Women fronting fight against viral hepatitis

UK charities unite against treatment decisions

World Hepatitis Summit date change

Nominations open

WHA leadership
The journey to the elimination of viral hepatitis continued this month with the adoption of WHO Europe Regional Office’s Action Plan for viral hepatitis. This was very much celebrated by our members in Europe as it cements the commitment of 53 governments to effectively tackle these diseases.

Another exciting development which I’d like to bring to your attention this month is that we have opened nominations for the next World Hepatitis Alliance President-Elect and Executive Board. As we embark on this new era for viral hepatitis and continue to make a difference, it’s crucial we have the right people guiding the organisation. Your vote matters so don’t forget to nominate by 17 October.

Finally, I’d also like to inform you that the World Hepatitis Summit 2017 date change. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Summit will now be held 1-3 November 2017 and Member Pre-Summit on 30-31 October 2017. We look forward to seeing you there!

We hope you enjoy reading!

Raquel Peck
Chief Executive Officer
World Hepatitis Alliance

Want to contribute?
We welcome your contributions so please get in touch at contact@worldhepatitisalliance.org to have your news included in future issues and feel free to share the magazine with your network.
Where in the world...

Europe Adopts Regional Action Plan to Eliminate Viral Hepatitis

Copenhagen, Denmark

On 14 September, Charles Gore, President of World Hepatitis Alliance, attended the 66th WHO EURO Regional Committee in Copenhagen, where the first-ever Action Plan for viral hepatitis in Europe was adopted. Gore urged for the 53 representatives to “leave no-one behind” and to take action through the development and implementation of comprehensive national plans. Read more here.

#RC66

“NOW WE HAVE AN EXCELLENT ROADMAP TO HELP MEMBER STATES TRANSLATE THAT STRATEGY INTO A EUROPEAN CONTEXT IN THE FORM OF THIS REGIONAL ACTION PLAN. MANY OF US HAVE DIED AND ARE STILL DYING WAITING FOR THE CONCRETE ACTION THIS PLAN SETS OUT. PLEASE DO NOT LET US DOWN.”

CHARLES GORE
PRESIDENT, WORLD HEPATITIS ALLIANCE
66TH SESSION OF WHO REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR EUROPE

#NOhep
Where in the World...

Women Leading the Fight Against Viral Hepatitis

New York, USA

On 7 – 8 September, Su Wang, World Hepatitis Alliance Executive Board Member for the Americas, attended the Women in High Places meeting in New York. She joined a number of influential women from WHO, governments and civil society to speak about activities and initiatives to eliminate viral hepatitis and liver cancer.

Meeting in Belarus to Disseminate WHO Guidelines on HIV and Viral Hepatitis

Minsk, Belarus

The World Hepatitis Alliance participated in a WHO Regional Technical Consultation in Belarus on 26 – 29 September to discuss the dissemination of guidelines in 12 Eastern European and Central Asian countries. The viral hepatitis part of the programme first discussed the new guidelines on strategic information including the monitoring and evaluation framework to which countries will be expected to report, as well as the draft hepatitis B and C testing guidelines. The next session, co-chaired by Charles Gore, WHA President and Anara Djumagulova, Chief Infectionist at the Kyrgyzstan Ministry of Health, discussed the hepatitis B and C treatment guidelines, which inevitably elicited discussion of generics and access. During the session the Georgian delegation reported on Georgia’s progress towards its extraordinarily ambitious programme to have diagnosed 90% of those living with hepatitis C, have treated 95% of the diagnosed and cured 95% of those treated – all by 2020.

Women leading the fight against viral hepatitis

Meeting in Belarus to disseminate WHO guidelines on HIV and Viral Hepatitis
World Hepatitis Alliance Activities

Nomination Open!

The Next World Hepatitis Alliance President and Executive Board

The World Hepatitis Alliance is seeking nominations for two key offices: President-Elect and Regional Executive Board Members, to ensure we continue to make a strong impact on the viral hepatitis landscape, driving action towards its elimination.

We are looking for dedicated people living with or who have lived with chronic viral hepatitis and are keen to advance the hepatitis agenda at a regional and global level. Find out more here.

The next World Hepatitis Alliance President and Executive Board Nomination Open!
World Hepatitis Alliance Activities

Sign up today for Accessing Generic Hepatitis C Medicines webinar

Following the success of our first two webinars in the Knowledge for Change series, on access to diagnostics and medicines, we are pleased to announce that the next webinar in this series will be ‘An Introduction to Accessing Generic Hepatitis C Medicines’ on 1 November at 14:00 GMT.

Panellists:
- Raquel Peck, CEO, World Hepatitis Alliance
- Esteban Burrone, Head of Policy, Medicines Patent Pool
- Andrew Hill, Senior Visiting Research Fellow, Department of Pharmacology, University of Liverpool
- Giten Khwairakpam, Project Manager for Community and Policy, TREAT Asia

1 November 14:00 GMT

This webinar will explore the generics landscape for hepatitis C with presentations on, and discussions around, the legalities, quality and performance of generic medicines and the ways in which people are accessing them. The webinar will give viewers the opportunity to ask questions to experts working in this field.

Register now

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Committee of the World Hepatitis Summit - comprising the World Hepatitis Alliance; World Health Organization and the Government of Brazil - has taken the decision to change the dates of next year’s Summit, which was originally scheduled for March 2017.

The Summit will now be held 1-3 November 2017. The event will remain at the World Trade Center, São Paulo, Brazil.

WHA members are also invited to the pre-Summit, which will be taking place immediately before the main Summit: 30 – 31 October 2017. If you have already registered to attend you will shortly be contacted by our Congress Organisers, MCI. For further queries, please contact summit@worldhepatitisalliance.org
UK charities unite for #PatientsTogether initiative

On 9 September, WHA member, The Hepatitis C Trust, joined forces with other UK charities and patient organisations across disease areas to stand up against the ‘divisive’ communications from NHS England over which specialised treatments it will fund. Read more here.

Bangladeshi member hosts Pabna Hepatitis Day

On 3 September, WHA Member National Liver Foundation of Bangladesh organised Pabna Hepatitis Day to raise awareness. The awareness activities included a rally, a public seminar, a scientific seminar, free hepatitis B vaccination, distribution of leaflets & posters in Pabna city and newspaper coverage. The event emphasised the NOhep campaign and encouraged people to come together to eliminate hepatitis by 2030. Find out more here.

And more...

The 5th International Symposium on Hepatitis Care in Substance Users was held in Norway from 7 -9 September. The meeting resulted in a strong call for better data and increased collaboration for #NOhep. Hepatology, Medicine and Policy Editor-in-Chief Jeffrey Lazarus shares his insights:

- Packing for INHSU? Bring a health systems perspective!
- INHSU? Gesundheit!