

Guidelines Development Group
Biographies of proposed members

2021 WHO HCV Guidelines Update

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Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan
Hospital Sultanah Bahiya
Ministry of Health Malaysia
Alor Setar, Malaysia

Dr Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan is a practicing Consultant Physician and Gastroenterologist who has recently been appointed as the Head of Service for Internal Medicine, Ministry of Health Malaysia. Currently heads the Clinical Research Center in Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah. He is also Chairman for Digestive Health Malaysia Society, a non-profit organization established to advocate public awareness on digestive health and diseases. He is involved in several clinical trials and has presented in various local and international conferences. With numerous publications under his belt, his primary focus of work covers gastroenterology and hepatology with particular interest in viral hepatitis, NAFLD and colorectal cancer.

Anchalee Avihingsanon
HIV-NAT, Thai Red Cross – AIDS Research Centre (TRCARC), Tuberculosis Research Unit, Faculty of Medicine,
Chulalongkorn University
Bangkok, Thailand

Dr Anchalee Avihingsanon received her MD from the Khon Kaen University, Thailand, in 1992; Internal Medicine and Infectious Disease degrees from Chulalongkorn University in 1999, and PhD in HIV and Co-infections from Amsterdam University, the Netherlands, in 2013. She is a specialist in infectious diseases with more than 15 years of experience conducting more than 200 clinical trials, including implementation research of HIV, TB and viral hepatitis in Thailand. She successfully implemented a hepatitis C programme in central prison in Bangkok in 2020. She is now working with Prof Pisit Tangkijwanich in the HCV registry program for Thailand. In 2020, she worked with the Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND) to validate point-of-care HCV RNA testing. She has published more than 200 scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals and has been working with the National HIV, TB and hepatitis programme in Thailand. She is an active member of the expert panels on antiretroviral therapy practice policy guidelines and implementation of antiretroviral therapy into universal health care system; the Thailand National Hepatitis working group and the AIDS TB, LTBI committee.

Suna Balkan
Médecins Sans Frontières
Paris, France

Dr Balkan graduated with a medical degree from University Paris V, René Descartes in 1994 and Master of Public Health from University Paris VI in 1997. She has expert qualifications and diplomas in Antibiotics and Antibiotherapy (1999), Clinical trials in Infectious and Tropical Medicine (1997), Tropical Medicine (1995), Tropical Medicine and World Health (1993), Emergency first aid (1995), and Adult and Paediatric Emergency Medicine (1993). Dr Balkan has extensive field and technical expertise in infectious diseases, particularly viral hepatitis and decentralization of hepatitis C testing and cure in resource-limited settings. She authored several publications, including scientific articles published in peer-reviewed journals.

Ajeet Singh Bhadoria
All India Institute of Medical Sciences
Rishikesh, India

Dr Ajeet Singh Bhadoria is an academican and researcher at All India Institute of Medical Sciences Rishikesh, a pioneer medical institute in India. He has authored more than 100 scientific publications in different indexed journals including The Lancet, The Lancet Gastro Hepatology, Gut and Gastroenterology. He has previously collaborated in the development of standard operating procedures for enhanced reporting of cases of acute hepatitis with SEARO and developed a meta-analysis on treatment eligibility in chronic hepatitis B with WHO Global Hepatitis Programme. Dr Bhadoria was Project Coordinator at WHO collaborating Centre in India and has collaborated with the WHO Country Office for India, SEARO and WHO headquarters in several important projects on sequelae surveillance, capacity building for nurses and physicians and non-invasive assessment of liver fibrosis. He has been constantly involved in country's effort towards elimination of viral hepatitis for the past decade, instrumental to the advocacy efforts for the National Action Plan and National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme and implementation of the NVHCP in Uttarakhand State of India. He is conducting regular capacity building workshops for physicians, lab technicians, and data entry operators in and running a Preventive Hepatology Clinic at All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

Maria Butí Ferret
Hospital Universitario Valle Hebron, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Instituto Carlos III
European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL)

Dr Maria Butí Ferret earned her MD at the University of Barcelona and her PhD in Internal Medicine at Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain. She is a Professor of Medicine and Chief of Internal Medicine and Hepatology at the Hospital General Universitario Valle Hebron, Barcelona, Spain. Dr Butí has worked in viral hepatitis for the last 25 years, with emphasis in diagnosis and treatment of hepatitis B and C. She has authored more than 450 papers in the field of hepatology, with numerous contributions to books. Dr Butí was President of the Spanish Association for the Study of Liver Diseases. She is and an active member of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) and EASL, as chair of Public Health and Policy and associate editor of the Journal of Hepatology. She participated in the expert panels of the EASL chronic hepatitis B guidelines and the Spanish Liver Association hepatitis B guidelines. She is a member of the one panel of the Spanish National Plan for Hepatitis C.

