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The Healthcare Research Specialists

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Survey on Hepatitis C Knowledge and Perception among Canadians and GP

September 2012



- To explore the level of awareness and knowledge of Hepatitis C, a 10 minute online survey was commissioned with the general Canadian population as well as GPs.

1. 1000 Canadian adults (18+) from the general population.



- Recruited to be representative of the general population in terms of age, gender, region and income.
- Fieldwork took place between August 15th – August 27th , 2012

2. 300 General Practitioners/ Family Practitioners.



- Weighted to be representative of all general practitioners in terms of region and gender.
- GPs had to be in active clinical practice (3+ days/ week) and have been in practice between 2-35 years
- Fieldwork took place between August 15th – September 7th , 2012

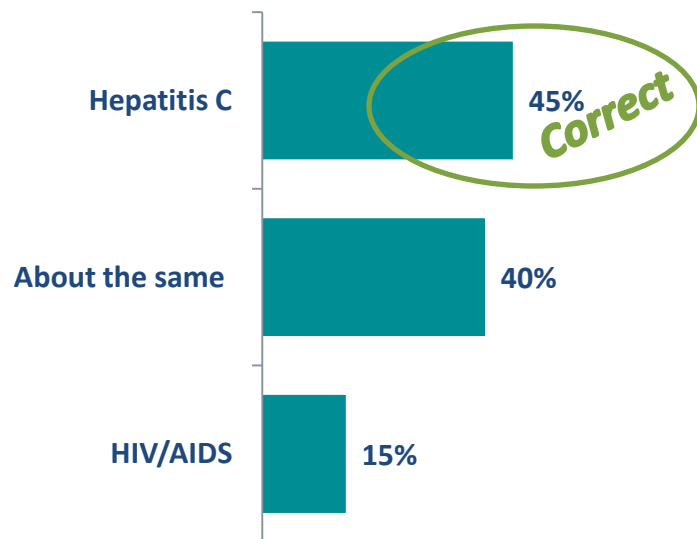
Over half of Canadians believe HIV/AIDS has the same or higher prevalence than Hep C and most do not think they know anyone with Hep C.



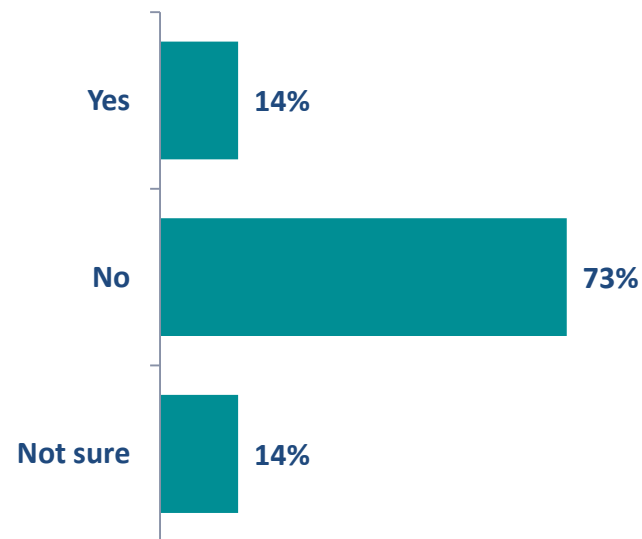
Perceptions of Hepatitis C Prevalence (Relative to HIV/AIDS)

% Canadians

Perception of higher prevalence in Canada



Personal Knowledge of Someone with HCV



Base: Canadians(n=1000)

Q7. [Canadians] Which of the following diseases do you think is more common in Canada?

Q8. [Canadians] Do you personally know anyone with Hepatitis C?

Nine in 10 Canadians believe that someone can have hepatitis C and not know it, physicians agree that many who have the disease are not aware they have it.



“Many people who have Hepatitis C are not aware that they have it.”

% GPs



■ Strongly agree ■ Somewhat agree ■ Somewhat disagree ■ Strongly disagree



“Someone can have Hepatitis C and not know it.”

