

# How to improve access to therapy? Egypt

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-Egypt has a very high prevalence of HCV :

Anti-HCV prevalence: 14.7%.

- In the 90's : No solid program from the MOH for the access or for the support of the anti HCV treatment .

- The creation of the national committee for the control of viral hepatitis (2007) and the Egyptian national control strategy for viral hepatitis (2008) with trial to standardize treatment protocols and putting national guidelines for HCV treatment .

There is an improvement of the access to anti HCV treatment :

- The government sponsored centers ( 32 affiliated units) .
- The health insurance treatment service .
- The private sector .

The construction of a National Network of Treatment Centers (NNTC) :

- Easy registration through the internet .
  - Collection of research data .
  - Sometimes long waiting period .
- More than 350 000 patients treated by pegylated IFN- Ribavirin mostly through governmental funding.
- More than 200 000 patients received DAAs containing regimen.

- The price of the brand antiviral drugs is lower in the Egyptian market .
- The presence of Competition between companies . A dramatic fall of the price of the generic molecules of the DAAs . The price of the combination ( Sofo + Dacla) is about 120 euro per month .
- Strategy for the future :
  - Strengthening prevention efforts (more than 150 000 new cases of HCV per year in Egypt ) .
  - Bringing down the costs of antiviral drugs .
  - Keeping up the Government-sponsored and health insurance treatment services .
  - Raise a strategy for case finding .