Judy Chang
International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD Secretariat)
London, United Kingdom

Ms Judy Chang is the Executive Director of the International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD), a global and peer-based organisation that seeks to promote the health and defend the rights of people who use drugs. Prior to this, she worked in the HIV, community health and development for ten years, across areas of programme design and programme management, research and communications in India, China and Thailand. In her role as INPUD Executive Director, which she has held for four years, she worked on the development of the Implementing Comprehensive HIV and HCV Programmes with People who Inject Drugs: Practical Guidance for Collaborative Interventions (the "IDUIT"), a joint publication of UNODC/INPUD/UNAIDS/UNDP/UNFPA/WHO/USAID and PEPFAR; engaged in high-level multi-lateral forums, and coordinated technical assistance activities and community consultations amongst people who use drugs. She holds a Masters in Social Science (International Development) and a Bachelor of Arts in Writing and Contemporary Cultures. She has authored several articles related to HIV, people who use drugs and COVID-19, many of which were published in peer-reviewed journals.

Nikoloz Chkhartishvili**Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center****Tbilisi, Georgia**

Dr Nikoloz Chkhartishvili graduated as a medical doctor from Tbilisi Medical Institute, Georgia and earned his Master of Sciences (Epidemiology) from the State University of New York (SUNY), Albany NY, United States. He earned his PhD degree in Infectious Diseases from Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (TSU), Georgia. Dr Chkhartishvili holds the position of Deputy Director for Research at the Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center in Tbilisi, Georgia. The Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center is the national leading institution in the field of HIV, viral hepatitis and other infectious diseases. He has been actively involved in the development and implementation of the National Hepatitis C Elimination Programme and is an active member of the national scientific committee. Dr. Chkhartishvili has over 15 years of experience in HIV and HCV research leading national cohort studies within several international collaborations. He has authored several national and international guidelines and several scientific articles published in peer-reviewed journals. He is the laureate of Georgian National Science Award in Medicine.

Vladimir Chulanov**Deputy Director for Science and Innovation, National Medical Research Center for TB and Infectious Diseases****Moscow, Russian Federation****Geoffrey M Dusheiko****University College London Medical School****King's College Hospital****London, United Kingdom**

Dr Geoffrey Dusheiko is an Emeritus Professor of Medicine at University College London School of Medicine and a consultant hepatologist at King's College Hospital, London, United Kingdom. He graduated from the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa. His fellowships were conducted at the Johannesburg Hospital Liver Unit, the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda MD, United States, and the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, USA. He served as interim Deputy Director of the Blood Safety, HIV, viral hepatitis and STI Division of Public Health England in 2019. He is a member of EASL, AASLD and International Association for the Study of the Liver (IASL). He has served as educational councillor on the governing board of the EASL for 4 years and received the EASL Recognition Award in 2014. He is a co-editor of Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics and he has previously served on editorial boards for Hepatology, the Journal of Viral Hepatitis, Best Practice & Research: Clinical Gastroenterology, Gut, and the Journal of Viral Eradication. He has authored more than 500 scientific articles published in international peer-reviewed journals.

