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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ALT	:	Alanine amino-transferase (biochemical marker of liver inflammation)
Anti-HCV	:	Antibodies against HCV
CHC	:	Chronic hepatitis C infection
C.I	:	Confidence interval
ELISA	:	Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
HCC	:	Hepatocellular carcinoma
HCV	:	Hepatitis C virus
HIV	:	Human immunodeficiency virus
HLA	:	Human leukocyte antigen
IDUs	:	Intravenous drug users
IFN- $\alpha$	:	Interferon alfa
IgG	:	Immunoglobulin G
IgM	:	Immunoglobulin M
I.V.	:	Intravenous access
MCT	:	Maternal child transmission
O.R	:	Odds ratio
P	:	Probability of error
PCR	:	Polymerase Chain Reaction
r	:	Correlation co-efficient
RNA	:	Ribonucleic acid
STDs	:	Sexually transmitted diseases
SVR	:	Sustained virus response
USA	:	United States of America
WHO	:	World health organization