**Supplementary Table S1.** Sensitivity analysis. Univariable and multivariable meta-regression models for hepatitis C virus (HCV) genotype 3 in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) including only countries in which genotype 3 is not the dominant genotype.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | **Number of studies** | **Univariable analysis** | | |  | **Multivariable analysis** | | |
| **RR (95% CI)** | **p-value** | **Variance explained (adjusted R2 (%))** | **LR test**  **p-value** | **ARR (95% CI)** | **p-value** | **Variance explained (adjusted R2 (%))** |
| **Population classification** | General population | 28 | 1 | - |  |  | 1 | - |  |
| High-risk clinical populations | 62 | 1.6 (0.7-3.7) | 0.254 |  |  | 1.1 (0.6-1.9) | 0.770 |  |
| Populations at intermediate risk | 15 | 0.6 (0.1-2.3) | 0.433 |  |  | 2.5 (0.8-7.3) | 0.101 |  |
| Populations with liver-related conditions | 20 | 0.2 (0.1-0.9) | 0.030 |  |  | 1.4 (0.5-4.2) | 0.540 |  |
| PWID | 8 | 3.8 (1.2-12.1) | 0.025 |  |  | 2.7 (1.2-5.8) | 0.014 |  |
| Special clinical population | 12 | 0.6 (0.1-3.1) | 0.551 |  |  | 1.6 (0.3-7.5) | 0.549 |  |
|  | Mixed population | 10 | 0.8 (0.2-2.7) | 0.692 | 6.8 | <0.001 | 1.0 (0.4-2.3) | 0.979 |  |
| **Country/ Subregion** | Egypt | 38 | 1 | - |  |  | 1 | - |  |
| Gulf\* | 11 | 8.0 (2.4-26.6) | <0.001 |  |  | 7.1 (1.8-28.6) | 0.006 |  |
| Iran | 33 | 37.8 (16.7-85.7) | <0.001 |  |  | 45.0 (17.0-119.1) | <0.001 |  |
| Fertile Crescent£ | 45 | 9.5 (3.9-23.0) | <0.001 |  |  | 10.5 (3.8-28.6) | <0.001 |  |
| Maghreb¥ | 29 | 4.7 (1.9-11.7) | <0.001 | 63.2 | <0.001 | 5.3 (2.0-14.2) | <0.001 | 66.4a |

Abbreviations: RR, relative risk; ARR, adjusted relative risk; CI, confidence interval; PWID, people who inject drugs; LR, likelihood ratio.  
\*Countries include Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates.

£Countries include Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, and Syria.

¥Countries include Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, and Tunisia.

aThe adjusted R-squared for the full model.