

The World Hepatitis Alliance

worldhepatitisalliance.org

Alexandra Smith, Advocacy and Engagement Manager, alexandra.smith@worldhepatitisalliance.org

Chapeau

Chapter I. Sustainable development and financing for development

- Achieving universal health coverage (UHC) and hepatitis elimination by 2030 as part of UN Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG) is key to improving access to health care and strengthening health outcomes. Hepatitis elimination is a key component of UHC, as it helps to strengthen health systems, engage underserved communities, enhance vaccination programs, reduce cancer mortalities, and strengthen HIV responses. It is possible to eliminate hepatitis as a public health threat by improving access to testing, vaccination and treatment through UHC. Achieving UHC alongside hepatitis elimination is critical to ensure that no one is left behind and to keep the SDGs on track.
- Civil society is uniquely placed to support their communities and health care systems in hepatitis elimination and UHC responses. It is critical to put people with lived experience at the heart of UHC responses. By taking a person-centered approach to health care, with

Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

- Young people must be engaged as an equitable partner in the development of health and hepatitis-related policies in order to further progress on SDG 16. Health outcomes are improved when young people are put at the center of hepatitis elimination programs. Educating young people about viral hepatitis also empowers them to take care of their own health. Young people also raise awareness within their families and their communities. By educating and empowering youth, it improves the health of whole communities. Hepatitis elimination can only be achieved by 2030 through the meaningful inclusion of youth.
- Systematic barriers to the prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV, hepatitis B and syphilis must be addressed to reach the 2030 elimination goals as part of SDG 3.3. These barriers include lack of funding, racial inequality, discrimination against women, and gross inequalities of healthcare. The majority of chronic hepatitis B cases result from infections acquired through mother-to-child transmission. Most women living with chronic hepatitis B live in low- and middle