

VHPB meeting: WHO: where will we make a difference



HIV/AIDS DEPARTMENT – HEPATITIS PROGRAMME

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Making a difference

- WHO actions guided by WHA resolution (2010 and 2014) mandates
- Strategic directions guided by actions in the Global Hepatitis Strategy (assuming it is adopted by World Health Assembly 2015)

Actualizing World Health Assembly Resolution WHA67.6

- National planning:
 - support countries to develop robust national viral hepatitis strategies
 - provide guidance on cost-effective ways to integrate the prevention, testing, care and treatment of viral hepatitis into existing health care systems
 - maximize synergies with WHO Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases 2013–2020;
- Strategic information:
 - develop a system for regular monitoring and reporting on the progress in viral hepatitis prevention, diagnosis and treatment;
 - estimate global, regional and domestic economic impact and burden of viral hepatitis
 - examine the feasibility of and strategies needed for the elimination of hepatitis B and hepatitis C with a view to potentially setting global targets;

Actualizing World Health Assembly Resolution WHA67.6

- Laboratory Diagnosis:
 - develop specific guidelines on adequate, effective, affordable algorithms for diagnosis;
- Blood safety:
 - promote safe donation from low-risk voluntary non-remunerated donors, counselling, referral and treatment of infected donors, and effective blood screening;
- Promote access to prevention and treatment services:
 - lead a discussion and work with key stakeholders
 - assist Member States to ensure equitable access
 - promote access to harm-reduction services
 - provide technical assistance in the use of TRIPS flexibilities

What do we want to accomplish

- Position WHO as leader in hepatitis response
- Support countries with comprehensive hepatitis programmes and plans
- Strategic information
- Immunization
- Prevention of infections in health-care settings
- Enhance treatment access

Priority actions:

Focus on strategic information

- Issue Surveillance Guidance and provide technical assistance
- Develop monitoring indicators and guidance
- Begin to issue global hepatitis reports
- Develop operational research agenda

Priority actions:

Normative work for treatment

- Continue to develop treatment guidelines that will inform national treatment programs
 - Hepatitis testing guidelines
 - HCV treatment updates
- Consolidated hepatitis guidelines
 - Service delivery considerations
 - End-stage liver disease management

Actions to enhance treatment access

- Inclusion of key hepatitis drugs in Essential Medicines List:
 - daclatasvir, sofosbuvir, sofosbuvir/ledipasvir, ombitasvir/paritaprevir/ritonavir/plus-minus dasabuvir, entecavir,
- Expression of Interest Letter for prequalification of generics
- Providing key data on medicines:
 - HCV medicines patent landscape
 - Inclusion of hepatitis medicines and diagnostics in Global Price Reporting Mechanism
 - Adapting ARV toxicity monitoring systems to collect information on hepatitis medicines

Priority actions: Prevention

- Injection safety:
 - promote implementation of Global Injection Safety Policy
 - Promote expansion of harm-reduction interventions
- HBV: promote novel measures to enhance HBV birth dose administration and to identify new interventions to prevent mother-to-child transmission
- Blood safety: quality assured testing of all blood donations

Priority actions:

Engagement with countries

- Identify priority countries
- Finalize National Planning tool-kit and distribute to countries
- Regional and national workshops to assist country implementation