% Canadians



■ Yes

■ No

Correct

90%

10%

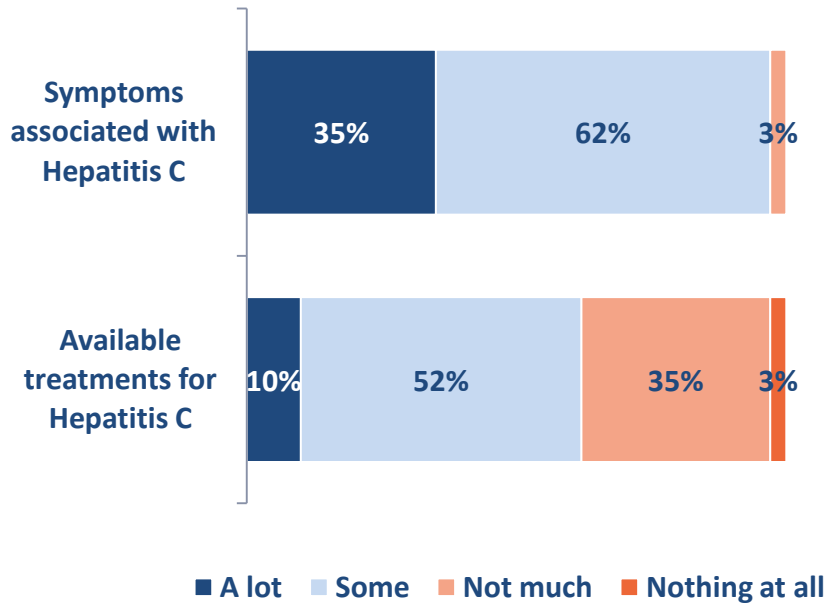
Only a minority of physicians feel they know a lot about the symptoms or available treatment. Less than half of physicians feel that it is curable.



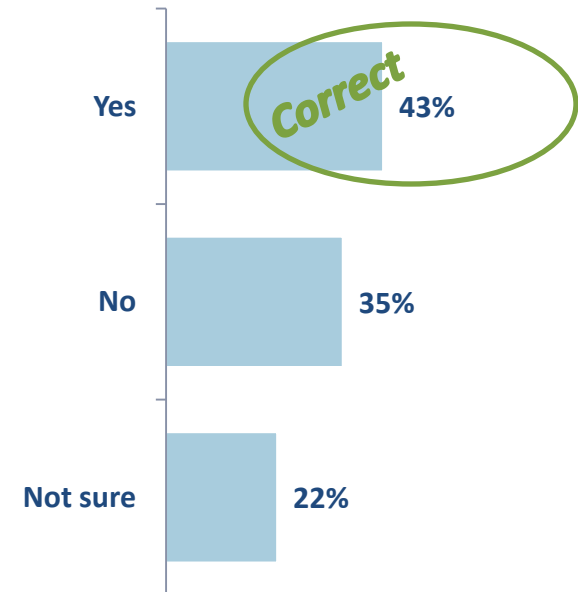
Physician Perceptions

% GPs

How much do you feel you know about..?



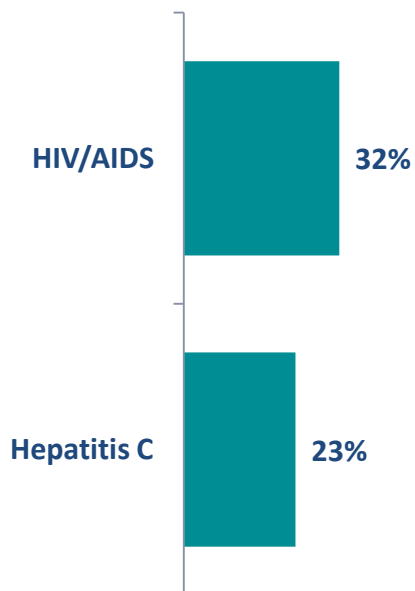
Is Hep C curable?



More Canadians have been tested for HIV/AIDS than Hep C, about a quarter of patients have been tested for Hep C. Most Canadians readily accept to be screened for Hep C, when suggested.

