

A Nurse's Perspective: The Staggering Costs of Hepatitis

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Sources of Infection for Persons With Hepatitis C

Injecting drug use 60%

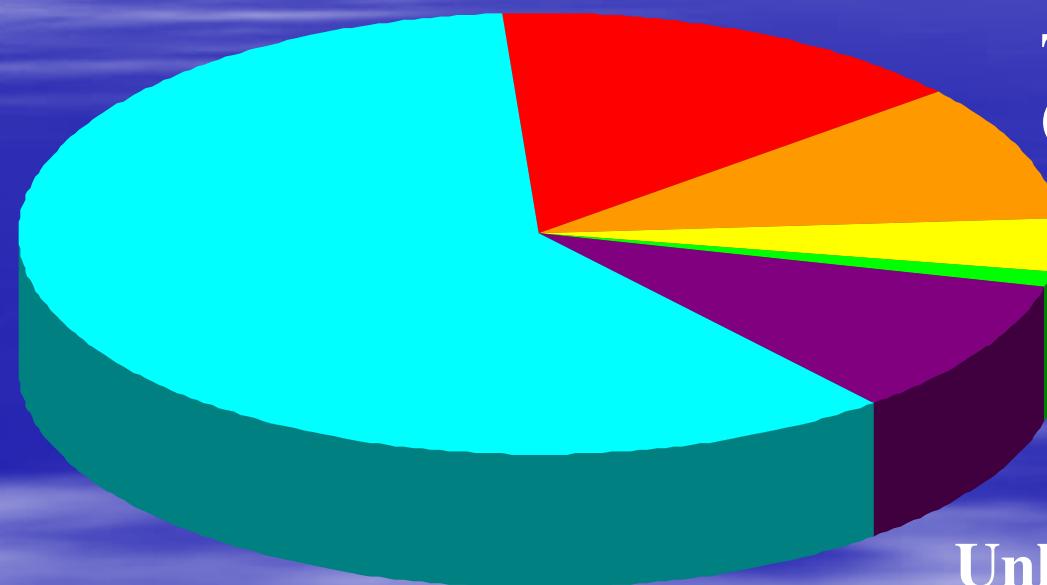
Sexual 15%

Transfusion 10%
(before screening)

