



**1 FEBBRAIO 2024 h. 9:00-17:40**

RESIDENZIALE + WEBINAR

UN PATTO DI COLLABORAZIONE:  
DALL'ELIMINAZIONE REGIONALE  
DELL'**EPATITE C** ALLE NUOVE SFIDE  
PER LA **SALUTE DEL FEGATO**



Patrocinio richiesto:  
**Ministero della Salute**

In collaborazione con  
**AISF e SIMIT**

*10 anni di attività di PITER*

Barbara Coco

PITER: Coorte B/Delta

*U.O. Epatologia*

*Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria Pisana*

**Barbara Coco**

**No Disclosures**

## **Coordinamento dello studio:**

Lo studio è coordinato dall'Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS), dall'Associazione Italiana Studio Fegato (AISF) e della Società Italiana di Malattie Infettive e Tropicali (SIMIT) attraverso un Comitato esecutivo



*Comitato esecutivo:* E. Villa, S. Vella, T. Santantonio, G. Raimondo, M. Puoti, A. Marzano, P. Lampertico, L. Kondili, GB Gaeta, C. Ferrari, V. Di Marco, B. Coco and MR Brunetto

AISF: Vincenza Calvaruso SIMIT: Massimo Andreoni

**PITER HBV/HDV si propone come uno *studio prospettico multicentrico nazionale* mirato a valutare complessivamente l'epidemiologia clinica dell'infezione e malattia HBV/HDV correlata in Italia**

*Disegno dello studio:* arruolamento *consecutivo* di soggetti con *infezione cronica da HBV /HDV con o senza malattia, indipendentemente dallo stato di terapia antivirale.*

Ciascun centro partecipante potrà arruolare i pazienti osservati nell'arco temporale di un anno. I pazienti arruolati saranno seguiti con frequenza annuale per un *periodo di 5 anni*.

*Criteri di inclusione:*

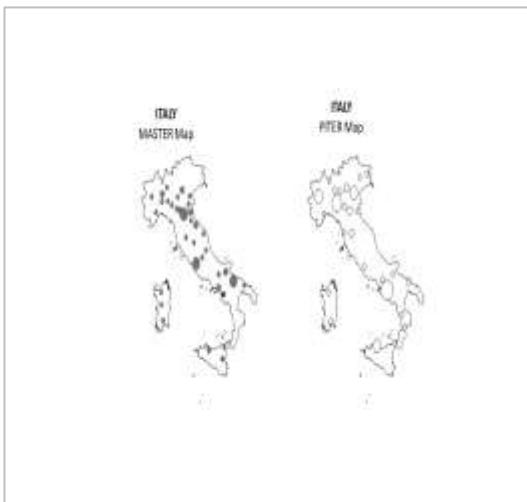
- Infezione cronica da HBV documentata da HBsAg pos da almeno 6 mesi con o senza coinfezione da HDV, HCV ed HIV

*Criteri di esclusione:*

- Soggetti con infezione da HBV pregressa ma HBsAg negativo al momento dell'arruolamento
- Pazienti con epatite da HBV acuta



**65 centri attivati da Nov 2019**  
**5.494 soggetti HBsAg pos arruolati**  
**28 Gastro/Epatol; 29 M Infettive; 8 M Interna**



	<b>MASTER B</b> 2012- 2015 <b>n = 2920</b> % (n)	<b>PITER HBV/HDV</b> 2019 - 2022 <b>n = 4583</b> % (n)	<b>p</b>
Age (median;years)	49.8	<b>58.8</b>	0.0001
Gender (male)	68.6 (2003)	<b>62.2 (2850)</b>	0.0001
Origin			
Italian native	73.2 (2136)	<b>78.2 (3419)</b>	0.0001
East Europe	13.2 (386)	<b>12.5 (547)</b>	
Africa	5.9 (173)	<b>3.7 (162)</b>	
Asia	6.6 (194)	<b>5.0 (221)</b>	
South Central America	0.5 (15)	<b>0.3 (13)</b>	
Central Western Europe	0.4 (12)	<b>0.2 (10)</b>	
Alchol use	31.1 (783)	<b>34.2 (1408)</b>	0.009
HBeAg pos	<b>12.3 (323)</b>	7.17 (322)	0.0001
Cirrhosis	24.7 (722)	24.1 (1107)	0.55
Anti HDV	8.3 (161)	9.2 (314)	0.23
On going therapy	34.2 (1000)	<b>66.6 (3043)</b>	0.0001

