# Improving access to therapy for HBV patients

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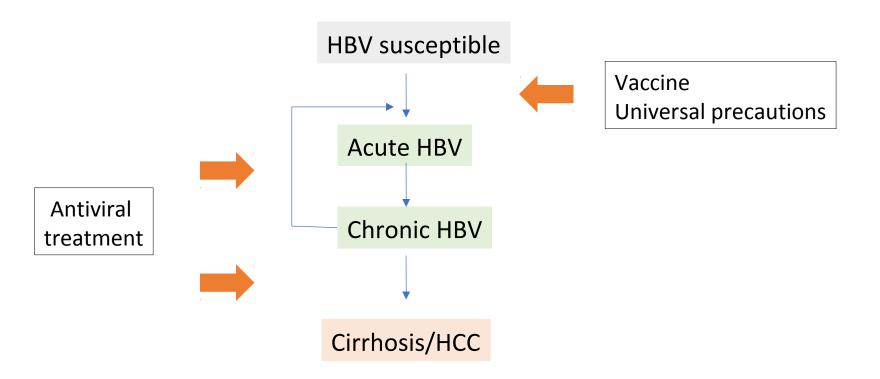
PHC 2018 - www.aphc.info

#### **Chronic Hepatitis B (CHB) - a global health problem**

#### from viral suppression to cure

- 257 million CHB worldwide
- 1.7 million CHB treated worldwide
- Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) : 2nd cause of cancer death worldwide

#### Elimination of HBV infection and HBV-related diseaes



Adapted from A. Lok

# The global burden of HBV infection

## Leading causes of mortality and trends, 1990– 2013

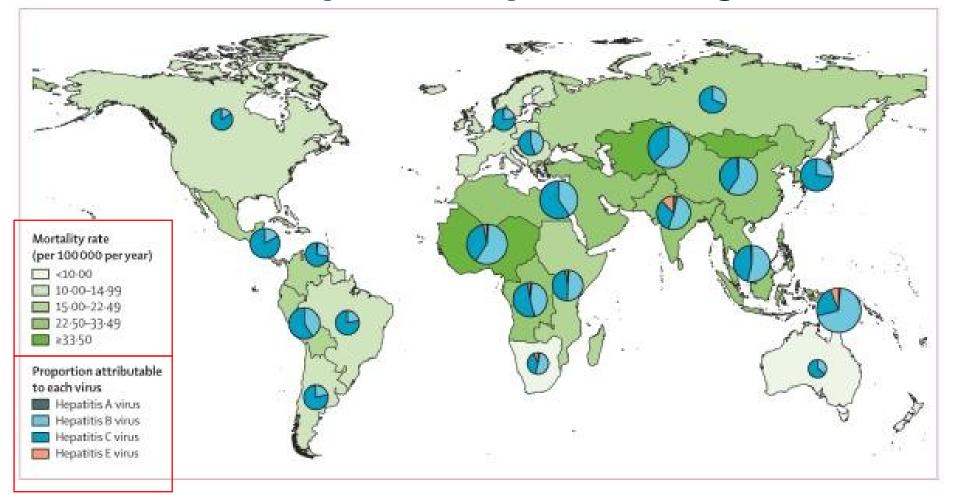
1990		2013
1 Ischaemic heart disease	[	1 Ischaemic heart disease
2 Cerebrovascular disease	[	2 Cerebrovascular disease
3 Lower respiratory infections		3 COPD
4 Diarrhoeal disease		4 Lower respiratory infections
5 COPD	K	5 Alzheimer's disease
6 Tuberculosis	$\lambda \setminus \mu$	6 Lung cancer
7 Neonatal preterm birth		7 Viral hepatitis
8 Road injuries		8 Road injuries
9 Lung cancer		9 AIDS
10 Viral hepatitis	y V	10 Diabetes
11 Malaria	KA X1	11 Tuberculosis
12 Neonatal encephalopathy	X \ / Y	12 Diarrhoeal disease
13 Alzheimer's disease	$\Lambda \times I$	13 Hypertensive heart disease
14 Stomach cancer	LX/X/	14 Chronic kidney disease
15 Congenital anomalies	VXXV	15 Malaria
17 Diabetes	XX	16 Stomach cancer
18 Hypertensive heart disease	1	19 Neonatal preterm birth
27 Chronic kidney disease	1 \\	20 Neonatal encephalopathy
39 AIDS	/ /	21 Congenital anomalies
Communicable and neonatal	Non-com	nmunicable 🔲 Injuries

