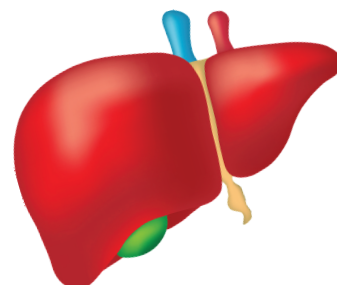




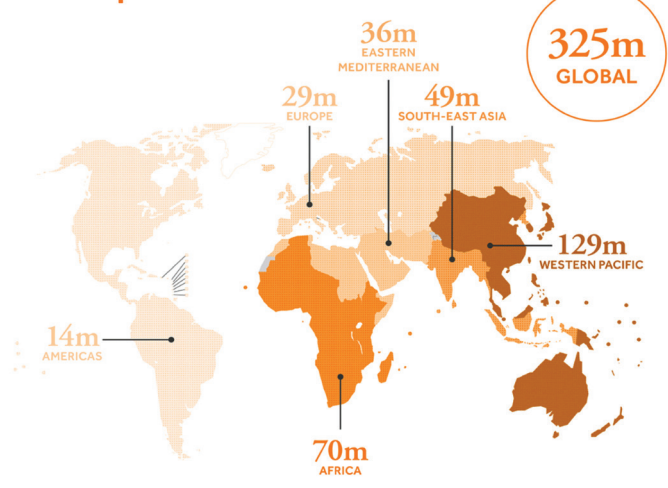
## Let us invest to eliminate viral hepatitis

Viral hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver caused by viruses called hepatitis. There are five types of viral hepatitis: A, B, C, D, and E. Viral hepatitis B and C are common and *can* cause chronic hepatitis. Once chronic hepatitis occurs, it can progress to cause liver dysfunction, cirrhosis, or cancer, leading to liver failure and death. Viral hepatitis B can be prevented by vaccination, and viral hepatitis C can be treated. The burden is big - that is why we need to invest in it.



## Global burden of viral hepatitis

### Viral Hepatitis B and C in the World



Viral hepatitis B and C affect 325 million people worldwide, causing 1.4 million deaths a year. Globally, among infectious diseases and in terms of mortality, it is second only to tuberculosis. About 9 times as many people are infected with viral hepatitis than with HIV.

It is estimated, in 2017, 1.1 million people were newly infected and developed chronic hepatitis B infection -- and 1.75 million people developed chronic hepatitis C infection.

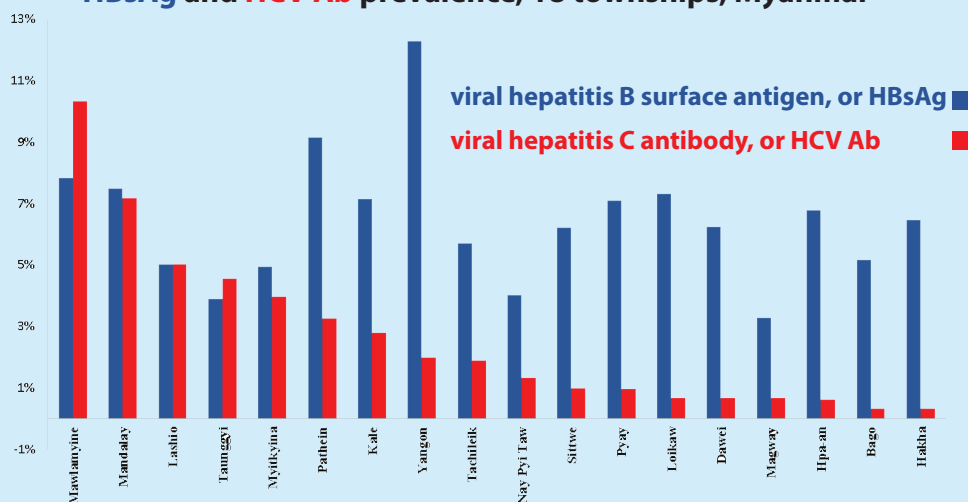
source: [https://www.who.int/hepatitis/news-events/WHO\\_Global-Hepatitis-Infographic-1.gif?ua=1](https://www.who.int/hepatitis/news-events/WHO_Global-Hepatitis-Infographic-1.gif?ua=1)

## Viral hepatitis burden in Myanmar

In Myanmar, a national sero-prevalence survey in 2015 estimated how common viral hepatitis was, with the adjacent graph providing details. About **3.3 million** people live with viral hepatitis B and close to **1.3 million** live with viral hepatitis C, some of whom go on to develop the disease.

Importantly, Myanmar started viral hepatitis C treatment through the public sector in 2017. By end 2018, **6,000** people had received treatment.

### HBsAg and HCV Ab prevalence, 18 townships, Myanmar



source: National Hepatitis Control Program, Ministry of Health and Sports, Myanmar, 2016.



World Health  
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## Viral hepatitis is preventable

Viral hepatitis is preventable. An effective vaccine exists to prevent viral hepatitis B. For viral hepatitis C, an effective treatment is available. Globally, an estimated 80% of people living with viral hepatitis B or C are lacking prevention, testing and treatment services.

It is estimated that US\$ 6 billion per year would be needed in low- and middle-income countries globally, to achieve elimination targets by 2030. Approx US\$ 0.5 billion were invested in 2016, mainly from domestic financing.

### PREVENTING VIRAL HEPATITIS B and C



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Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver with five main hepatitis viruses, referred to as types A, B, C, D and E.

#### HEPATITIS B & C



get the hepatitis B vaccine



never share needles or razors



practice safe sex



handle and dispose sharps properly



accept blood donations from tested sources only



Consult a health care worker and have  
yourself tested if you are at risk of hepatitis.

#TestTreatHepatitis  
#WorldHepatitisDay

source: <https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-hepatitis-day/2019>

**Investing in viral hepatitis prevention, testing and treatment services has tremendous potential to reduce global deaths -- and *can* increase healthy life expectancy significantly.**

For more information on hepatitis, please visit WHO website: <http://www.who.int/hepatitis/en/>

# Invest in eliminating hepatitis

Invest in eliminating hepatitis