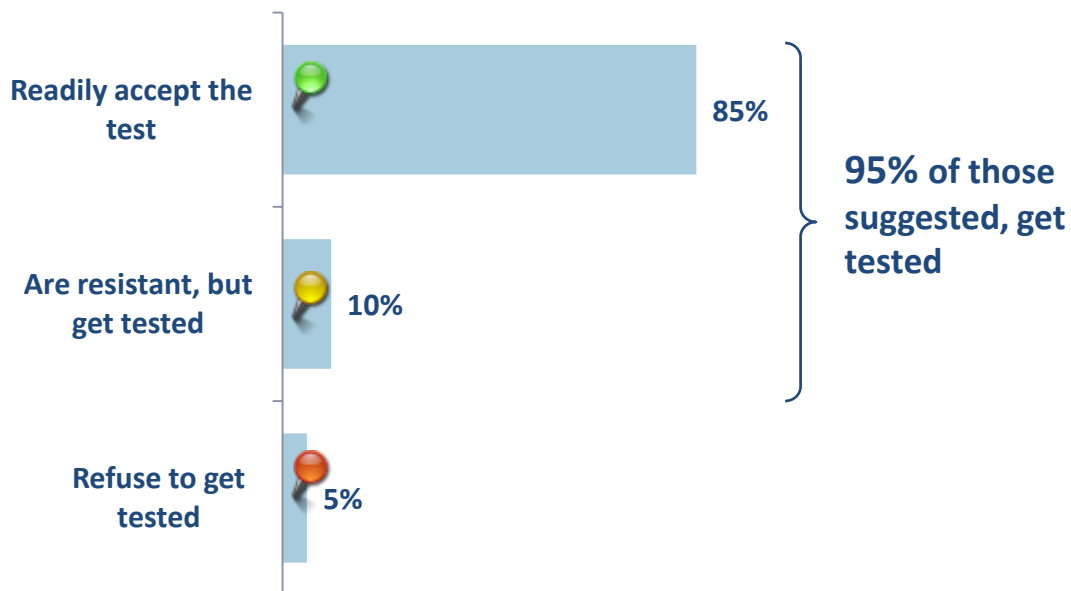


% Canadians Tested for ...



% Patients Accepting Hepatitis C Test when Recommended

Base: Suggest Hepatitis C testing (n=298)



Base: Canadians (n=1000), GPs (n=300)

Q4. [Canadians] As far as you are aware, have you ever been tested for any of the following? (Select all that apply)

Q6. [GPs] Generally, when you suggest that a patient gets screened for Hepatitis C, what proportion of your patients would you say...

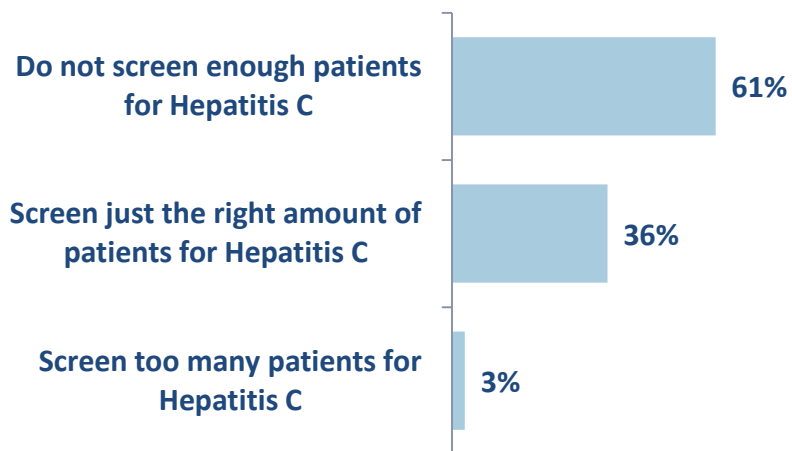
The majority of GPs feel that they do not screen enough patients for Hep C and agree that their patients would benefit from more routine screening.



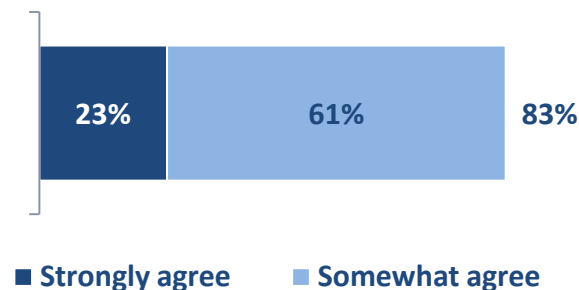
Attitudes Toward Screening

% GPs

Perceptions of screening frequency



"My patients would benefit from more routine screening of Hepatitis C."