Stanaway et al, Lancet 2016

#### **Burden of infection and disease of HBV**

	HBV	HCV	HIV
Chronic infections worldwide (WHO)	240m	188m	35.3m
Chronic infections in European Region (WHO)	13.3m	1 <i>5</i> m	2 <b>,</b> 2m
Mortality (deaths/year) worldwide	786,000	499,000	1,6m
Mortality (deaths/year) in WHO European Region	36,000	86,000	66,000

# Map of viral hepatitis-related, age-standardised mortality rate, by GBD region

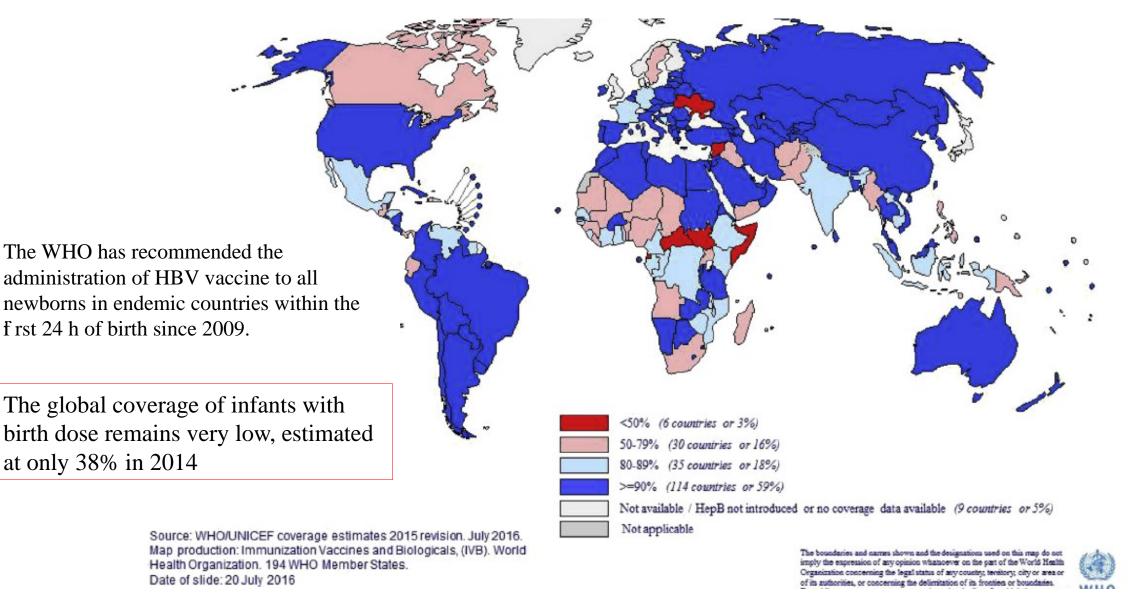


Lemoine & Thursz, J Hepatol 2016

Stanaway et al, 2016

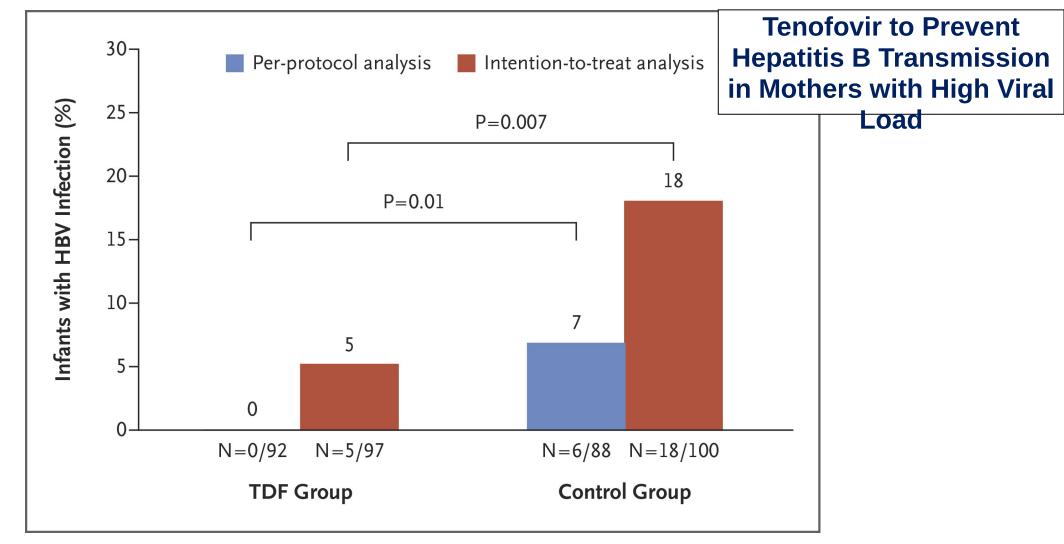
# **Controlling the infection**

## **Hepatitis B Immunization in Infants - 2015**



Lemoine & Thursz, J Hepatol 2016 Chang MS and Nguyen MH. Best Practice & Research Clinical Gastroenterology 2017