Occupational 4%

Other 1%*

Unknown 10%

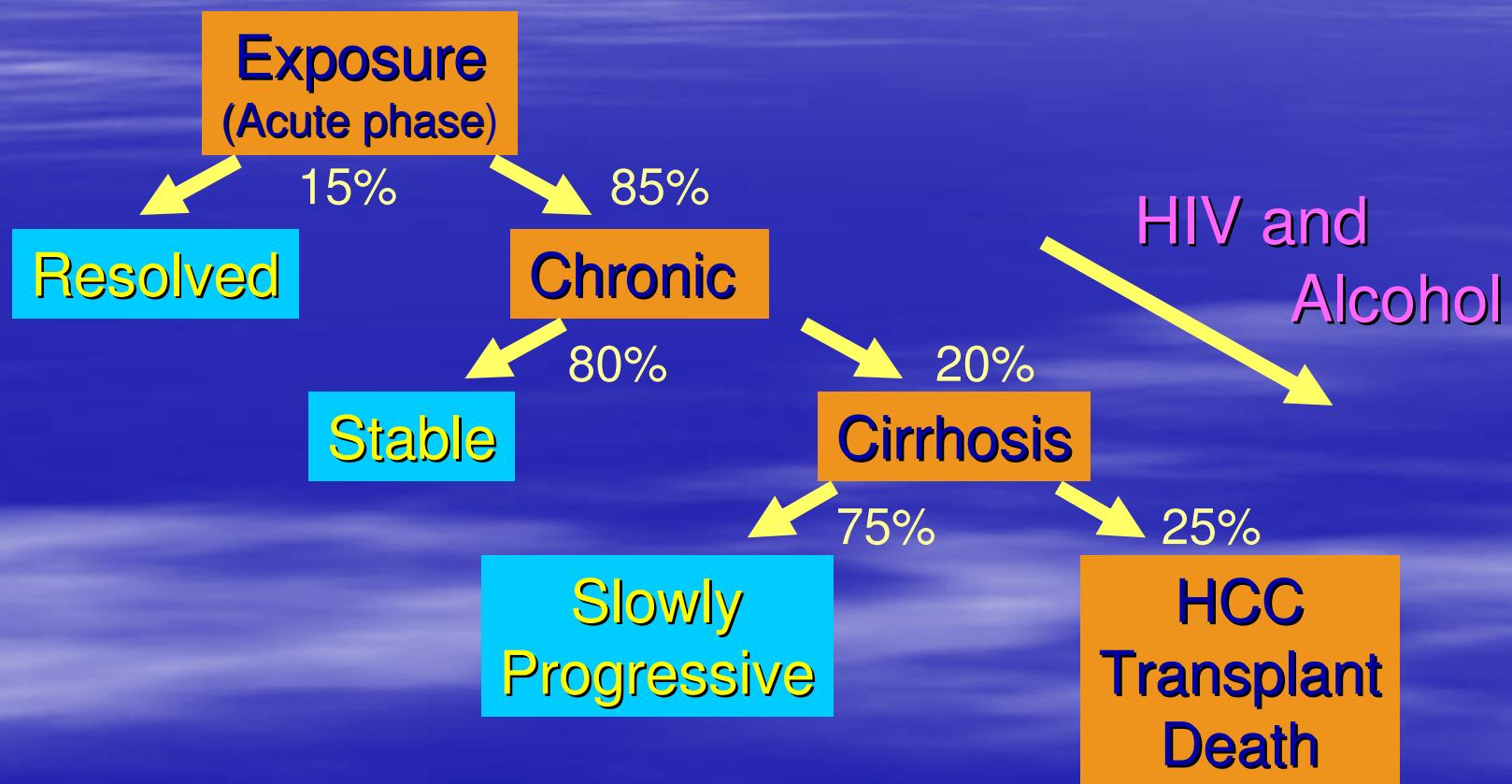


* Nosocomial; iatrogenic; perinatal

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Source: Sentinel Counties, CDC



Natural History of HCV Infection



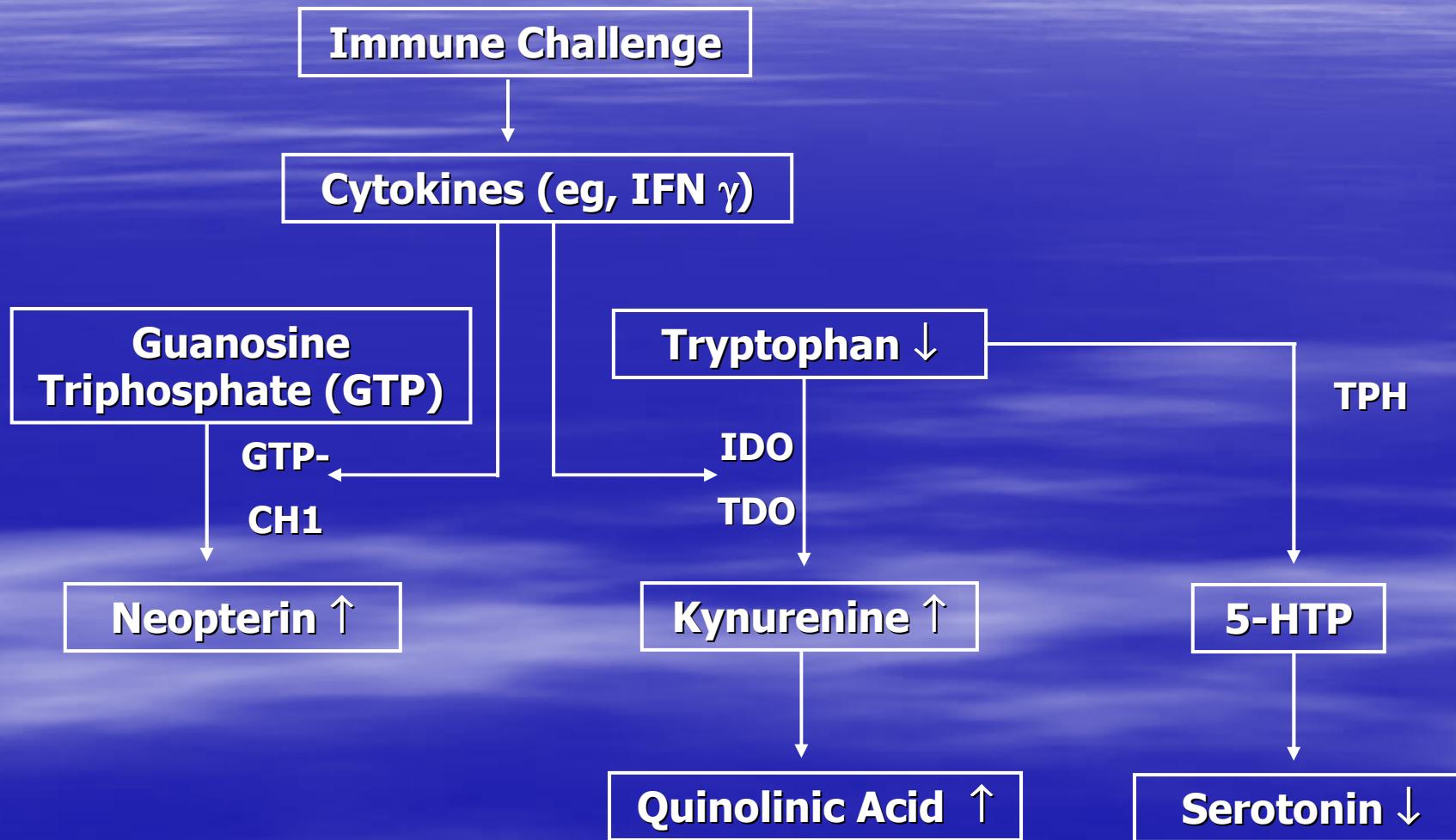
NIH Consensus Statement 2002

Working principle

“All patients with hepatitis C are potential candidates for therapy”

– NIH Consensus statement, 2002

Interferon Alpha and Tryptophan Metabolism



Capuron et al. *Biol Psychiatry*. 2003;54:906-914.







Safer Use Spaces for Harmful Drugs

- Harm Reduction 101
- Focus on Eliminating Harmful Consequences
- Provide social networking



Supporting Patients!



