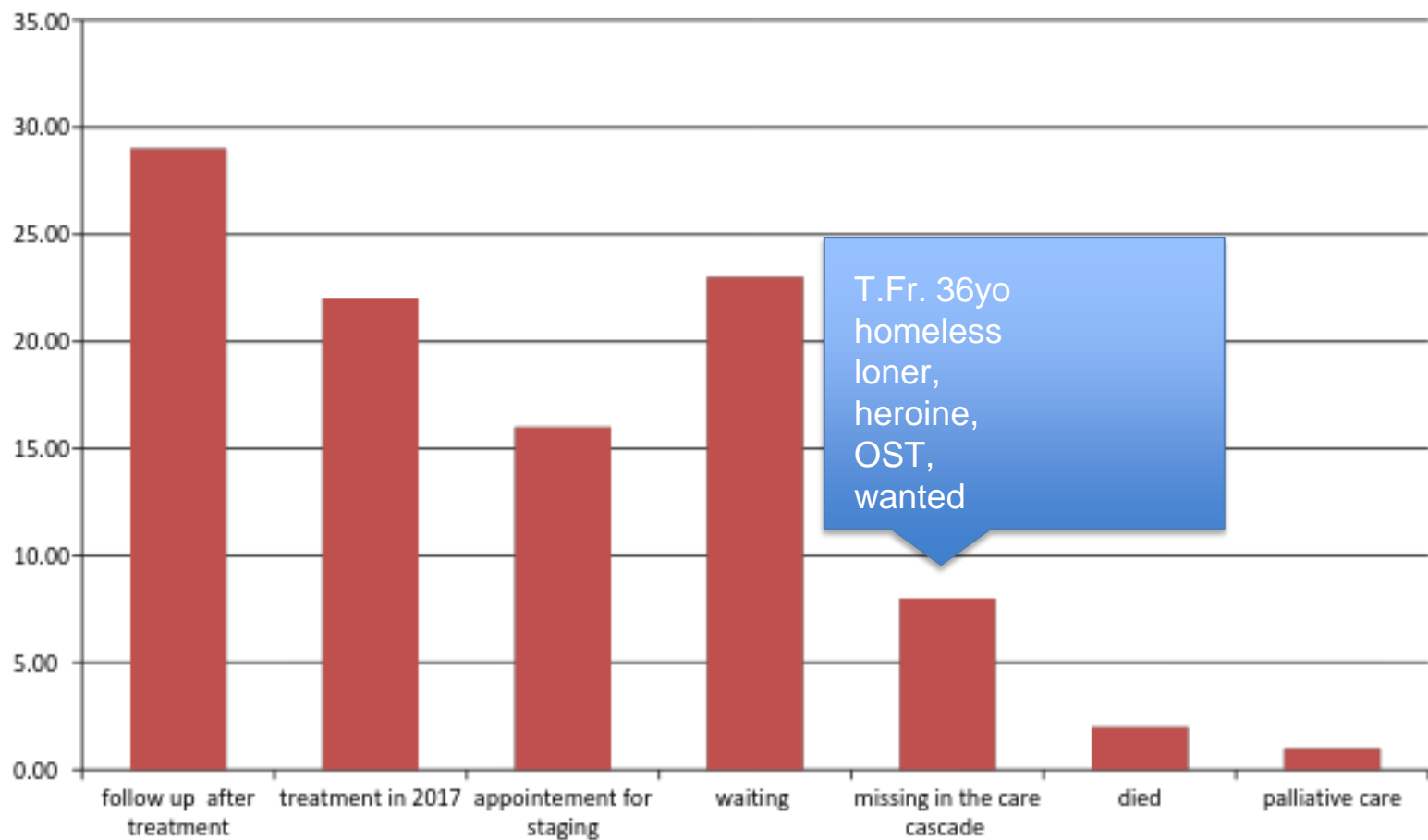
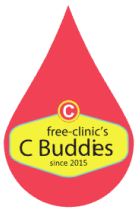