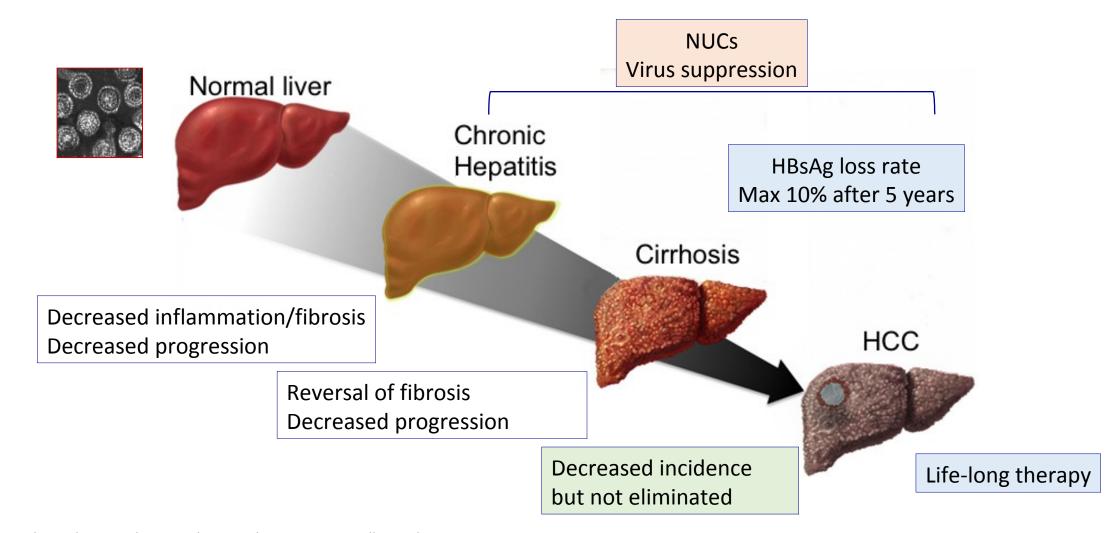
## nfant immunization is not sufficient to prevent MTCT in highly viremic mothers



Pan et al, N Engl J Med 2016

# **Barriers to treatment**

#### Current treatments: virus suppression and sustained disease control Why not treating more patients ?



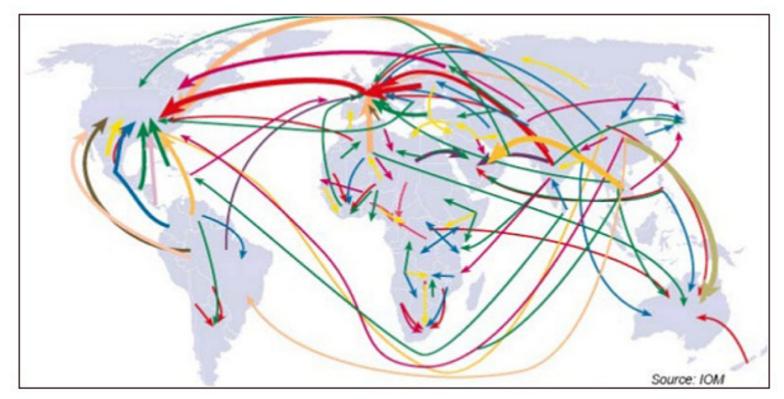
Liaw YF et al, N Engl J Med. 2004; Chang et al, Hepatology 2010; Marcellin et al, Lancet 2013; Hosaka et al, Hepatology 2013; Kim et al, Cancer 2015; Papatheodoridis et al, J Hepatol 2015

# Lack of knowledge and awareness

	Low-to middle-income countries with high prevalence	Middle-to high-income countries with low prevalence
Lack of knowledge and awareness	<ul> <li>Education of the public</li> <li>Education of stakeholders</li> <li>Improve communication to reach high risk groups</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Support studies to increase evidence-based knowledge to create an appreciation of the impact of the disease</li> <li>Increase awareness among physicians who treat with immunosuppressive drugs</li> </ul>

