

Infections among IDUs – some thoughts about the future

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- Little reason to expect any major changes in the infectious disease panorama among IDUs in the EU/EEA area over the next 10 years
- The factors that could influence this panorama may rather be political and economical than biological or ecological
- But one should always expect the unexpected

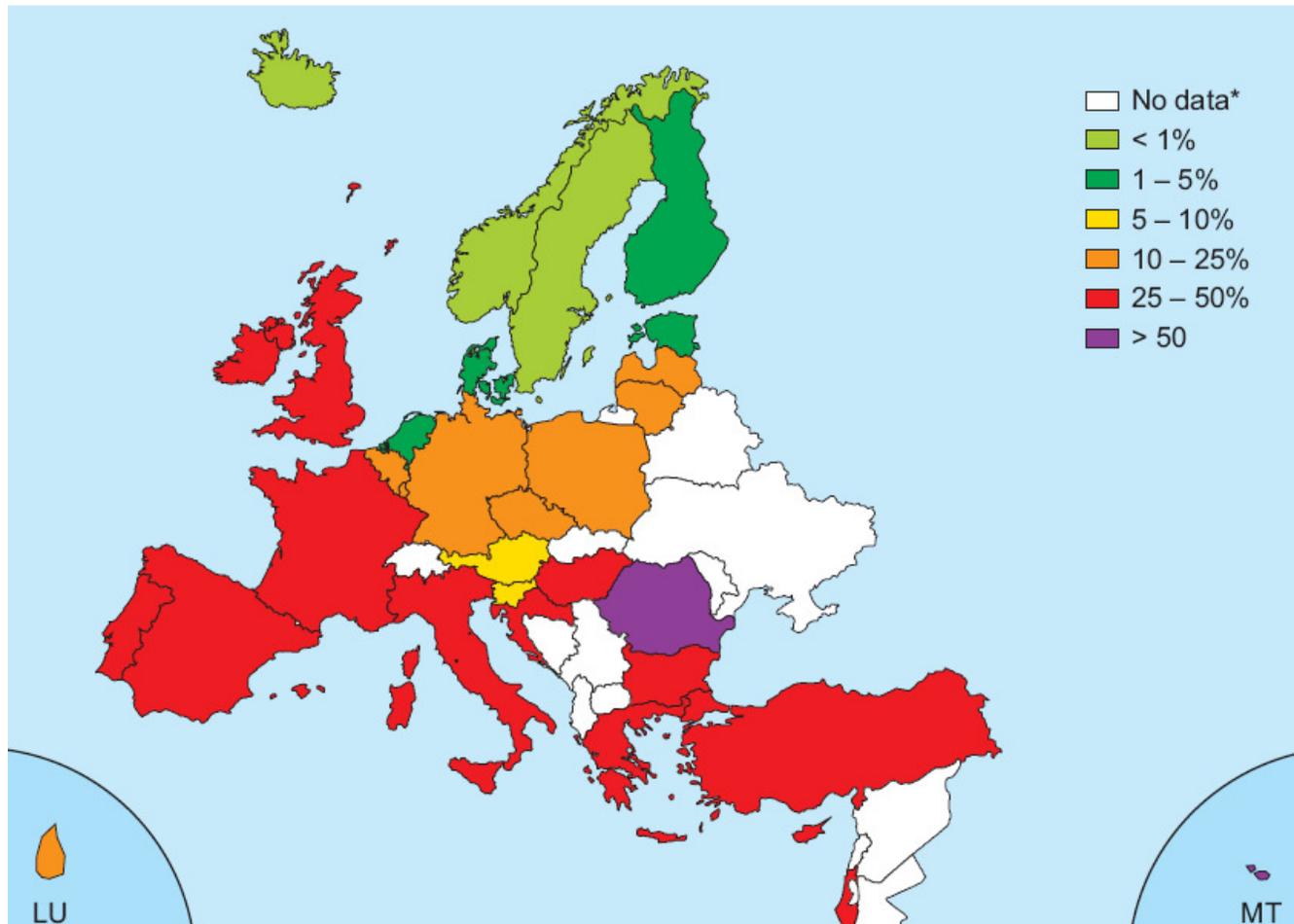
Three categories of drivers of change

- Globalisation and environmental change
- Social and demographic change
- Economic pressure , decrease spending on public health

Future infection panorama IDUs

- Traditional chronic viral infections (HIV, hepatitis B and C) less impact on morbidity and mortality among IDUs
- More hepatitis A outbreaks
- Bacterial infections (f.inst. anthrax) more impact on morbidity and mortality
- More cross the border infections
- Antibiotic resistance increasing importance both in relation to morbidity and how the IDU is met by the health service

MRSA in Europa



Future infections surveillance in IDUs ?

- Continue prevalence and incidence reporting chronic infections (incl. hepatitis A)
- Incidence data on important bacterial infections
- Monitoring disease outcome and treatment
- Molecular epidemiology
- Monitoring events and outbreaks among IDUs (communication platform)