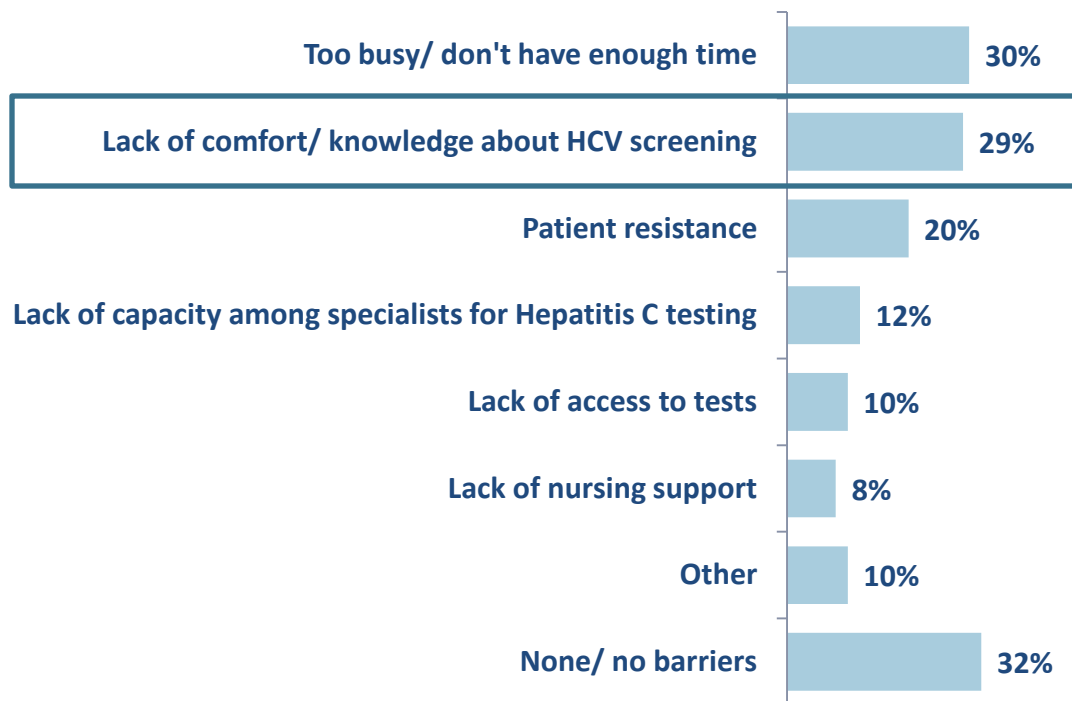


Lack of time and lack of comfort/ knowledge with the screening process are the biggest barriers for physicians.



Barriers to Hepatitis C Screening













% GPs



Base: GPs (n=300)

Q15. Which, if any, of the following are barriers that prevent you from screening and/or treating more patients for Hepatitis C?
(Please select all that apply)

Despite feeling more knowledgeable about Hep C, Boomers are directionally less knowledgeable than younger generations and are less likely to have been tested.

% Canadians		 Gen Y (18-29) (n=197) (GY)	 Gen X (30-46) (n=301) (GX)	 Baby Boomers (47-67) (n=394) (BB)
% Tested for ...	Hep C	 26% >BB,G	 34% >BB,G	 17%
	HIV/AIDS	 31% >G	 49% >All	 26% >G
% That feel they know “a lot” or “some” about Hepatitis C		 44%	 45%	 53% >GY, GX

Hepatitis C Knowledge Scorecard

% That know whether Hepatitis C is more prevalent than HIV/AIDS	44%	54%	41%
% That know Hepatitis C is primarily transmitted through blood to blood contact	62%	60%	54%
% That know Hepatitis C can be cured	23%	14%	18%
Average score of Hepatitis C Fact testing exercise (True or False)	66%	66%	64%
Average	49%	49%	44%