### **Migration and viral hepatitis**

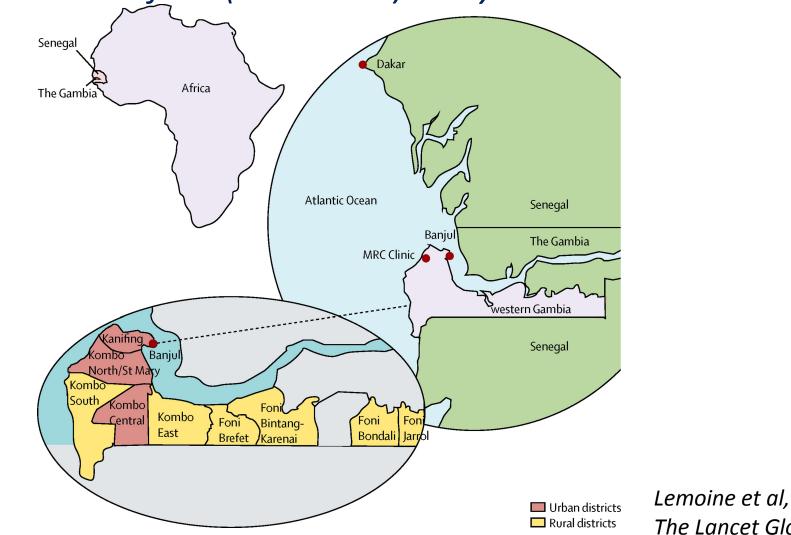
#### **Globalization of Disease**



Foreign-born individuals comprise majority of growing HDV positive population in North America and Western Europe... Germany: Wedemeyer et al., Hepatology 2007 Heidrich et al., J Viral Hepatitis 2009 France: Le Gal et al., Hepatology 2007 UK: Cross et al., J Med Virol 2008 Italy: Stroffolini et al., J Med Virol 2009 Piccolo et al., Eur J Publ Health 2010

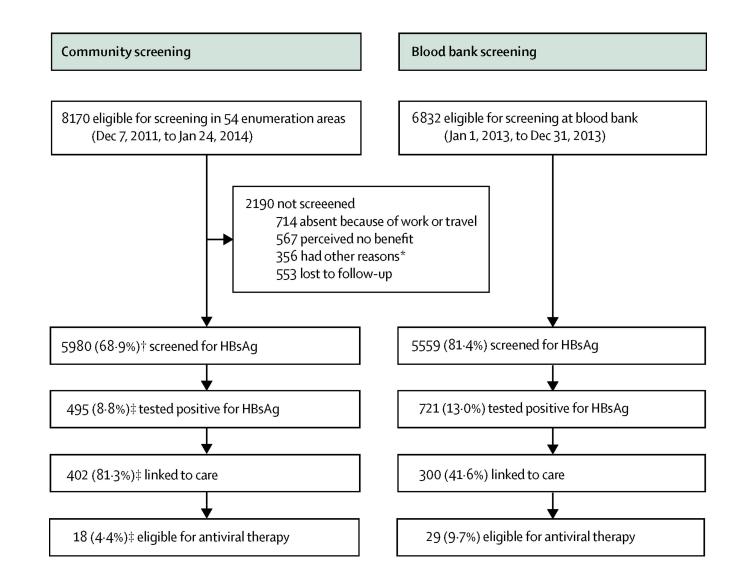
# **Screening and linkage to care**

Acceptability and feasibility of a screen-and-treat program for hepatitis B virus infection in The Gambia: the Prevention of Liver Fibrosis and Cancer in Africa (PROLIFICA) study



The Lancet Global Health, 2016

#### om screening to linkage to care – The PROLIFICA experience in Gambia



#### Lemoine et al, The Lancet Global Health, 2016

## **Screening and linkage to care**

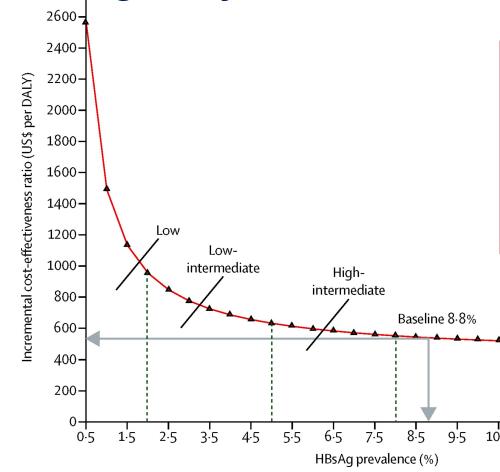
	Low-to middle-income countries with high prevalence	Middle-to high-income countries with low prevalence
Limited screening and linkage to care	<ul> <li>Implementation of national policies on HBV screening</li> <li>Point of care screening</li> <li>Diagnostic assays which are more readily available at lower costs</li> <li>Virological assessment and liver disease staging with POC tests</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>International policy on appropriate HBV screening</li> <li>Screening of risk groups (according to guidelines) including vulnerable populations</li> <li>Screening of immigrants from high prevalence regions</li> </ul>

