

# Role of Professional Bodies in Elimination of Viral Hepatitis, Is Some Body Listening?



PAKISTAN SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF LIVER DISEASES

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# World Hepatitis Alliance

*PSSLD*

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# World Hepatitis Alliance

- World Hepatitis Alliance is a global patient-led and patient-driven not-for-profit organization with over 280 members in 91 countries.
- The mission of World Hepatitis Alliance is to harness the power of people living with viral hepatitis to achieve its elimination.
- World Hepatitis Alliance is working with governments, national members and other key partners to raise awareness, influence policy change and drive action to find the millions of people unaware of their condition.

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Adoption of the first resolution on viral hepatitis (WHA63.18) by World Health Assembly in May 2010.

Adoption of the 2<sup>nd</sup> resolution on viral hepatitis (WHA63.18) by World Health Assembly in May 2014.

## Viral hepatitis

### Report by the Secretariat

#### THE DISEASES AND BURDEN

1. The group of viruses (hepatitis A, B, C, D and E) that cause acute and/or chronic infection and inflammation of the liver gives rise to a major public health problem globally. Hepatitis B and C viruses are major causes of severe illness and death. The global burden of disease due to acute hepatitis B and C and to cancer and cirrhosis of the liver is high (about 2.7% of all deaths) and is

SIXTY-SEVENTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA67.6

Agenda item 12.3

24 May 2014

## Hepatitis

The Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report on hepatitis;<sup>1</sup>

Reaffirming resolution WHA63.18, adopted in 2010 by the World Health Assembly, which recognized viral hepatitis as a global public health problem and the need for governments and populations to take action to prevent, diagnose and treat viral hepatitis, and that called upon WHO to develop and implement a comprehensive global strategy to support these efforts, and expressing concern at the slow pace of implementation;



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# World Hepatitis Day

- 2008: World Hepatitis Alliance started advocating for support World Hepatitis Day.
- 19 May 2008: First community led World Hepatitis Day was celebrated.
- July 2011: First official World Hepatitis Day was celebrated.

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# First World Hepatitis Summit

- Jointly organized by **World Hepatitis Alliance** and **World Health Organization** in September 2015 At Glasgow, Scotland.
- A total of 506 delegated, including 9 Ministers of Health attended from **84 countries**.
- The event provided an opportunity for Governments to learn about WHO's Global Hepatitis Program and directly supported the implementation of WHA67.6 resolution by providing **Member State representatives with the necessary tools to develop national hepatitis strategies**.





# Second World Hepatitis Summit

- Jointly organized by **World Hepatitis Alliance** and **World Health Organization** in November 2017 At Sao Paulo, Brazil.
- Over 750 delegates from more than **100** countries participated.
- The theme of World Hepatitis Summit 2017 was **Implementation of Global Health Sector Strategy on Viral Hepatitis (GHSS)**: Towards the elimination of hepatitis as a public health threat.





# NoHep Campaign



- NoHep is a global movement uniting governments, medical professionals, patients and the hepatitis community to eliminate viral hepatitis by 2030.
- Since its launch, NoHep has reached more than **90 million people** online and over 80,000 NoHep actions have been taken.



First NoHep Village at Global Hepatitis Summit, Toronto 2018

# World Health Organization

## **Vision:**

A world where viral hepatitis transmission is stopped and everyone living with hepatitis has access to safe, affordable and effective care and treatment.

## **Goal:**

Eliminate viral hepatitis as a major public health threat by 2030.



# Global Health Sector Strategy

## *HCV targets at a glance*



### Incidence targets

- 30% reduction in new HCV infections by 2020
- 80% reduction in new HCV infections by 2030



### Mortality targets

- 10% reduction in mortality by 2020
- 65% reduction in mortality by 2030



### Harm reduction

- Increase in sterile needle and syringes provided per PWID/year from 20 in 2015 to:
  - 200 by 2020
  - 300 by 2030

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### Testing targets

- 90% of people aware of HCV infection by 2030



### Treatment targets

- 80% of people treated by 2030

# Accountability through the World Health Assembly (WHA)

- Progress on the implementation of the global health strategy on viral hepatitis will be twice:
  1. On mid term progress in 2019
  2. Final report on progress towards 2020 targets will be in 2021
- WHO works with countries to establish a global monitoring system.