Manal Hamdy El-Sayed**Ain Shams University****Cairo, Egypt**

Dr Manal El-Sayed is the Director of the Clinical Research Center (MASRI-CRC) and Professor of Pediatrics and Co-Supervisor of the viral hepatitis treatment center at Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt. Dr El-Sayed is also the clinical director of the National HCV Pediatric Treatment Programme and secretary general of the Egyptian Liver Care Society. She is a founding member of the Egyptian National Committee for Control of Viral Hepatitis (NCCVH) and has contributed to the establishment of a nationwide network of more than 100 specialized liver centres, providing treatment to more than 3 million people, collaborated to the development of the National Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Viral Hepatitis and co-supervised the nationwide screening programme for adults and children. She authored several scientific articles on viral hepatitis and has previously participated in the development of WHO Guidelines for viral hepatitis. From 2011 to 2015, Dr El-Sayed was Vice-Chair of WHO's Technical Advisory Group for Prevention and Control of Viral Hepatitis in Egypt. She is a member of the Global Accelerator for Pediatric Formulations (GAP-f), European Study of Liver Disease International Liver Foundation (EILF) and International Coalition for Elimination of hepatitis B (ICE-HBV) and has been appointed to the board of directors of the Global Hepatitis Fund (EndHep2030).

Jason Grebely

**Kirby Institute, University of New South Wales (UNSW)
Sydney, Australia**

Jason Grebely is a Professor at The Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney. Professor Grebely has expertise in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (BSc, 2002), Pharmacology (PhD, 2007) and Clinical Epidemiology (Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2009). He has over 15 years of experience in public health, health services, clinical epidemiology, and translational research. He has received international recognition for his work on the epidemiology, testing, and treatment of hepatitis C infection. His work has contributed to understanding the epidemiology of hepatitis C infection; novel hepatitis C testing strategies; evidence supporting the treatment of hepatitis C infection among people who inject drugs; and defining new frameworks for the provision of hepatitis C care. He has considerable expertise in clinical research on hepatitis C among people who inject drugs, including designing novel models of care, evaluating point-of-care and diagnostic strategies to enhance linkage to care, and evaluating strategies to enhance treatment. He is the President of the International Network on Health and Hepatitis in Substance Users (INHSU). He is a Senior Editor for the International Journal of Drug Policy.

Saeed Sadiq Hamid

**Aga Khan University
Karachi, Pakistan**

Dr Saeed Sadiq Hamid is a Professor at the Department of Medicine and Director of the Clinical Trials Unit at Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan. He has served as Chair at the Department of Medicine from during 2008-2018. He trained in Medicine and Gastroenterology in the United Kingdom, and in Hepatology at University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, United States. He was Vice-President of the Pakistan Society of Gastroenterology, President of the Pakistan Society for the Study of Liver Diseases (PSSLD) and member of the Executive Council of the Asian Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver (APASL) from 2006-2010. He is currently Chair of Hepatology Interest Group of the World Gastroenterology Organization. He has chaired the WHO Guidelines Development Group for Hepatitis C in 2015 and 2017. He sits on Advisory Committees of the Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination (CGHE) and the Hepatitis Fund. He also serves as Co-Chair of Coalition to Eradicate Viral Hepatitis in Asia-Pacific (CEVHAP). He authored over 170 scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals and three book chapters. He has mentored a number of students, physicians, PhD candidates and other graduate students.

Cary James

**World Hepatitis Alliance
London, United Kingdom**

Mr James holds a Master of Arts (Health and Social Marketing) and has decades of experience in public health programmes and health policy at the national and international levels. He is a recognized leader in putting patients and communities at the centre of policy and programmes. He began his civil society career in the grassroots HIV movement in London. He went on to become Head of Health Improvement Programmes at the Terrence Higgins Trust (THT), one of Europe's largest HIV and sexual health organisations, where he led HIV Prevention England – the official government funded national HIV prevention programme. He is the former chair of European [Hepatitis/HIV] Testing Week and is currently an advisory board member of INTEGRATE – a programme to integrate early diagnosis and linkage to prevention and care of viral hepatitis, HIV, TB and STIs in Europe; as well as other expert groups and strategic partnerships. He is also a faculty member of the European AIDS Clinical Society's online HIV Clinical Management course, responsible for the module on key populations.

Saleem Kamili**Division of Viral Hepatitis, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention****Atlanta, GA, United States**

Dr Saleem Kamili is Chief of the Laboratory Branch, Division of Viral Hepatitis at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). He has been working for more than 20 years at CDC on various aspects of hepatitis viruses including pathogenesis, vaccine design and delivery and diagnostics. Dr. Kamili received the Young Scientist Award and Himalayan Gold Medal during his graduate studies and was awarded the MS Balayan Medal for his contributions to the study of hepatitis E. Dr Kamili co-authored CDC's updated guidelines on testing for hepatitis C virus infection. He serves as Associate Editor of the Journal of Medical Virology and Journal of Clinical Virology and has his laboratory actively involved in improving viral hepatitis diagnostics globally, partnering with various international institutions in order to achieve such goal.

