

Technical Briefing Webinar

Guidance for Country Validation of Viral Hepatitis Elimination

Thursday, 1 July 2021

13.00-14.30 CET

The 2016 World Health Organization Global Health Sector Strategy (GHSS) on viral hepatitis provided a roadmap for the elimination of viral hepatitis as a public health problem by 2030. This is defined as a 90% reduction in incidence [95% for HBV and 80% for HCV] and a 65% reduction in mortality by 2030, compared with a 2015 baseline, delivered through scale-up of five key synergistic preventative (hepatitis B birth dose and infant vaccination, blood and injection safety, and harm reduction measures) and testing/treatment programmatic interventions. Around 124 countries have developed national viral hepatitis plans, and several countries have requested guidance from the WHO on criteria and processes for validation of elimination.

WHO has now developed interim guidance for countries seeking validation of elimination of hepatitis B virus (HBV) and/or hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection as a public health problem. This guidance provides a global framework for confirming attainment of the impact targets of hepatitis B and C incidence and mortality as detailed in the GHSS, with supporting evidence of adequate programmatic coverage and quality through an effective national response.

The technical briefing webinar will include core presentations: (1) The key criteria for validation of elimination:- EMTCT of HBV, reduction in HCV incidence, and reduction in HBV and HCV mortality, programmatic targets, and the rationale for their selection, and approaches to their measurement; (2) Implementation considerations; (3) Process for validation; (4) Plans for country pilots.

[Join the webinar here](#)

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	SPEAKERS
Co-chair: Annette Sohn (TreatAsia) and BB Rewari (SEARO)		
13:00-13:05	Opening remarks	Meg Doherty (Director HHS WHO HQ)
13:05-13:40	Briefing on elimination guidance What are the criteria for validation and why? What are the different measurement approaches? What are the other considerations in country validation? What is the process for country validation? Plans for country pilots	Philippa Easterbrook, Niklas Luhmann, Morkor Newman, Funmi Lesi (WHO HQ)
13:40-14:20	Q&A and moderated discussion Regional perspectives and next steps for implementation	Co-chairs
14:30-14:35	Closing remarks	