# United Nations



- In 2015, United Nations General Assembly set 17 global goals (also known as Sustainable Development Goals) to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all by 2030.
- Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.
- Goal 3.3: By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and **combat hepatitis**, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases

Universal health coverage - another key component of the SDGs - achieved when all people receive the health services they need, which are of sufficient quality to make a difference, without those people incurring financial hardship.



# Center for Disease Analysis (Polaris Observatory)

- Center for Disease Analysis Foundation is a non profit organization that owns **Polaris Observatory**, which is an online database of epidemiological and disease burden data for Hepatitis B and C.
- Polaris has analyzed the impact of HBV and HCV in over **100 countries**, collaborating with more than **650 country experts** including NGOs, economists, Ministries of Health and Finance and key opinion leaders.
- Polaris had produced over **65 peer reviewed** journal article on hepatitis epidemiology and economic impact in publications such as The **Lancet**, **Journal of Viral Hepatitis** and **Journal of Medical Economics**.

# European Association for the Study of Liver (EASL)

- EASL is a medical association dedicated to pursuing excellence in liver research, clinical practice of liver disorders and providing education to all those interested in Hepatology.
- In 2019, EASL Recommended
- All European countries develop a **comprehensive HCV national strategy** or action plan in line with WHO Global Health Sector Strategy on Viral Hepatitis.
- All European countries adopt EASL recommendations on the management of HCV and where it is stated that **every HCV patients** should be considered for treatment.
- **DAAs** be globally available at **reasonable prices**.



# American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD)

In 2019, AASLD call for bold actions for the elimination of HCV by 2030. AASLD recommended

- **Simplification** of diagnostic and treatment algorithms towards the goal of a one step “step and cure” for HCV.
- **Integration** of HCV treatment with primary care and other disease programs (e.g. TB, HIV) and outreach settings (harm reduction).
- **Decentralization** of HCV services from large urban referral hospitals to local care.
- **Task Sharing** of HCV care for uncomplicated cases with primary care clinicians, medical officers, advanced practice clinicians and trained community workers where available.

# Asia Pacific Association for the Study of Liver (APASL)

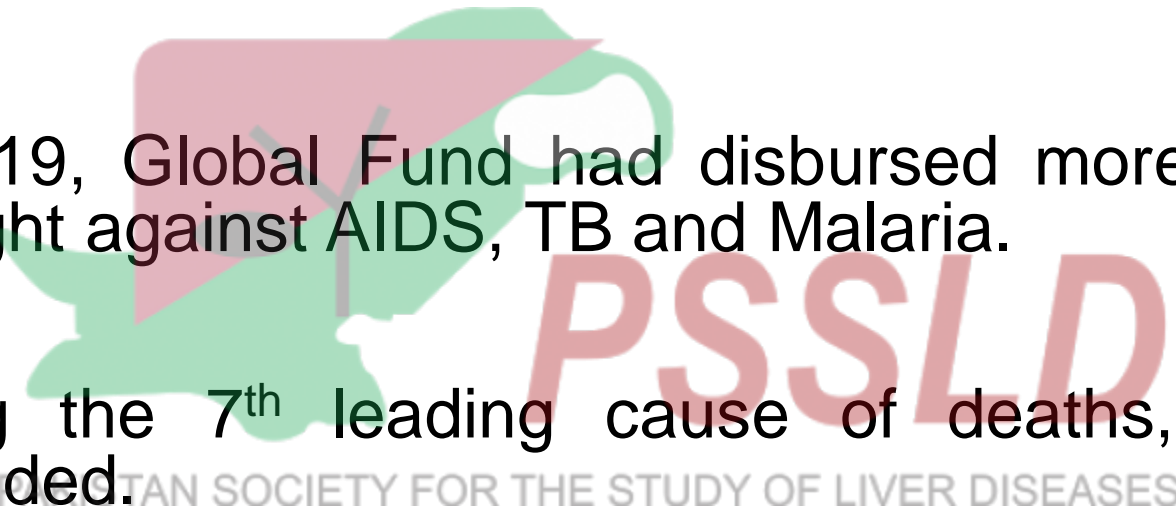
- The goal of APASL is advancing in the science and practice of Hepatology.
- The main objectives of APASL are:
  - Promote the latest scientific advancement and education of Hepatology science.
  - Exchange of information and **development of consensus**.
  - Encourage the practice of medicine in liver diseases and also coordinates scientific studies.
- APASL is regularly organizing conferences in Asia on **Hepatitis Elimination**.

