

Simplifying the HBV care pathway for west African migrants in Barcelona: an introduction to HBV-COMSAVA

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ISGlobal Barcelona
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Global Health



AGENDA



01

WHO AM I?

Brief introduction

02

BACKGROUND

Not much, we all know
HBV is a major global
issue

03

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

What we learned from
our mini survey

04

HBV-COMSAVA

Main objectives, the care
pathway, and expected outcomes

05

TIMELINE

Where we currently are with the
project

06

CLOSING REMARKS

Thanks for listening!



01

WHO I AM





Camila Picchio

- PhD candidate at the University of Barcelona & ISGlobal
- Project manager + RA @ ISGlobal for viral hepatitis projects



Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal)

- Research institute & global health think tank with 400+ employees
- In 2019 was named a Severo Ochoa Centre of Excellence
- Lines of research:
 - Malaria Elimination
 - Climate and Health
 - Air pollution and Urban Environment
 - Maternal, Child, and Reproductive health
 - Viral and bacterial infections → **Health Systems & Infectious Diseases Research team**



02

BACKGROUND





257,000,000

2nd leading cause of cancer deaths worldwide





03

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

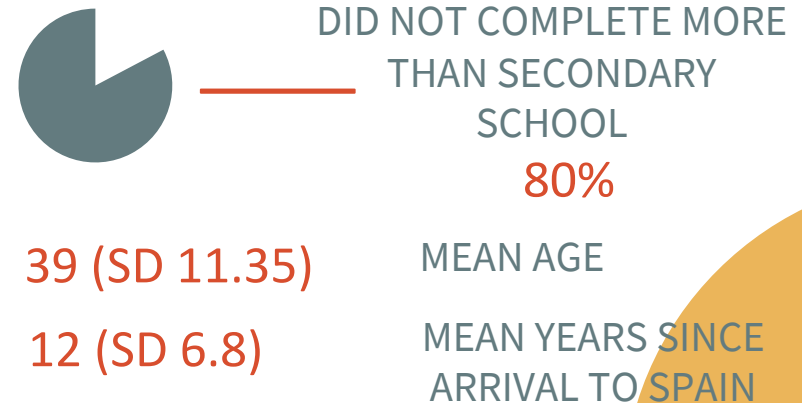
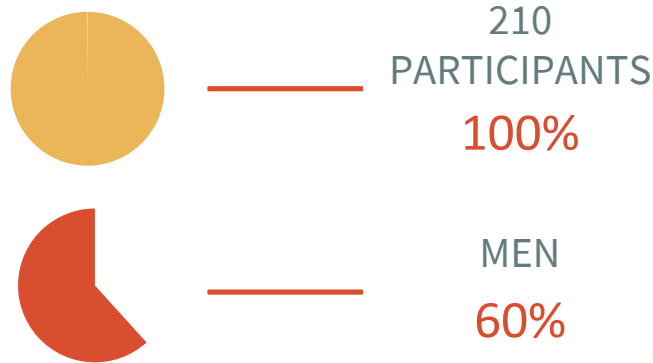


HBV AWARENESS AND SELF-REPORTED TESTING AND VACCINATION STATUS

- Ghanaian migrants participating in a community-based diabetes and hypertension screening program were asked about HBV
- Surveyed between April-September 2019



Photo courtesy of C Picchio



KEY FINDINGS



75%

Of participants had heard of HBV before

yet



57%

Of participants had never been tested before



95%

Of participants had a public health insurance card



54%

Of participants had never been vaccinated for *anything* since their arrival to Spain

Those who reported being aware of HBV were more likely to have been tested for HBV before (31.9% v. 3.8%; $p < 0.001$)

04

HBV-COMSAVA

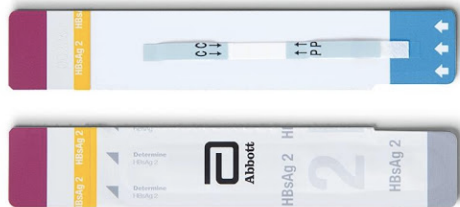




OUR PROPOSED SOLUTION: HBV-COMSAVA

A **community-based** testing and vaccination initiative to **link** west African migrants to **liver specialist care** in the greater Barcelona area through the utilization of **simplified diagnostic methods** and peer supporters

HBV-COMSAVA TOOLS



CARNET de vacunes

Cognoms _____

Nom _____

Adreça _____

Població _____

CIP _____



HEPARJOC

A **validated** interactive HBV educational tool **co-created** by migrant populations (including African populations).



