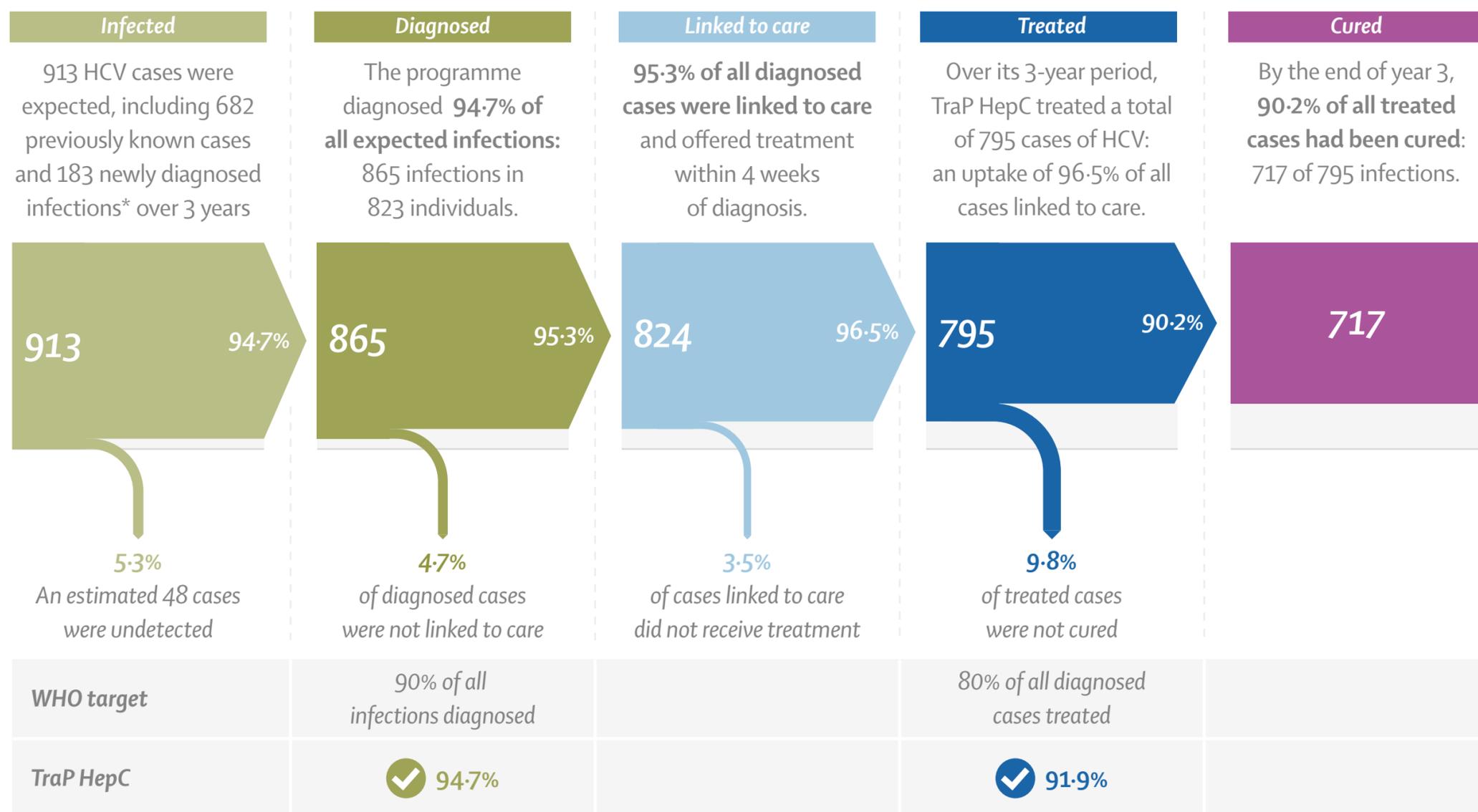


Iceland lays out roadmap to eliminating hepatitis C

WHO has set targets to eliminate hepatitis C virus (HCV) as a public health threat by 2030. In 2016, Iceland initiated TraP HepC: a nationwide HCV elimination programme. By adopting innovative strategies, it met WHO goals of diagnosing 90% of infections and treating 80% of diagnosed infections by 2030 within its first 3 years.

The Icelandic approach



*Previously undiagnosed infections, new infections, and reinfections.

An innovative, inclusive treatment strategy

Injection drug use is the main mode of transmission of HCV in most high-income countries. Although people who inject drugs have often been excluded from treatment, the TraP HepC strategy was designed to target this key demographic.



Nationwide HCV and HCV testing **public awareness campaign**



TraP HepC awareness campaign targeted at health-care workers



Focus on prisoners and people with recent injection drug use



Patient outreach by programme staff



All services free of charge, including treatment



Use of **telehealth**



Prompt retreatment of reinfections and non-responders



Scale-up of **harm reduction services** and **point-of-care testing**

Read the full paper: Olafsson S, Fridriksdottir RH, Love TJ, et al. Cascade of care during the first 36 months of the treatment as prevention for hepatitis C (TraP HepC) programme in Iceland: a population-based study. *Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol* 2021; published online June 22