➤ 5.6% in the PITER cohort with HBV DNA > 20,000 IU/mL were *not* under treatment and 35.9% in the MASTER cohort

# Main characteristics in Italian and *non-Italian natives* HBsAg subjects overall PITER HBV study cohort

		<b>Italian</b> % (n)	<b><i>non- Italian natives</i></b> % (n)	<b>p</b>
<b>Age</b>	years	<b>62</b> (16-95)	<b>42</b> (19 – 84)	<0.001
<b>Gender</b>	F M	<b>34.7</b> (1125) 65.3 (2112)	<b>47.2</b> (417) 52.8 (467)	<0.001
<b>Genotype</b>	D non-D	<b>83.2</b> (352) 16.8 (71)	<b>63.3</b> (126) 36.7 (73)	<0.001
<b>HBeAg</b>	Pos Neg	<b>4.4</b> (128) 95.6 (2798)	<b>11.9</b> (100) 88.1 (743)	<0.001
<b>Phase of infection</b>	HBe Ag pos infection HBeAg pos CH HBe Ag neg infection HBeAg neg CH	<b>0.1</b> (3) <b>4.0</b> (114) <b>19.2</b> (540) <b>76.7</b> (2161)	<b>1.0</b> (8) 11.9 (98) <b>32.3</b> (267) <b>54.8</b> (453)	<0.001
<b>Coinfections</b>	HDV	<b>7.9</b> (205)	<b>12.2</b> (94)	<0.001
<b>Alcohol</b>	On going In the past	<b>24.0</b> (716) 10.5 (315)	<b>24.2</b> (204) 12.1 (102)	0.395
<b>Cofactors of liver damage</b>	Steatosis NASH	<b>26.8</b> (167) 1.7 (56)	<b>28.0</b> (30) 1.5 (13)	0.537 0.595
<b>Comorbidities</b>	Diabetes Dyslipidemia CV disease	<b>11.0</b> (357) <b>9.9</b> (321) <b>29.8</b> (965)	<b>3.9</b> (35) 4.7 (42) 7.9 (70)	<0.001 <0.001 <0.001
<b>Cirrhosis</b>		<b>26.1</b> (896)	<b>14.8</b> (141)	<0.001
<b>HCC</b>		<b>5.06</b> (171)	<b>1.2</b> (12)	<0.001
<b>Treatment status</b>	Treatment on going	<b>70.3</b> (2397)	<b>52.5</b> (501)	<0.001

