

São Paulo Community Declaration on Hepatitis World Hepatitis Summit 2017

We, the viral hepatitis community, consisting of people living with and/or affected by viral hepatitis, who assembled at the World Hepatitis Summit in São Paulo, Brazil, from 1 to 3 November 2017

1. Wish to whole-heartedly support the São Paulo Declaration made by high-level representatives.
2. Wish to thank the Government of Brazil for hosting the Summit and to applaud their leadership in viral hepatitis.
3. Request that you fulfil, in relation to viral hepatitis, your governments' pledge in the Sustainable Development Goals not just 'that no-one will be left behind' but that you 'will endeavour to reach the furthest behind first.'
4. Request that you go beyond Sustainable Development Goal 3.3 of 'combatting' viral hepatitis and commit to ending this epidemic, as you have with HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria.
5. Request that you give viral hepatitis exactly the same priority that has been given to HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria which has been so effective in reducing mortality from those diseases.
6. Request that you put particular emphasis on finding the almost 300 million men, women and children who are living with hepatitis B or C but remain undiagnosed. Finding these 'missing millions' will be essential to preventing new infections and essential to providing access to the treatments that will stop 1.3 million of them dying every year.
7. Request that you make addressing stigma and discrimination a priority since they are a major impediment to finding these 'missing millions' and to giving those that need it appropriate care and treatment and hence to the goal of elimination set out in the Global Health Sector Strategy on viral hepatitis.
8. Request that you use whatever means are necessary and that you stop at nothing to ensure that all of those living with viral hepatitis have access to the tests and drugs they need either for free or at a price they can readily afford.
9. Request that you involve us, the people living with the disease, fully in the design and implementation of national viral hepatitis plans.
10. Pledge, in return, that we will work tirelessly to assist you in these endeavours, that we will be as free with our praise of fine work as we are with our criticism of an inadequate response and that we will provide the advocacy necessary to help you find the resources you need, achieve the commodity prices you want and reach the goal we all share which is the elimination of viral hepatitis by 2030.