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Overview

Good communication to migrant groups and is crucial for successful implementation of screening programmes and policies to reduce the disease burden of hepatitis B and hepatitis C. Communication is hampered by language barriers, misconceptions, fear or stigma. In past hepatitis B/C screening campaigns in migrants, adverts to inform and raise awareness among local migrant groups have been developed and used. Past approaches involved posters, television and radio campaigns, and the internet although there is no central repository or resource through which to obtain translated materials. We aimed to search for and assess leaflets about viral hepatitis in migrants that are available online and in various languages. Three further resources have also been produced in relation to this research aim:

1. An in-depth review of five successful community outreach campaigns where screening for hepatitis B/C was offered among migrant groups (available here: <http://hepscreen.eu/what-can-we-do-about-it/screening/a-review-of-successful-screening-projects/>);
2. A methodology document to describe the development of culturally appropriate and understandable pre-test content about viral hepatitis that has then been translated into 42 languages (available here: http://hepscreen.eu/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/HEPscreen_pre-test-Leaflet-development-process_Oct-2014.pdf);
3. A pre-test multi lingual leaflet builder where the above content can be used to create bespoke leaflets in any combination of 42 languages (available here: <http://hepscreen.eu/what-can-we-do-about-it/pre-test-information/multi-language-builder/>).

Methodology

The project team conducted a comprehensive online search for resources about hepatitis B or C available in English. We also circulated requests for submissions via international patient bodies,

NGOs and other HEPscreen partners. The retrieved leaflets were then reviewed by a consultative committee consisting of:

- ▶ Physicians
- ▶ Patients with viral hepatitis
- ▶ Patient organisation representatives

A comprehensive set of criteria was developed to evaluate all identified leaflets. This included:

- ▶ Available electronically / online;
- ▶ A focus primarily or exclusively on hepatitis B and/or C;
- ▶ Available in English and at least one non-English language;
- ▶ Targeted at a general audience or specifically at migrant audiences;
- ▶ Factual accuracy;
- ▶ Relatively up to date (especially if treatment information is included);
- ▶ Suitability of information for the target audience; and that
- ▶ Information provided covers, as a minimum:
 - ▶ Associated risk factors;
 - ▶ Symptoms;
 - ▶ Testing options (that are not overly country-specific).

The final list of suitable leaflets was then agreed on using consensus-led methods similar to a mini-Delphi or ETE (estimate-talk-estimate) method.

Results

In total, 17 leaflets were identified of which 11, in 30 languages, were judged to meet the criteria for inclusion (Table 1). Suitable leaflets were identified in Arabic, Bosnian, Burmese, Chinese, Croatian, Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Indonesian, Italian, Khmer, Korean, Lithuanian, Macedonian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Tatum, Thai, Turkish, Urdu and Vietnamese. Three of the leaflets focused on hepatitis B alone, seven on hepatitis C alone and one on hepatitis B, hepatitis C and hepatitis A. Information on hepatitis B was available in 17 languages. Information on hepatitis C was available in 29 languages. The leaflet about hepatitis A, B and C was in English and Urdu.

Discussion

Very few leaflets in relatively few languages are available to raise awareness of and disseminate information about hepatitis B and C to migrants living in EU countries. Where these were identified, a substantial overlap was clear, with several different sets of information in a few languages while other potentially necessary languages were either excluded altogether or saw very limited amount of translated literature.

There are limitations to this piece of work. First and foremost, the lack of staff available to assess leaflets which hadn't been made available in English both limited the scope for inclusion and prevented the quality of translation or suitability to specific migrant populations being evaluated in relevant languages. Some scope to assess how and when each had been developed and translated, and by whom, would have strengthened this process. In addition, the low number of leaflets and languages identified resulted in the adoption of fewer exclusion criteria – for example excessive detail or length, or ensuring that these are the most up to date and relevant for the target population. This decision was taken to make a larger number of leaflets available through this work package. Finally, the requirement for these to be available online is likely to have limited the number of leaflets identified since, until relatively recently, leaflets tend largely to be distributed in print.

Conclusions

There is a clear lack of appropriate information on hepatitis B and, to a slightly lesser extent, hepatitis C for migrants living in EU countries. There is a clear need to develop effective materials in a variety of languages and make these freely and easily available. This could be very valuable in the development and implementation of hepatitis B and C screening programmes among migrant populations.

Table 1: Overview of leaflets

Produced by	Title in English	Languages	Notes	link
ELPA - European	Hepatitis B: Risks, prevention, and treatment	English, Croatian, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish	Very comprehensive information probably best suited to people who've been diagnosed. Treatment recommendations are out of date	http://www.elpa-info.org/about-hepatitis-b.htm
ELPA – European	Hepatitis C: Risks, prevention and treatment	English, Croatian, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish	Very comprehensive information probably best suited to people who've been diagnosed. Somewhat out of date.	http://www.elpa-info.org/about-hepatitis-c.htm
Deutsche Leberstiftung - Germany	Hepatitis B: Information for patients and relatives	English, Arabic, Croatian, German, Greek, Italian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Spanish, Turkish, Vietnamese	Very basic information on all aspects of HBV - risks, testing, treatment.	
Deutsche Leberstiftung - Germany	Hepatitis C: Information for patients and relatives	English, Arabic, Croatian, German, Greek, Italian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Spanish, Turkish, Vietnamese	Very basic information on all aspects of HCV - risks, testing, treatment.	
Nationaal Hepatitis Centrum - Netherlands	Hepatitis B	Dutch, English, French, Arabic, Turkish, Serbian (short version)		
Nationaal Hepatitis Centrum - Netherlands	Hepatitis C	Dutch, English, French, Arabic, Turkish	Brief overview of HCV in terms of risks. Very simple and easy to use. Not too Netherlands-focused	
Hepatitis Australia	Hepatitis B: What you need to know	English, Arabic, Chinese, Vietnamese	Quite detailed – risks, living with the virus, treatment options. Quite Australia focused	http://www.hepatitisaustralia.com/information-centre/hepatitis-australia/print-resources2
Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service - Australia	Hepatitis C – what you need to know	English, Arabic, Bosnian, Chinese, Croatian, Greek, Indonesian, Italian, Khmer, Korean, Lithuanian, Macedonian, Polish,	Quite detailed – risks, living with the virus, treatment options. Quite Australia focused.	http://www.multiculturalhivhepc.net.au/index.php?option=com_content&vi

		Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Tetum, Thai, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese		ew=article&id=174&Itemid=27&lang=en
Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service - Australia	HCV: Newly Diagnosed?	English, Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, French, Italian, Khmer, Spanish, Swahili, Thai, Vietnamese	Basic info on risk factors and management for hepatitis C.	http://www.multiculturalhivhepc.net.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=section&layout=blog&id=5&Itemid=957&lang=tl&limitstart=95
The Hepatitis C Trust - UK	Hepatitis: What you need to know	English, Urdu	Basic information on hepatitis A, B and C, with a view to encourage screening for hepatitis C.	http://www.hepctrust.org.uk/Resources/HepC%20New/Hep%20C%20Resources/Leaflets/Urdu%20Leaflet%20-%20July2011.pdf
The Hepatitis C Trust-UK	Do I need a test for hepatitis C?	English, Polish	Basic Awareness leaflet with parallel text in English and Polish.	http://www.hepctrust.org.uk/News_Resources/resources/leaflets
Public Health - Northern Ireland	Hepatitis C: could I be at risk?	Chinese, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Tatum	Basic info on risk factors and management for hepatitis C.	http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/publications/hepatitis-c-could-i-be-risk-english-and-6-translations



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