

First announcement

**1st International Symposium
on Hepatitis care in substance users**
September 24–25, 2009
Zurich, Switzerland
Novotel Zurich West

Conference Chair

Geert Robaey, Belgium
Markus Backmund, Germany
Philip Bruggmann, Switzerland



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 SEVHep

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Swiss Society of Addiction Medicine
Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Suchtmittelmedizin
Società Svizzera di Medicina de l'Addiction
Società Svizzera di Medicina delle Dipendenze

Dear Colleague

It is our pleasure to invite you to participate in the first international symposium on hepatitis care in substance users, which will take place in the wonderful city of Zurich.

Viral hepatitis is an increasing cause for morbidity and mortality in substance users. Rates of adequate screening and therapy need to be improved in this largest risk group.

This symposium will give the opportunity of international exchange between colleagues engaged in this field and of finding optimal ways to provide hepatitis care to people with problematic substance use.

Looking forward to seeing you in Zurich



Geert Robaey



Markus Backmund



Philip Bruggmann



Program Overview

- Epidemiology of HCV/HBV in substance users: how big is the problem?
- Interferon and psychiatric co morbidity
- Stigmatisation of substance users and its influence on antiviral therapy rates
- New compounds of HCV therapy: chances and risks for substance users
- Substitution and its impact on therapy success in viral hepatitis
- Alcohol and iv drug use during hepatitis therapy
- Hepatitis care in prisons
- Results of drug user subgroups in major studies
- Co infection with HIV: when to treat, how to treat?
- Risk of re infection
- Models of care in Europe
- Sufficient time for informal exchange and to learn from each other



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