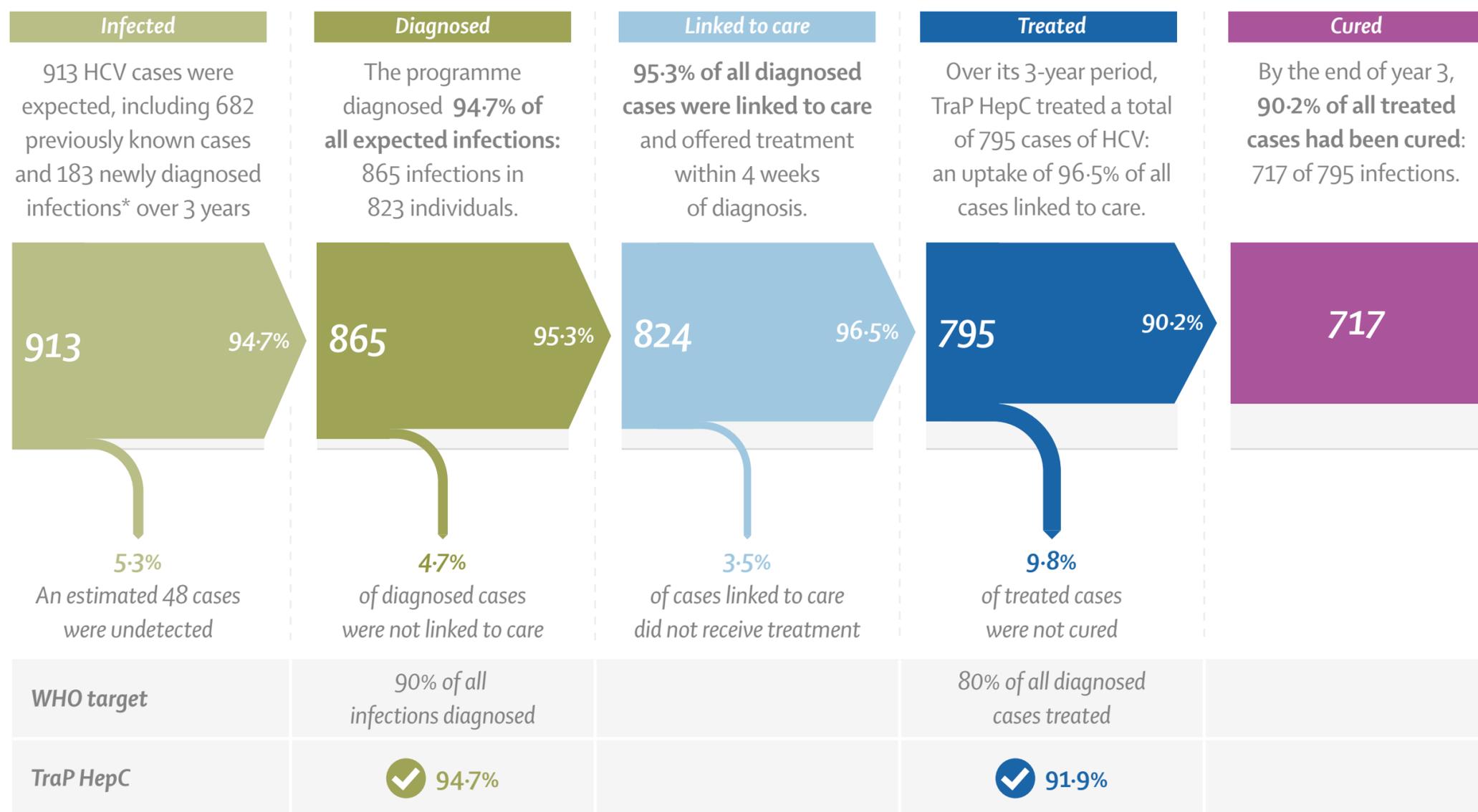


# Iceland lays out roadmap to eliminating hepatitis C

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