Ibtissam Khoudri**Directorate of Epidemiology and Disease Control, Ministry of Health, Morocco****Rabat, Morocco**

Dr Khoudri is an experienced dermatologist with PhD in Clinical Epidemiology and Public Health from University Mohammed V, Rabat, Morocco. Has served as National Hepatitis Manager at the Ministry of Health, Morocco since 2013 and National AIDS and STI manager since 2019. Dr Khoudri has experience in strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation for many health programmes, including viral hepatitis, and production of national guidelines. Dr Khoudri is the principal investigator of the first National Serosurvey for Hepatitis A, B, C and D in General Population in Morocco (2019).

Giten Khwairakpam**TREAT Asia/amFAR****Bangkok, Thailand**

Giten is currently the Community and Policy Program Manager at amFAR's TREAT Asia program in Bangkok, Thailand. He is a member of World Health Organization's Global Guidelines Development Group on hepatitis B and hepatitis C and a member of the Expert Advisory group on HCV with the Medicines Patent Pool. He also has served in different technical groups on viral hepatitis in WHO WPRO and SEARO region. He has been working on improving HIV and hepatitis C treatment access and advocating for price reductions in South and South East Asia in partnership with regional and national community networks. In 2017, the Economist Intelligence Unit profiled him as a Change Maker for hepatitis C.

Fatima Mir**Aga Khan University****Karachi, Pakistan**

Dr Mir graduated as a medical doctor from Khyber Medical College, Peshawar, Pakistan in 1997 and specialized in paediatrics from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Aga Khan University and Emory University, Atlanta, GA, United States. Dr Mir earned a Masters in Clinical Research in 2013. She is an Associate Professor and Supervisor for Clinical Training and Research Output of Postgraduate Trainees in Paediatrics and Fellows in the Paediatric Infectious Disease Programme. She co-authored the National Consolidated Guidelines for Prevention and Management of HIV in Adults and Children in Pakistan and several scientific articles and served as principal investigator in several research projects. She is a committee member for the Paediatric Antiretroviral Working Group (PAWG) and Paediatric Working Group for Hepatitis (PWGH).

Tammy Meyers**University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa****University of New South Wales (UNSW), Sydney, Australia
Sydney, Australia**

Dr Tammy Meyers is a paediatrician from South Africa with a background in paediatric infectious diseases. Dr Meyers was at the forefront of the response to the paediatric HIV/AIDS epidemic in South Africa and established services and a clinical research site in Soweto, where she worked for almost 20 years. Serving as technical advisor to the South African government and WHO, Dr Meyers participated in paediatric HIV guideline development. Dr Meyers joined the faculty of the School of Public Health and Primary Care at the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2010 and worked with WHO and UNICEF in Asia, contributing to development of the framework for Elimination of Mother to Child Transmission (EMTCT) of HIV, Syphilis and Hepatitis B. She worked with the Cambodian government to update paediatric HIV treatment guidelines and led a policy review on chronic viral hepatitis in selected Asian countries. In Australia, she works with the Population Child Health Research Group at UNSW. She serves on the Regional Advisory Group for the Australasian Society for HIV, Blood Born Viruses and Sexually transmitted infections (ASHM) and spearheads with WPRO a series of webinars on access to care for children and young people infected with viral hepatitis.

Christian B Ramers**Global Hepatitis Program, Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI)****San Diego, CA, United States**

Dr Ramers is the Chief of Population Health at the Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS), a large Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) system serving nearly 200 000 medically underserved individuals throughout San Diego county. He is board certified in Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases, and Addiction Medicine, and is particularly interested in HIV, HBV, HCV, and service of medically underserved, immigrant, and refugee populations. He oversees HIV and HCV clinical and educational programmes. He co-chairs the California Chapter of the American Academy of HIV Medicine and has advocated for HIV, HCV and addiction care at the state level. Since 2018 he has served as the Senior Clinical Advisor for the Clinton Health Access Initiative's Global Hepatitis Program, working to eliminate HBV and HCV in seven partner countries in Asia and Africa.