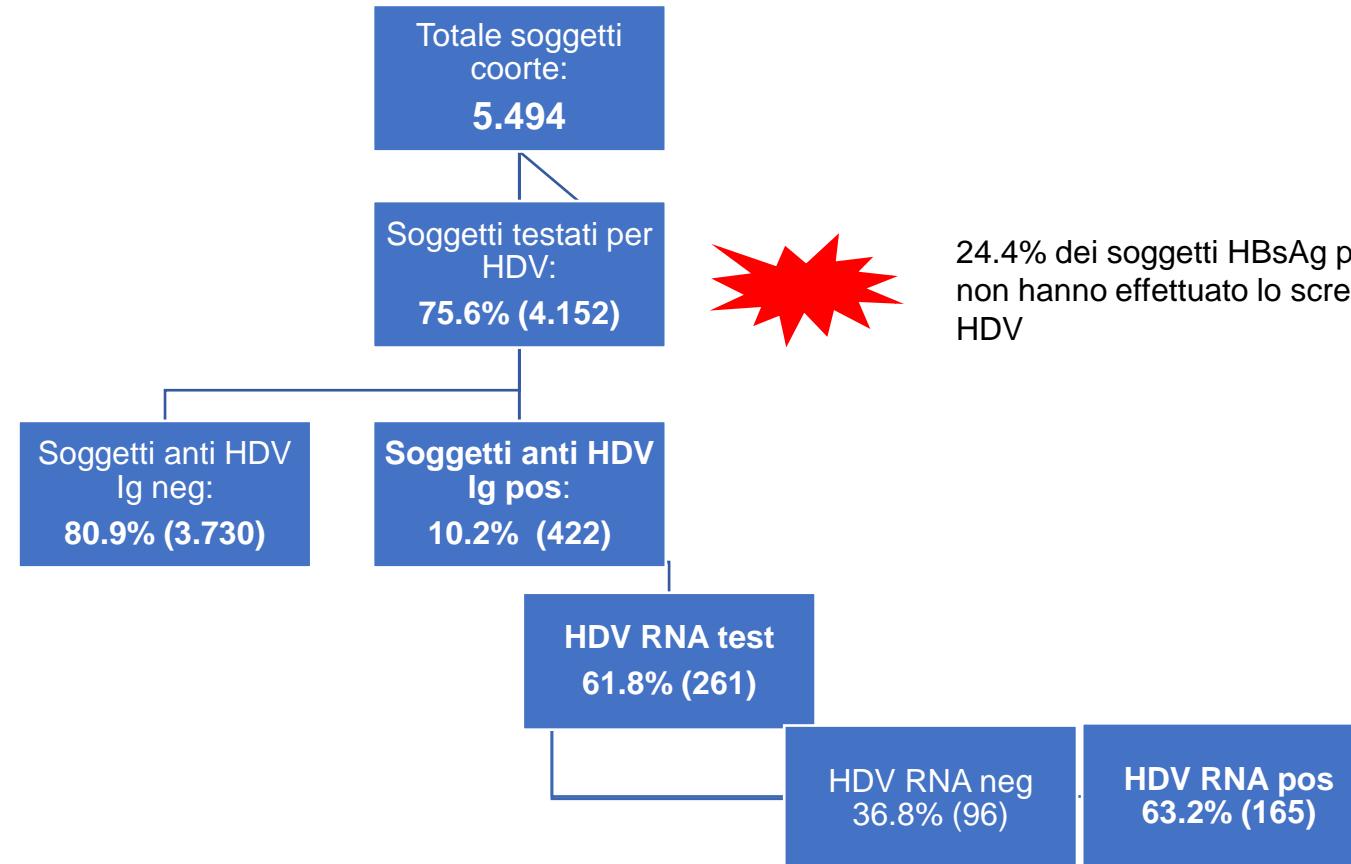
	<b>MASTER</b> <i>Cirrhosis</i> n=722 (24.7%)	<b>PITER</b> <i>Cirrhosis</i> n=1107 (24.1%)	<i>p</i> -value
<b>Age</b> (Years)	57.2	<b>63.6</b>	<0.0001
<b>Gender</b> (Males)	79.9 (577)	73.9 (816)	0.0032
<b>BMI</b>	25.5	25.5	
>/= 30	15.3 (127)	15.1 (92)	0.90
<b>HBV DNA</b> (pos)	<b>56.5 (392)</b>	24.6 (257)	<0.0001
<b>Origin</b>			
Italian natives	80.6 (578)	<b>86.4 (896)</b>	
East Europe	7.7 (56)	8.5 (89)	
Asia	5.9 (43)	2.9 (31)	<0.0001
Africa	5.8 (42)	1.8 (19)	
America	0.42 (3)	0.1 (1)	
Central Western Europe	0 (0)	0.1 (1)	
<b>Alcohol use</b> (Yes)	29.7 (187)	37.1 (366)	0.0023
<b>HBeAg</b> (Positive)	<b>12.6 (81)</b>	4.9 (54)	<0.0001
<b>Anti-HDV</b> (Positive)	17.5 (88)	<b>24.8 (213)</b>	0.0017
<b>HCC</b> (Present)	14.0 (99)	16.6 (183)	0.1408
<b>Ongoing therapy</b> (Yes )	50.5 (365)	<b>91.5 (1012)</b>	<0.0001



**HDV coinfection** was the strong factor associated to cirrhosis (OR 10.08; C.I. 7.63-13.43) together with *age, gender, BMI and non Italian origin*