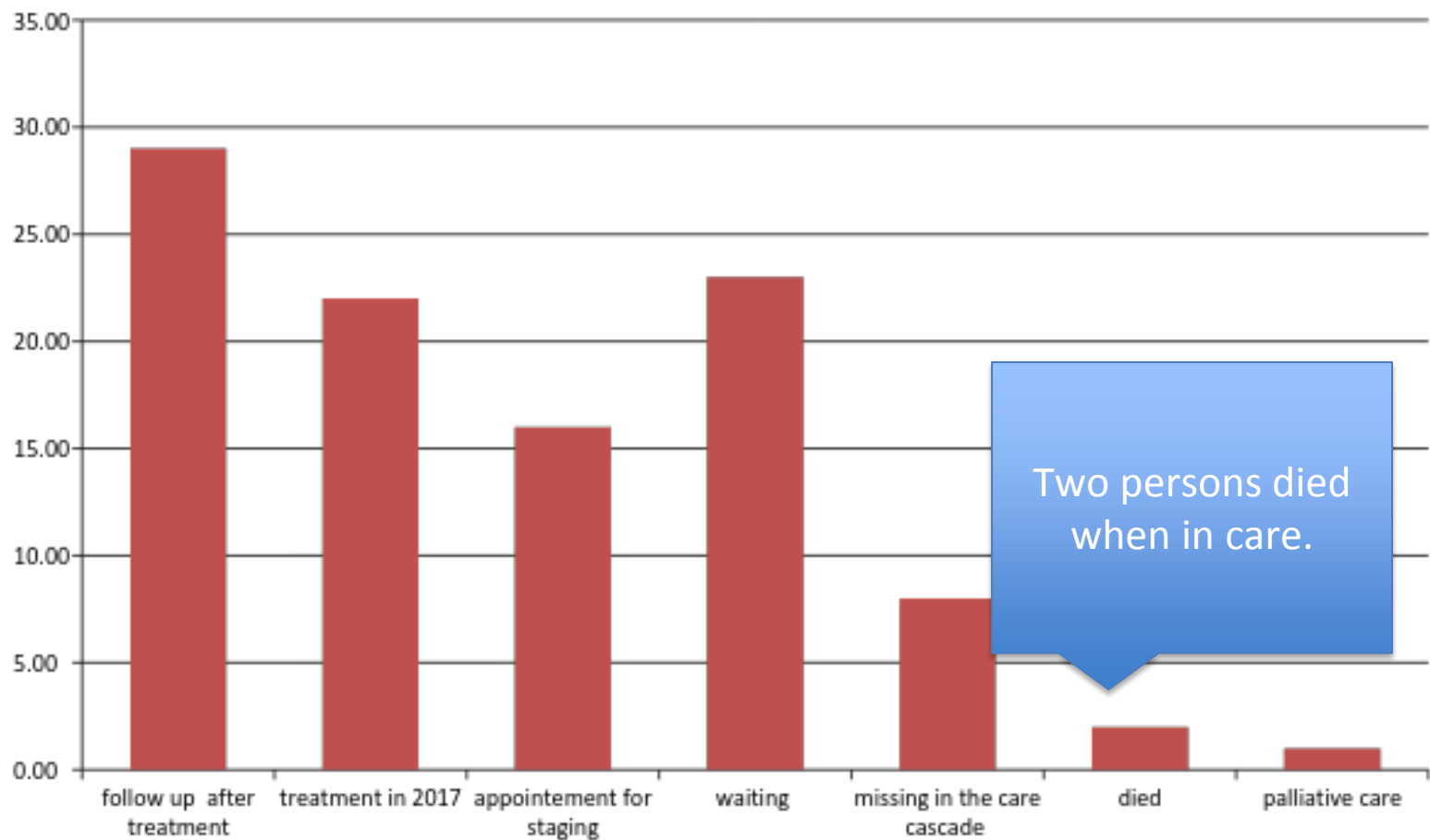
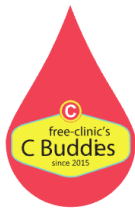