Cielo Yaneth Ríos-Hincapié**Ministry of Health and Social Protection, Colombia****Bogotá, Colombia**

Dr Ríos-Hincapié is an experienced medical doctor, specialist in Administrative Health Management, with Masters in Public Health and in HIV. Dr Ríos-Hincapié has been working with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Colombia since 2013, leading the national hepatitis response on prevention, diagnosis, treatment and follow up of persons living with hepatitis B or C

Janvier Serumondo**Rwanda Biomedical Center****Kigali, Rwanda**

Dr Serumondo is a Medical Doctor of Public Health. He studied medicine and holds 2 Masters' degrees in Public Health and in Transfusion Medicine both from the University of Liege, Belgium. He has occupied Public Health leadership positions for 13 years in Rwanda Health Sector. Currently he serves as the Director of Sexually Transmitted Infections and Viral Hepatitis Unit in Rwanda Biomedical Centre since 2017. He has also been Director of a Center for Blood Transfusion in Rwanda for 2 years and acquired an international experience in the area of Transfusion Medicine in Liege Blood Transfusion Centre, Belgium. Dr Serumondo has been the Director of Quality Assurance and Quality Control Unit in the Rwanda Biomedical Centre, National Reference Laboratory (NRL) for 6 years with a vast experience in Laboratory Quality Management System and Accreditation and development of policies, procedures and guidelines. Dr Serumondo contributed to the development of Laboratory Quality Management System Documents, accreditation of NRL, and the National Viral Hepatitis Guidelines. He plays a key role in strengthening the National Viral Hepatitis Program.

Mark W Sonderup
University of Cape Town (UCT)
Groote Schuur Hospital
Cape Town, South Africa

Dr Sonderup graduated MBChB from the UCT in 1995, after initially completing a Pharmacy degree. Following his internship training, his postgraduate training was at UCT and Groote Schuur Hospital where he obtained a Fellowship of the College of Physicians in 2002. Between 2002 and 2004, he completed a 2-year fellowship in Hepatology at the UCT/Medical Research Council Liver Research Centre and Liver Clinic at Groote Schuur Hospital, Cape Town. He worked in the United Kingdom before being appointed as a Senior Specialist in the Department of Medicine and Division of Hepatology at UCT and Groote Schuur Hospital in 2007. He was granted an FRCP (London) in 2018. He is currently Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine and Division of Hepatology. Research interests include viral hepatitis and drug induced liver injuries. He has assisted and co-authored the national viral hepatitis guidelines and elimination strategy for South Africa. He currently serves on the WHO Strategic Advisory Committee on HIV, Hepatitis and STIs and is a Board Member of the African Hepatitis Initiative.

Lai Wei
Hepatopancreatobiliary Centre, Beijing Tsinghua Changgung Hospital
School of Clinical Medicine, Tsinghua University
Beijing, China

Dr Wei is a Full Professor and Chief Hepatologist at the School of Clinical Medicine in the Hepatopancreatobiliary Centre, Beijing Tsinghua Changgung Hospital. Dr Wei has organized several clinical trials and studies with direct-acting antivirals for hepatitis C. Dr Wei was President of Chinese Society of Hepatology from 2012 to 2015 and organized the development of the several clinical guidelines for China, including chronic hepatitis C. Dr Wei was Secretary General for the Asian Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver (APASL) during 2017-2021 and contributed to APASL guidelines for chronic hepatitis B and chronic hepatitis C. Dr Wei has previously collaborated as a member of the WHO Guidelines Development Group for the screening, care and treatment of persons with chronic hepatitis C infection.

Stefan Wirth
Fakultät für Gesundheit Dekanat Dekan, Witten-Herdecke University
Witten, Germany

Ernst Wisse
Médecins du Monde
Paris, France

Mr Wisse started working in the field of Harm Reduction in a mobile opioid substitution program in the streets of Paris. With his experience as a fieldworker in several low-threshold outreach-based programs, he increasingly got involved in project management of Harm Reduction interventions in low- and middle income countries in the Middle East and Asia like Iran, Afghanistan and Myanmar. He is currently the Harm Reduction advisor for Médecins du Monde and involved in strategic and technical support to public health-oriented Harm Reduction programme implementation, with a strong focus on community mobilization and empowerment.