## Soggetti con coinfezione HBV/HDV arruolati della coorte PITER

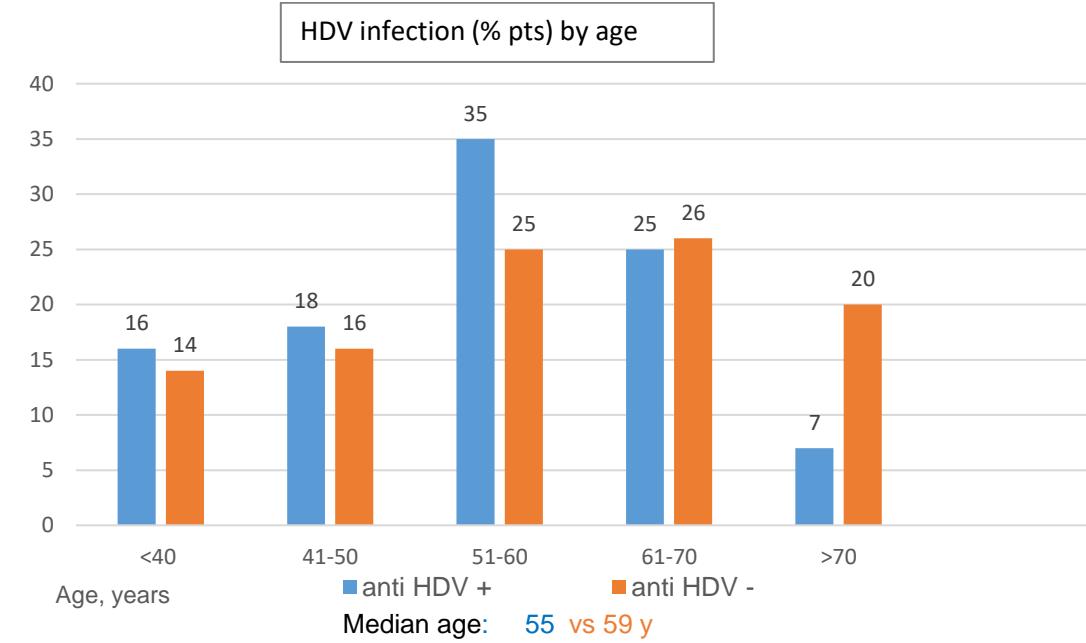
5.494 soggetti *HBsAg* positivi arruolati da Dic 2019 a Feb 2023



# Main baseline characteristics of the PITER HDV cohort

422 anti HDV positive carriers enrolled from Dec 2019 to Feb 2023:  
 165 out of 261 subjects who were tested had HDV RNA positive

	anti-HDV positive N° = 422	anti-HDV negative N° = 3730	p-value
Age median (Q1, Q3)	55 (46, 62)	59 (48, 68)	<0.001
Males	253 (60.0)	2335 (62.6)	0.287
Non-Italian natives	142 (33.6)	850 (22.8)	<0.001
Injection drug use	35 (10.0)	55 (1.7)	<0.001
ALT > 35 IU/L	243 (59.4)	566 (15.3)	<0.001
GGT >50 IU/L	121 (36.3)	344 (11.1)	<0.001
HBeAg positive	25 (6.1)	253 (6.8)	0.582
Cirrhosis	299 (70.8)	892 (23.9)	<0.001
HCC	42 (10.2)	106 (2.9)	<0.001
HBV DNA positive	115 (29.1)	1330 (36.5)	0.004
HDV RNA positive (261 tested)	165 (63.2)	---	---
Previous IFN	142 (33.6)	580 (15.5)	<0.001
Potential disease co-factors			
Ongoing alcohol use	775 (22.6)	412 (12.0)	
Past use	65 (18.7)	51 (14.7)	0.130
Diabetes	29 (6.9)	375 (10.0)	0.037
BMI 25-30	32 (7.6)	384 (10.3)	
BMI ≥30	109 (25.8)	1.173 (31.4)	0.004
anti-HCV positive	39 (10.4)	126 (3.6)	<0.001
anti-HIV positive	17 (4.8)	35 (1.1)	<0.001
Ongoing therapy (>95% NUCs)	323 (76.5)	2529 (67.8)	<0.001