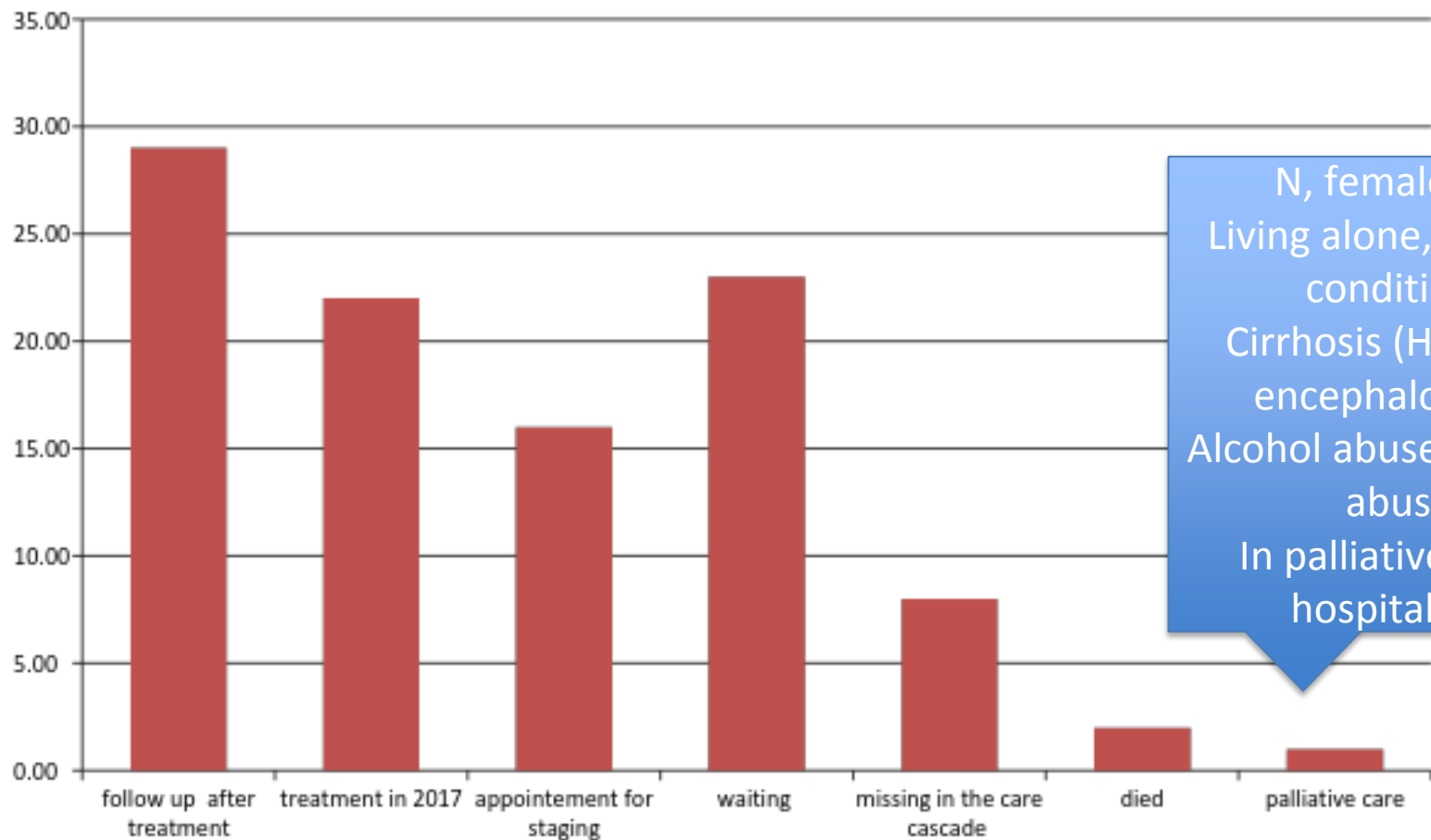
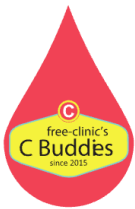


