How was WHD celebrated? Report out now

World Hepatitis Summit
Spotlight on the speakers

Side-meetings: Beyond the core Summit events

WHO SEARO focus on Hepatitis
With less than a month to go until the World Hepatitis Summit in São Paulo, all our efforts here at the World Hepatitis Alliance are focused on putting the final touches on what is set to be a cutting-edge event. This will be a really exciting opportunity to meet you all and share our learnings as we move forward to our goal of eliminating viral hepatitis by 2030. Turn to page 4 for an overview of the official WHS 2017 app that will help to guide you around the programme, interact with delegates and find your way around the Summit.

We’ve also been celebrating the tremendous success of World Hepatitis Day 2017 with the launch of our Global Summary Report. Find out more on page .

We hope you enjoy reading this month’s hepVoice and we look forward to seeing you in my hometown, São Paulo, very soon!

Raquel Peck  
Chief Executive Officer

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
With the World Hepatitis Summit (WHS) 2017 just around the corner, this month we’re sharing information on some of things you won’t want to miss at the event.

**SIDE MEETINGS**

In addition to a packed programme full of expert speakers, partner organisations have also developed a number of special side meetings to cover aspects of viral hepatitis not covered in the main event. Side meetings are open to all, with no need to register. Check the official listings for a full overview of side meetings and events.

**1 NOVEMBER**

**Unitaid’s Role in Hepatitis C:** Discover Unitaid’s investment in and operating model for hepatitis C, as they share the results from their hepatitis C projects.

**Policy as a tool for Hep C Elimination:** Learn more about transforming data into action and how modelling can empower advocates for policy change.

**DON’T MISS: Official WHS 2017 app**

Make sure you download the official WHS 2017 app to make the most of your time in São Paulo. The official app has been designed to make your conference as efficient and comfortable as possible. With a full programme of events, floor plans, and social and messaging functions, the official app contains everything you need to make the most of your time at the Summit.

**2 NOVEMBER**

**End of viral hepatitis? Not without tackling hepatitis E:** In a unique session from Médecins Sans Frontières find out more about the most neglected form of hepatitis – hep E and what is being done to limit the burden worldwide.

**Service delivery for viral hepatitis 1:** priority populations: Achieving the global targets towards elimination will require simplified and accessible service delivery approaches. As WHO prepares guidance on simplified service delivery, it will host two sessions on the topic. The first sessions will cover good practice principles for priority populations.

**Liver societies’ role towards global elimination of hepatitis:** Join the medical societies for a meeting that highlights their role in achieving elimination.

**Hepatitis in children:** This session will explore recent advances in paediatrics as well as the unique challenges that still need to be overcome within this area.

**Addressing the neglected burden of hepatitis D:** Learn more about hepatitis D epidemic and what is being done to tackle it with case studies from Brazil as well as highlights from the World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Viral Hepatitis.

**3 NOVEMBER**

**Service delivery for viral hepatitis 2:** good practice principles in health delivery: This second sessions from WHO will be an opportunity to look at developing integrated hepatitis service delivery, as well as what lessons can be learnt from HIV and TB.
With more than 80 speakers joining us in São Paulo, we couldn’t be more excited to hear what experts from around the world have to share. Here we look at some of the notable speakers presenting at WHS 2017 (full list of speakers can be found on the Summit website):

**EDUARDO GONZÁLEZ PIER**

González Pier has more than 20 years’ experience in senior health and social security positions in Mexico. Most recently González-Pier served as Deputy Minister of Health. He has served as advisor to the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and currently to the World Health Organization.

**DR ANDREW HILL**

Dr Andrew Hill graduated from Oxford University, going on to work with HIV at St Mary’s Hospital in London. He is a Senior Visiting Research Fellow at Liverpool University in the UK, specialising in treatment access issues. His research team works on the costs of production of drugs to treat HIV, viral Hepatitis, TB and Cancer. He also works as an advisor to the World Health Organisation, UNITAID and the Clinton Foundation.

**DR MAUD LEMOINE**

Maud Lemoine trained in France, she has worked as a consultant in Hepatology in several teaching hospitals in Paris. Dr Lemoine has been involved in the management of patients infected with viral hepatitis, HIV and AIDS. She has been involved in clinical research on new directed acting agents against hepatitis C. Her interests are focused on health research in developing countries and the public health challenges that face Africa, including viral hepatitis.

**ELLEN T’HOEN**

Ellen ‘t Hoen is a lawyer and public health advocate with more than 30 years-experience working on pharmaceutical and intellectual property policies. In 2009 she joined UNITAID in Geneva to set up the Medicines Patent Pool (MPP), an initiative that negotiates patent licenses with pharmaceutical companies. In 2005, 2006, 2010 and 2011 she was listed as one of the 50 most influential people in intellectual property by the journal Managing Intellectual Property.

**DON’T MISS: #HepSummit2017**

In the coming weeks be sure to create a social buzz in the run up to WHS 2017. At the event use social media to interact with delegates and share what you have learnt to raise visibility by using the official hashtag: #HepSummit2017
The world came together on 28 July to celebrate another phenomenal World Hepatitis Day (WHD). With over 1,200 events and initiatives in 162 countries, the WHD 2017 Global Summary Report showcases the activities that took place across the globe. These included screening and vaccination drives, public seminars, press briefings, health fairs as well as concerts and the illumination of famous landmarks.
In early September hepatitis took centre stage at the World Health Regional Committee for South-East Asia, hosted in the Maldives. At the event World Health Organization Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom reaffirmed the importance of eliminating viral hepatitis in the region saying: “There is nothing better you can do for the people of your countries than to invest in strengthening your health systems.”

WHO South-East Asia Goodwill Ambassador for hepatitis and Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan, spoke to advocate for urgent action against viral hepatitis. The disease currently kills around 410,000 in the region each year, with Bachchan saying: “This is a moral and social issue. Discrimination against people with hepatitis continues to happen socially in our midst.”

In 2016, member countries in the region adopted the South-East Asia action plan. In response WHA President Charles Gore said: “Truly we felt consulted and heard. Not so long ago we felt this region was lagging behind others but no longer.”

Increased commitment in the region is great news - we are thrilled to have WHO Director General, focus on the issue of viral hepatitis as well as the continued support of Amitabh Bachchan who has brought so much attention to the issue.
Together our stories can change the way the world sees viral hepatitis. The stories of those living with or impacted by viral hepatitis can help educate and raise awareness, provide support and inspiration, tackle stigma and discrimination, and highlight the true impact of this global disease. Share your story [here](#).

**SU WANG, USA**

“It’s not the end of the world. You can lead a very productive, happy, healthy life.”

[Watch Su’s story here](#)

**WHA MEMBER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

**India**

WHA member [Rann Bhoomi Foundation](#) hosted a vaccination drive for communities that do not qualify for the government hepatitis vaccination program. They have also been running an education program within a village school and library on the risks of hepatitis as part of their Hepatitis Free India Campaign.

**Thailand**

WHA member [Thailand Hepatitis Alliance](#) ran an event at Surin Hospital, where they were able to screen over 400 people for Hepatitis B and C. They were also able to educate attendees on the risks on hepatitis, how to manage the condition and the treatments available.

We love to highlight the great work of our members, so get in touch with updates on your national activities.