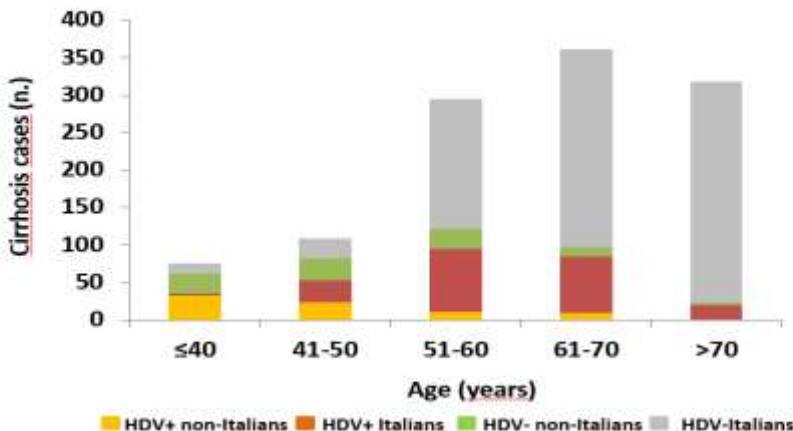


# Main baseline characteristics of the PITER HDV cohort

422 anti HDV positive patients enrolled from Dec 2019 to Feb 2023

**299 (70.8%) anti HDV + pts had cirrhosis: 251 (84 %) Child A; 41 (13.7%) Child B; 7 (2.3%) Child C**

**Cirrhosis by age, anti-HDV antibodies pos and patients' origin**



**Cirrhosis by HDV RNA**

	HDV RNA + N = 165	HDV RNA -- N = 96	p-value
Cirrhosis	125 (75.8)	61 (63.5) *	0.035
Child			
A	106 (84.8)	59 (96.7)	0.028
B	18 (14.4)	2 (3.3)	
C	1 (0.8)	0 (0.0)	
Complications of cirrhosis	45 (36.0)	14 (22.9)	0.073
HCC	25 (15.3)	3 (3.2)	0.003
HBV DNA positive	45 (29.0)	27 (28.7)	0.958
PLT < 150,000	64 (41.3)	51 (53.7)	0.056
MELD >19	2 (1.9)	1 (2.0)	>0.999

\* 47 (77%) Italian  
median age 55 y  
(Q1 50, Q3 62)

- **47.4% of patients with HDV infection had one or more comorbidities:** younger (< 55 y) had higher frequency of psychiatric disorders whereas older pts of overweight/obesity, autoimmune disorders and digestive disease
- **46.7% (77) of HDV RNA + pts were eligible to peg-IFN;** 40.6% (67) and 12.7% (21) had absolute or relative controindications

# Global prevalence, cascade of care, and prophylaxis coverage of hepatitis B in 2022: a modelling study by [Polaris Observatory](#)

## HBV scenario in ITALY in 2021 by modelling

HBV prevalence: 0.5% (0.4-0.6%)

HBV population: 308.000 (246-369.000)

Treatment eligible: 92.400 pts

Diagnosed: 30%

Treated of total eligible: 45%

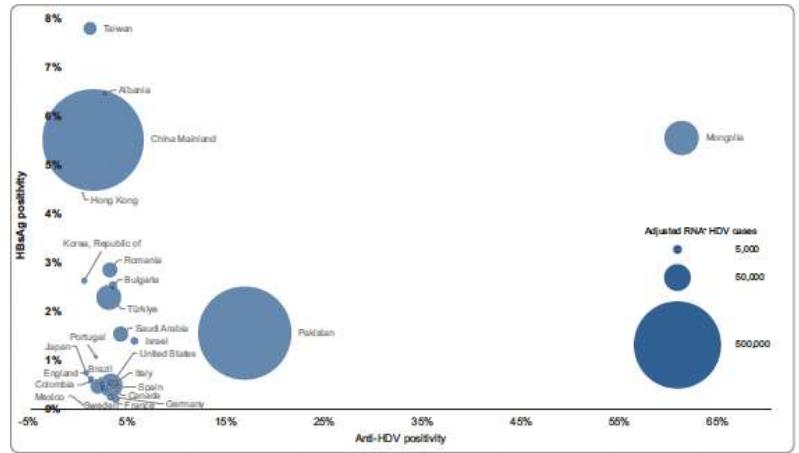
HBV prevalence among 5 years old: <0.1%

### Profilaxis:

- 3D vaccine 94%
- BD vaccine < 1%
- HBIG + 2D vaccine 100%
- Antiviral therapy of mothers: 10%

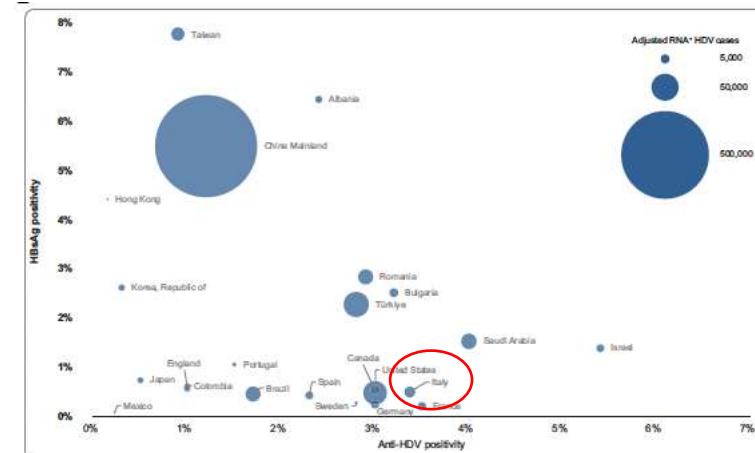


# HDV infection prevalence of in 25 countries and territories by Polaris Observatory



Mongolia has 60.1% HDV prevalence but China has the highest absolute number of HDV RNA+ cases

