Design of Pilot Clinical Trial of Treatment of Hepatitis C in Polyvalent Problem Drug Users with Pharmacological Substitution of Opioids and Methamphetamine (HCV-PPDUSOM)

Master’s Thesis

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Hepatitis C is one of the most serious blood-borne complications of somatic health status of drug users. The HCV-positive injecting drug users are therefore directly indicated for the treatment of this type (and other types also) of hepatitis. Problematic adherence and treatment compliance is obvious in this group. Both foreign and domestic experiences show that stabilization of the use of illegal (and/or illegally acquired) substances is the essential part of the treatment of hepatitis. The interaction of the high quality treatment of somatic, psychosocial and add-on pharmacological care, including the substitution of illegal (and/or illegally acquired) drugs, leads to patient’s increased compliance and adherence to HCV treatment. This diploma thesis is presenting both the theoretical frame and the study design of the pilot clinical trial of HCV treatment with the supportive substitution treatment of the polyvalent problem drug users of opioids and methamphetamine.

**Key words:** HCV treatment, polyvalent problem drug use, substitution treatment, opioids, methamphetamine