# Pakistan Society for the Study of Liver Disease (PSSLD)

- PSSLD is the leading Liver society of Pakistan, working for the prevention and control of liver disease in the country.
- PSSLD is working:
  - To create hepatitis awareness in Pakistan.
  - Conducting regular meetings to share knowledge among doctors about latest trends in liver disease treatment.
  - Conducting hepatitis screening camps in both low and high risk population groups.
  - Developing local guidance for HBV and HCV.

# Global Fund

- Global Fund was established in the year 2000, to end AIDS, TB and Malaria Epidemic.
- As of June 2019, Global Fund had disbursed more than **US\$ 41.6 billion** in the fight against AIDS, TB and Malaria.
- Hepatitis being the 7<sup>th</sup> leading cause of deaths, worldwide, still remained unfunded.
- In September 2019, more than **800 NoHep supporters signed an open letter** and sent to Global Fund to support Hepatitis Elimination.



# Gilead



- Gilead Sciences is a research based biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of innovative medicines.
- Gilead actively supports the efforts of governments and partners with professional organizations, patient advocacy groups, and health care professionals working towards the goal of Hepatitis elimination.
- Gilead has disbursed over **US\$ 50 million** for Hepatitis Elimination projects.

# EndHep2030

# END~~HEP~~2030

- EndHep2030 is the **only grant** making organization dedicated exclusively to the **mission of ending viral hepatitis.**
- The results of first call for proposal were announced in October 2019.
- The initial funding of EndHep2030 has been provided by the CDC Foundation, John C Martin Foundation and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.
- EndHep2030 will be awarding approximately **US\$ 4.2 million** in first call.

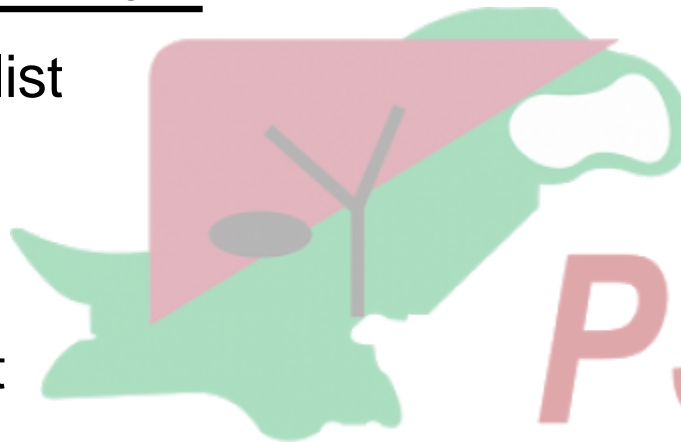
# Developing Countries - Problems

## Government

- Not on their priority list
- Lack of planning
- Budget allocation
- Lack of commitment
- Corruption
- Overall response:  
How can we block it rather than Facilitation

## Community

- Poor cognition regarding HCV and HBV
- Severe stigma
- Inadequate health education
- Unsatisfactory medical services



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## Regional professional bodies:

- Not involved in the development of strategic framework.
- Do not have access to the policy makers in spite of their efforts. They remain busy in their office work and are shy of meeting.
- Hand picked people who may not be a strong voice in the community.
- Most of the things are done quietly without any debate or discussion.

# Way Forward

- Hepatitis Elimination can not be achieved alone by government efforts.
- There is a need to engage all stake holder in the fight against Hepatitis including Health Ministries, professional medical societies, Academia, pharmaceutical companies, and civil societies around the globe.
- Partnership with WHO and other international bodies can make a significant difference as here we are used to respond and act if noise is from outside rather than from within, Polio is one example.



# Thank You