... after adjusting for geographical distribution, disease stage and special populations, the anti-HDV prevalence among the HBsAg+ population changed from the literature estimate in 19 countries



HBs Ag, anti HDV and HDV RNA + excluding Pakistan and Mongolia

Country/Territory	2023 HBsAg+	Literature % anti-HDV+	Adjusted % anti-HDV+	RNA+ cases	Adjusted HDV RNA+ prevalence	Adjusted HDV RNA+ cases	Anti-HDV tests to diagnose one case
Albania	183,000	9.0%	2.4%	4,400	62.5%	2,800	41.7
Brazil	1,025,000	3.2%	1.7%	17,400	75.3%	13,100	58.8
Bulgaria	169,000	8.6%	3.2%	5,400	80.0%	4,300	31.3
Canada	214,000	1.6%	3.0%	6,400	64.8%	4,100	33.3
China Mainland	78,548,000	1.2%	1.2%	942,800	66.6%	627,800	83.3
Colombia	302,000	5.2%	1.0%	3,000	69.9%	2,100	100.0
England	419,400	2.9%	1.0%	4,200	50.0%	2,100	100.0
France	142,000	1.8%	3.5%	5,000	75.0%	3,800	26.6
Germany	215,000	5.5%	3.0%	6,000	60.0%	3,800	33.3
Hong Kong	332,000	0.2%	0.2%	500	60.0%	300	666.7
Israel	139,000	6.5%	5.4%	7,000	47.0%	3,300	16.5
Italy	336,400	0.3%	3.4%	11,300	60.5%	6,800	29.7
Japan	926,000	8.5%	0.5%	4,800	40.8%	1,900	200.0
Korea, Republic of	1,360,000	0.3%	0.3%	4,100	54.0%	2,200	333.3
Mexico	116,000	2.4%	0.2%	300	69.9%	200	444.4
Mongolia	191,000	61.0%	61.0%	116,000	61.0%	71,600	1.6
Pakistan	3,762,000	16.0%	16.0%	624,500	85.0%	530,800	6.0
Portugal	110,000	12.6%	1.0%	1,700	72.9%	1,200	66.7
Romania	568,000	23.1%	2.9%	16,500	80.0%	13,200	34.5
Saudi Arabia	570,000	5.3%	4.0%	22,800	60.0%	13,700	25.0
Spain	206,000	5.2%	2.3%	4,800	72.9%	3,500	43.5
Sweden	31,000	3.8%	2.8%	900	75.0%	650	35.7
Taiwan	1,064,000	3.3%	0.8%	16,800	60.0%	10,100	111.1
Turkey	1,962,000	2.8%	2.8%	54,900	60.0%	37,300	35.7
United States	1,650,000	6.0%	3.0%	49,500	60.0%	32,700	33.3



- The **combined effect of vaccination policies** and increasing **flows of immigrants** from HBV highly endemic areas were responsible for the highly dynamic changes of HBV epidemiology in Italy
- Non Italian native HBsAg carriers significantly increased across the last decades
- **Antiviral therapy mitigated** the long lasting infections in **aging Italians with CHB**, as suggested by the stable/slight reduction of cirrhotic patients in the last decade in spite of the older age of the patients
- **There is still large uncertainty in HDV prevalence estimates** as many published HDV prevalence studies are conducted among groups who have a higher probability of being infected with HDV, such as patients in tertiary care centers, specific riskgroups, or high-prevalence regions. When available data are weighted by population size at the national level, the HDV prevalence often decreases.
- Currently Italian epidemiological data suggest that there are **2 distinct subsets of CHD patients**: *older Italian patients* with long lasting history of HDV infection with an indolent, but still **slowly progressive course**, and *younger immigrants* with **active and rapidly progressive disease**



Piattaforma Italiana per lo studio  
della Terapia delle Epatiti virali.

*Grazie!*

Comitato Esecutivo e i centri partecipanti disponibili in:  
[www.progettopiter.it](http://www.progettopiter.it)