The global investment case for hepatitis C elimination.

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Global impact

Global hepatitis C prevalence in millions (total 71 million)

Source: WHO, Global hepatitis report 2017
Global impact

Viral hepatitis is the 7th biggest annual killer worldwide

- Hepatitis B is responsible for over 700,000 deaths annually
- Hepatitis C is responsible for nearly 400,000 deaths annually
- The number of deaths are increasing, contrasting with falls in HIV, TB & Malaria

Global deaths due to VH, TB, HIV and malaria
WHO targets for reducing new infections and stopping deaths

- **New Infections (in millions)**
  - 2015: 10.0
  - 2020: 7.0
  - 2025: 4.0
  - 2030: 1.0

- **Deaths**
  - 2015: 2.0
  - 2020: 1.0
  - 2025: 0.5
  - 2030: 0.2

- **Hepatitis B + C**
  - 2015: 5.0
  - 2020: 3.0
  - 2025: 1.5
  - 2030: 0.5

- **Targets**
  - 30% Reduction by 2020
  - 65% Reduction by 2030
  - 90% Reduction by 2030
Game changer – direct acting antiviral

Simpler, safer and more effective
Despite it being one of the most remarkable medical breakthroughs in recent times many people are unaware that there is a cure for hepatitis C.

Community awareness of hepatitis C cure

- Yes, I was aware of this
- No, I was not aware of this

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<td>China</td>
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<td>France</td>
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<td>30%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>58%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
So how are we tracking towards elimination?

Only 12 countries are on track to meet WHO hepatitis C elimination targets:

- Australia
- Egypt
- France
- Georgia
- Iceland
- Italy
- Japan
- Mongolia
- Netherlands
- Spain
- Switzerland
- UK
Barrier – the price of treatments

5g of Diamonds
25 1-carat @ $2000 each
Cost = $50,000

5g of Daclatasvir
12 weeks @ $1000 per day
Cost = $59,000 (UK price)

MEDICINES SHOULDN’T BE A LUXURY

Gram for gram, this hepatitis C drug is 67 times more expensive than gold
Prices falling rapidly globally

![Graph showing listed price for a 12-week course of sofosbuvir/ledipasvir in selected countries]
Prices falling rapidly globally

A Hill et al IAS 2017 - modified
Why has progress been slow despite the low cost of treatment?
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Multiple possible explanations but one important reason is the lack of an investment case.
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Investment framework for viral hepatitis elimination
Many countries are implementing effective viral hepatitis strategies.
In 2015, more than 3.8 million Egyptians (7% prevalence) had chronic hepatitis C infection. More than 1.5 million patients treated to date with cure rates above 90%.

- 2003: MoH launches National Infection Control Program to combat hepatitis C
- 2007: First national strategy for viral hepatitis released; establishment of specialised treatment centres
- 2014: Launch of Action Plan, including 250,000+ DAA treatments funded per year and national patient registry
- 2014: MoH and pharmaceutical companies agree to procure DAAs at prices set for LMIC; local production of DAAs commence
- 2017: Government starts mass hepatitis C screening initiatives
- 2018: Mass screening of ~6 million in 30 days in October; ~200,000 chronic hepatitis cases identified

>1 million cases of obesity, 20,000 of diabetes and hypertension identified.
Impact of elimination and progress scenarios

Elimination strategy - 90% of people living with hepatitis C diagnosed and 80% of diagnosed people started on treatment by 2030

Progress strategy - 45% of people living with hepatitis C diagnosed and 80% of diagnosed people started on treatment by 2030
Global incidence

- Elimination
- Progress
- Status quo

Global hepatitis C incidence (millions)

2010 2015 2020 2025 2030
Global mortality

Global hepatitis C-related mortality (millions)

- Elimination
- Progress
- Status quo

2010 2015 2020 2025 2030
Between 2018 and 2030, the total cost of elimination is estimated at $51 billion, with minimal ongoing cost beyond 2030. This compares to $343.2 billion expected expenditure on HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria over the same time period.
Investing in viral hepatitis elimination provides multiple economic benefits

Direct benefits - prevent 12 million new hepatitis C infections and 2.1 million deaths

Indirect economic benefits - cumulative mortality and morbidity averted leads to larger, more productive workforce

These will continue to grow over time
How can we eliminate viral hepatitis by 2030?

- **Integrate activities** into existing health programs to strengthen infrastructure, improve co-ordination and optimize resource allocation
- **Strengthen health systems**, including improving workforce skills and investments in technology and surveillance systems
- **Increase access** to low-cost diagnostics and treatment through advocacy, international support, private partnerships and community mobilization
- Use **country-specific investment cases** to mobilize domestic, private and international resources and optimize resource allocation
- **Build political commitment** and support for VH elimination
- **Embed in the agenda** for sustainable development – UHC
Stigma and discrimination

Public health and international drug policy


Executive summary
In September, 2015, the member states of the UN endorsed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030, which aspire to human-rights-centred approaches the same light as potentially dangerous foods, tobacco, and alcohol, for which the goal of social policy is to reduce potential harms.
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