



Pictures of the bus



- Unique project:
- User driven
- Initiated by a user organization
- Things are changing: A new approach to meet new needs



**Peer driven mobile hepatitis C testing facilities
- The HCV clinic on wheels**

"Instead of the users coming to the testing facilities, we will bring the testing facilities to the users."

Presentation by chairman of proLAR Nett, Ole Jørgen Lygren



Background

- In Norway, since early 2018, everyone infected with HCV are eligible to DAA-treatment.
- With that problem out of the way, the next step is to find all of those who live with a hep C-infection – and, thereafter, offer them treatment.
- Since we know that for many substance users going to a doctor, nurse or clinic can be a threshold difficult to overcome, we figured that letting the doctors, nurses and clinics come to them would be a much more viable solution.





Funding

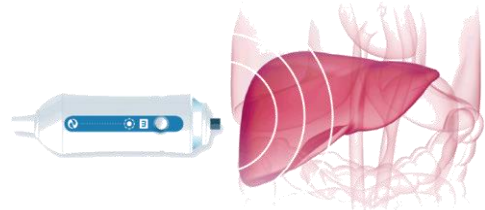
The project is widely funded

- Pharmaceutical companies
 - *AbbVie, MSD, Gilead*
- Norwegian Department of health
- Fagrådet (Norwegian umbrella organization for different drug organizations)



Method:

- The van will be equipped with a fibroscan; testing equipment (and rapid tests); nurses; information leaflets; peer knowledge (the van will always have at least one user on board) and a driver.
- 3 nurses have been educated in the use of fibroscan and other relevant information regarding hepatitis C. In addition, we have leading hepatologist Dr. Olav Dahlgård on our team, who will be responsible for the project's progress.





- The van will visit OST clinics, rehabs and other areas we expect there will be a high prevalence of hepatitis C. Each visit will be thoroughly planned, to ensure that as many as possible will be tested and educated, and that proper measures will be taken if someone tests positive for HCV or have significant damage on the liver.



- Before every visit, collaboration with the clinics will be established. This way everyone will know what is going to happen once we arrive, making it possible to do as much testing and education as possible, taking into account the relatively small amount of time we will be there, and to ensure that the operation will run as smoothly as possible.



Goals



- The goal is to test and fibroscan 750 inpatients at different clinics and rehabs around the country, and to educate and inform at least twice as many – 1500 – on the dangers of HCV.
- Treatment, almost without side effects, is now free and relatively easy to access in Norway.
 - It is important that those who are infected or are at risk of becoming infected know this, and we want the mobile testing unit to also serve as a way of spreading awareness on these issues.
- Furthermore, we want to provide people in the target group with the necessary information they need to take measures to prevent themselves and their peers to get infected with HCV and other bloodborne diseases.



Lifespan

- Project starts summer 2018 and will arrange minimum 12 trips during 18 months – after which new plans will be made.
- Each trip will last for 4 days and our “HCV clinic on 4 wheels” will visit several institutions each trip.



Thank you for taking the time to listen to what I had to say

Chairman of proLAR Nett, Ole Jørgen Lygren