Source: Essadek Ourab H, Bermejo Borrás B, Medivelo Caro J et al. HEPARJOC-ACTÚA: educational tool created through a process of participatory research with vulnerable immigrant groups to improve accessibility to diagnosis of hepatitis B. Rev Esp Salud Pública 2020;94:e202007078.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

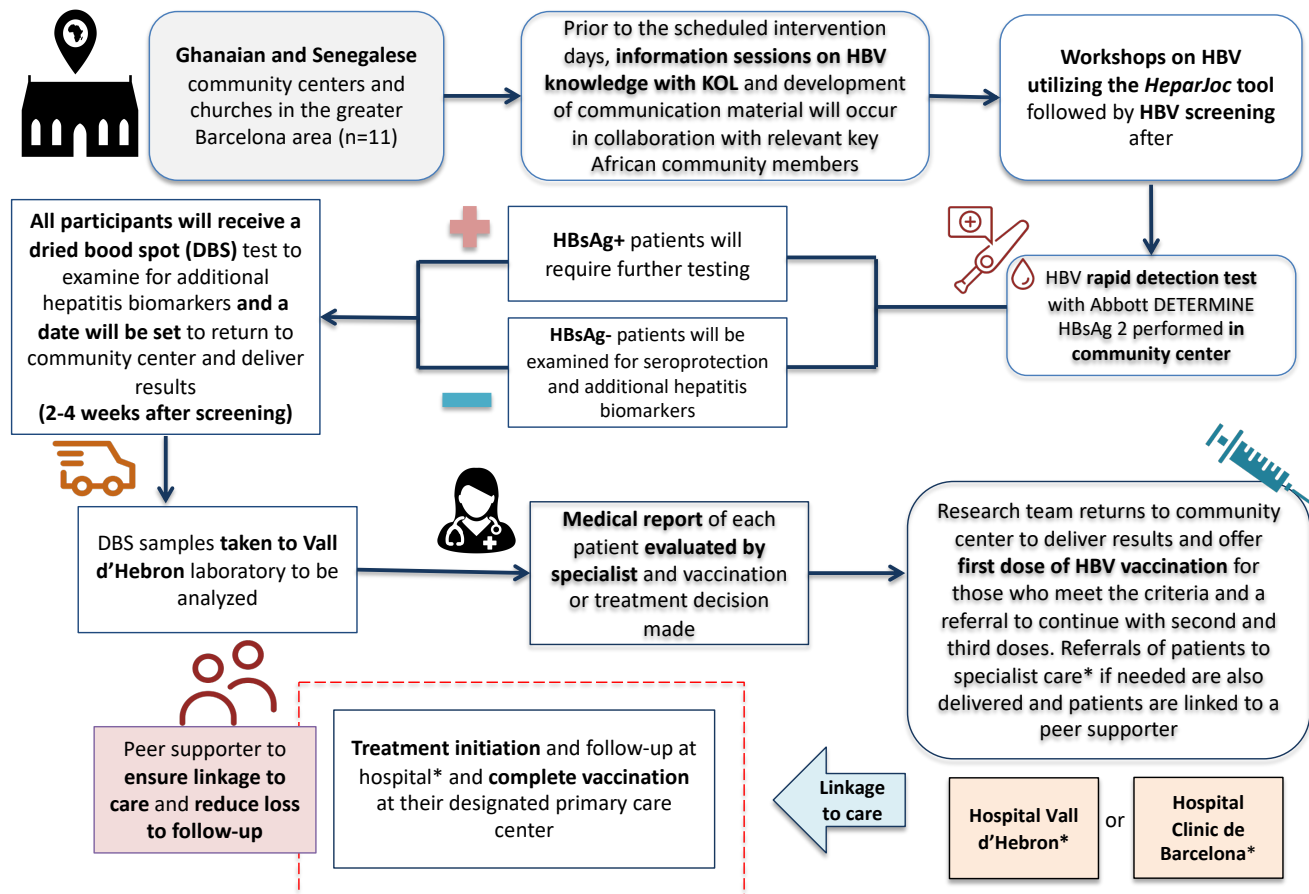


The **primary objective** is to validate a model of care that simplifies the screening and linkage to care pathway for Ghanaian and Senegalese migrant populations in the greater Barcelona area.

- To screen patients for HBV and link them to care (vaccination or treatment)
- Describe the epidemiology of HBV infection and report the seroprotection level in the screened population
- To increase HBV knowledge
- To study the feasibility of the PSC

THE INTERVENTION

Figure 1. Community based hepatitis B care pathway for Ghanaian and Senegalese migrants in the greater Barcelona area



EXPECTED OUTCOMES



To increase HBV testing among west African migrants and link them to care, whether it be specialist care at a leading tertiary hospital or vaccination.



To validate a community-based HBV model of care for migrant populations



05

TIMELINE



PROJECT TIMELINE

PHASE 1

June 2020: Project preparation begins (again)

PHASE 3

Preliminary data available (Q1, 2021)

PHASE 2

21 Nov: Pilot kick-off adapting to COVID-19 measures

PHASE 4

Continued intervention (12 months total)





(SOME) OF THE TEAM

THANK YOU! GRACIAS!

Do you have any questions?

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Thank you to the entire **HBV-COMSAVA** team and in particular:
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