

**Semi-structured focus group discussion:**

1. Healthcare workers are at high risk of being exposed to diseases transmitted through blood and secretions in their occupation, including hepatitis B-C. With HIV, there are regulations and procedures for exposure prevention and post-exposure treatment. I would like to ask if you know that the Ministry of Health or the Department of Health or your hospital has a policy on prevention. Exposure of hepatitis B or hepatitis C to healthcare workers?

(You can be specific or give real examples.)

(Don't know → why don't you know? It's not disseminated or not of your interested)

(Know → How did you know?)

2. Speaking of prevention, how did you get screened for hepatitis B-C infection? (hint: Self testing or per request of the hospital? Or health check due to any health issue)

(If self-testing → why screen?)

(Did you often get screened for HBV, HCV? How? If yes, who paid)

3. Talking about being infected with hepatitis B-C virus, how would you feel if your colleagues in the hospital knew your infection status? (Hint: Do you want to disclose or not disclose your infection at work?)

(Continued: What if the board of directors -not your colleagues- know? What are your thoughts on this? Should the infected person be transferred to another work area?)

4. On the contrary, do you feel the need to know the infection status of your colleagues? Why?

5. What do you think about the possibility of exposure to hepatitis B-C when interacting with patients in clinical practice? (hint: maybe it's the fear of getting infected, or not paying attention to the infection, or just worrying about getting HIV and everything else is fine...)

(continue: Do you actively check the patient's infection status before performing examination or procedure?)

(Continue: Is HIV your first worry? Is it good to be aware of HBV and HCV?)

6. When you come into contact with a patient infected with hepatitis B-C, how do you feel? Is it necessary to screen all patients for hepatitis B-C on admission and have warning signs for healthcare workers before exposure?

7. Regarding hepatitis B vaccination, have you ever been encouraged or asked by the hospital for vaccination before clinical practice?

How do you think about this statement: “People should be encouraged or requested or provided free HBV vaccination before clinical practice”?

8. If/When exposed to hepatitis B or C, not to mention HIV, what would you or did you do?

Is there a procedure at your hospital for this? (clarify: not known due to lack of popularity or don't have one in place?)

What is the hospital's response to this exposure? (hint: financial support for post-exposure prophylaxis or treatment...)

9. When you are exposed to hepatitis B or C or both and there is an indication for treatment, what is the treatment? (Hints: where did you get treated, is it covered by health insurance, who pays, what is the financial source, the leave to go to the doctor, what medicine that you used?)

10. In your opinion, at your hospital and in the health sector in general, what are the difficulties in terms of pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis as well as post-exposure treatment?

11. So, according to you, what improvements should be made to benefit or match the needs of medical staff? (Can suggest such as free and mandatory vaccination for everyone, or hepatitis B screening in the annual health check package, support for disease treatment if post-exposure disease...)

12. How are people in your family vaccinated against hepatitis B? (hint: are there injections? Who pays? Do you feel the burden?)

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**\*\* FOR PERSONS CONFIRMED WITH HEPATITIS B, C:**

13. You have been infected with hepatitis B, C. Do you know how you got infected? (hint: exposed after being pricked by a needle or splashed in the eye by secretions...)

(If it was an exposure and how exposure occurred --> what did you do at that time and what were the hospital and colleagues like? Time to access post-exposure prophylaxis, cost of treatment. Post-exposure prophylaxis, how is the psychology...)

14. With family members, after knowing you were infected, how did you feel? (suggestions: self-isolate, ask family members to get vaccinated, or publicize or hide information, or family has been infected before...)

(If hiding information continues, does such “hiding information” mean not going to diagnose, treat and monitor infection and disease?)

15. Please share your thoughts on exposure to hepatitis B, C when clinical work is based on your actual experience, from prevention, to treatment, support when exposed, mental and

physical support... all of which do you think needs more attention to protect medical staff's peace of mind?