Hepatitis: Know it. Confront it.

Viral hepatitis is a potentially fatal disease. Many people experience no symptoms, but if left untreated, it can lead to liver scarring (cirrhosis) and liver cancer.

The Silent Killer

- Viral hepatitis is the 8th leading cause of death worldwide\(^1\)
- It causes the same number of deaths per year as HIV/AIDS\(^1\)
- 500 million people are living with viral hepatitis around the world
- One in three people has been in contact with a hepatitis virus
- Viral hepatitis could be eliminated within our lifetime. Hepatitis C is curable, and hepatitis B is preventable with a cheap and effective vaccine

Deaths in 2010\(^1\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TB</td>
<td>1,195,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaria</td>
<td>1,169,498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis</td>
<td>1,444,554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>1,465,368</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spotlight On: HIV and viral Hepatitis co-infection

Worldwide an estimated 4-5 million people are HCV/HIV co-infected\(^4\) as they have similar paths of transmission. An estimated 4 million HBV/HIV co-infected

The WHO estimates 36 million people have HIV/AIDS, which would mean 1 in 4 is co-infected with either hepatitis B or C

The hepatitis C virus progresses faster in people with HIV/AIDS, making death from liver disease more likely

Spotlight On: Link with Cancer

Chronic hepatitis B and C are responsible for 75-80% of liver cancers worldwide\(^4\)

Liver cancer has a high fatality, and is therefore the third most common cause of death from cancer worldwide\(^5\)
An inexplicable global response

Despite its prevalence, the global response to viral hepatitis is baffling. Viral hepatitis remains a low priority and leaders in global health have consistently ignored it.

Testing is only accessible to all citizens in 30% countries\(^6\)

Only a third of countries have a written national strategy or plan for combatting viral hepatitis\(^6\)

Viral Hepatitis is not mentioned in the Millennium Development Goals

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria excludes viral hepatitis

Estimated budget allocation per death by WHO\(^7\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Allocation per Death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>$40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaria</td>
<td>$20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TB</td>
<td>$60.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viral Hepatitis</td>
<td>$80.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

References:
1. Data extracted from The Lancet Global Burden of Disease Study, 2012
7. The global hepatitis programme