Ph.F. 47yo
loner, alcohol
benzos, coca,
history of aggression,
paranoid







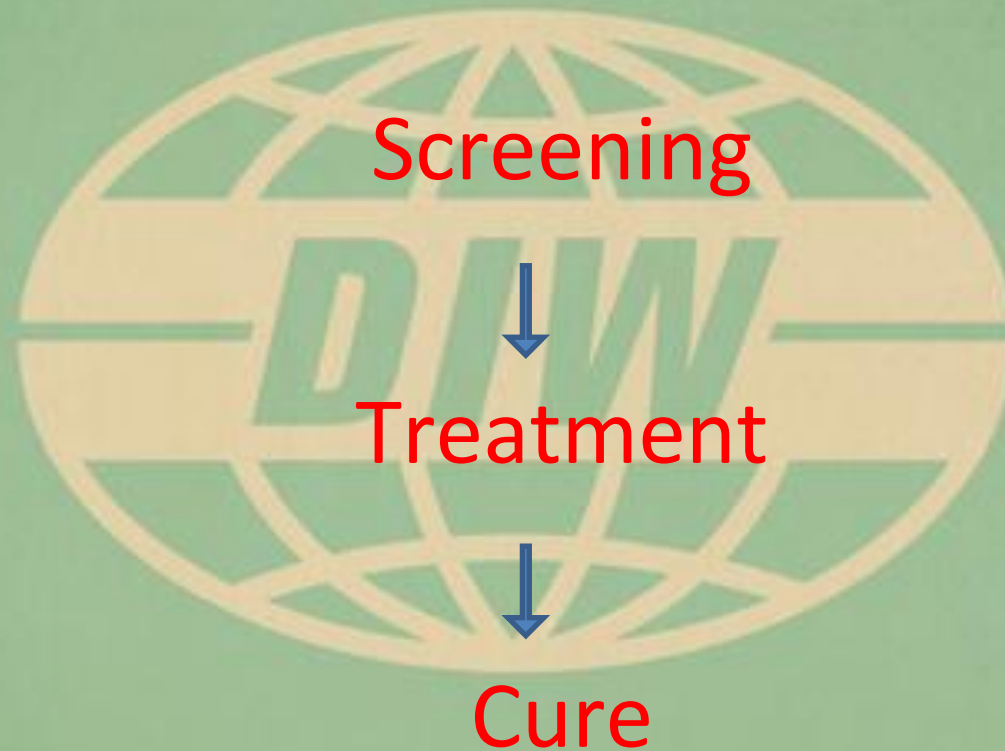


N, female 50y
Living alone, no good conditions
Cirrhosis (HCC) and encephalopathy
Alcohol abuse and drug abuse
In palliative care - hospitalized

Why peers?



Hepatitis C in the perfect world:



But.....it's not a perfect world

HCV management in Antwerpen :

a team effort

All dedicated workers who got “caught” by the Hepatitis C Virus.

- Hepatologist ZNA : **dr Stefan Bourgeois**
- Addiction centre Free Clinic:
dr Cathy Mathei
- Reference Nurse: **Griet Maertens**
- NSP Flanders: **Tessa Windelinckx**
- C-Buddy Team: **Stefan Bratovanov,**
Tonny Van Montfoort, Anton Van Dyck
- All health care providers from Free Clinic and other organizations.

Challenges

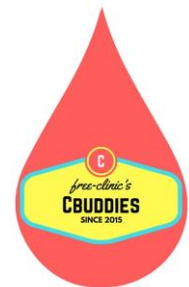
- Alcohol use
- Drug use during treatment
- General health condition of clients
- Stabilising clients in all living conditions



Cooperation & Education



Support.
Don't
punish.



Blind spots in the care cascade

- In Flanders as elsewhere there are still huge gaps in different regions .
- Not all PWUD get in contact with information, screening, treatment, aftercare, ...