# Limited access to treatment

# Main hurdles for expanding treatment access

- Life-long suppressive therapy
- Not all HBV carriers are elligible to therapy according to clinical practice guidelines (some societies are widening treatment indications)
- Management of chronic HBV infection differs across countries worldwide (cf the different local practice guidelines)
- Cost and availability of existing antivirals (generics ?)
- Cost and availability of monitoring treatment efficacy

### Cost-effectiveness of community-based screening and treatment for chronic hepatitis B in The Gambia: an economic modelling analysis



Screen and treat

	Cost (US\$)	Life-years saved	QALY	DALY	US\$ per DALY averted	US\$ per QALY gained	US\$ per life- year saved
Current practice	11.15	19.84	16.98	4·28			
Screen and treat intervention	44.08	19.89	17.04	4·22	540	511	645

Adult community-based screening and treatment for HBV in the Gambia is likely to be a cost-effective intervention. Higher cost-effectiveness might be achievable with targeted facility-based screening, price reductions of drugs and diagnostics, and integration of HBV screening with other public health interventions.

#### Nayagam et al, The Lancet Global Health, 2016

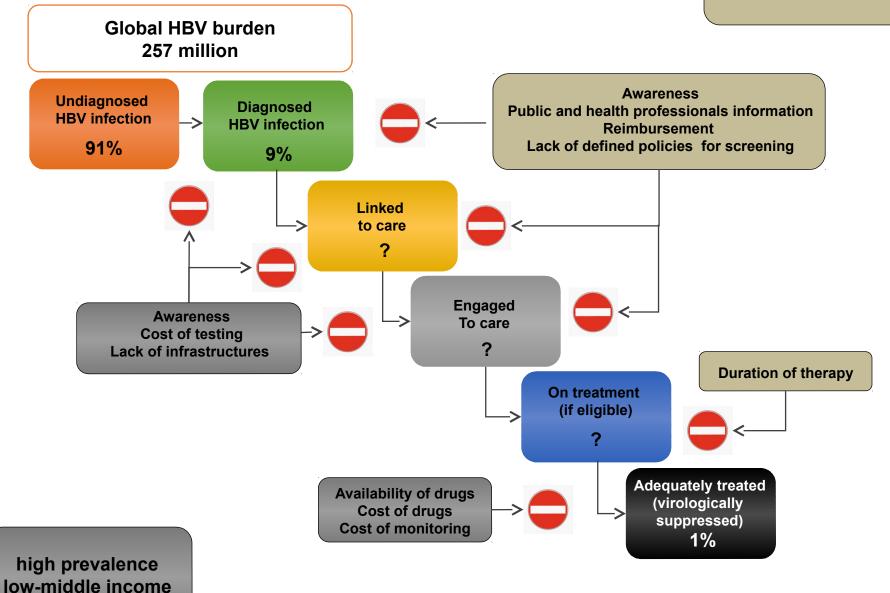
# **Improve access to treatment**

	Low-to middle-income countries with high prevalence	Middle-to high-income countries with low prevalence
Limited treatment	<ul> <li>Lower cost constraints by developing insurance systems supported by local governments</li> <li>Increase accessibility of drugs by innovative cost models</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Increase awareness among patients</li> <li>Better training of physicians to optimally treat according to guidelines</li> <li>Simplify and ensure reimbursements for treatment</li> </ul>

# **Funding limitations**

- HBV has attracted far fewer resources for clinical management and research than other chronic infectious diseases such as HIV, HCV or malaria.
- In the UK, HBV receives 0.7% of total expenditures compared to 3.0% for HCV, 13.9% for malaria, and 17.5% for HIV.
- Mortality from HBV > malaria but the latter receives nearly 5 times more funding.
- HDV which co-infects 20 million HBV carriers and results in more aggressive liver disease, receives nearly no resources.
- Fight against social stigma and discrimination through education of the public, physicians, and stakeholders O'Hara GA et al, PLoS Negl Trop Dis. 2017

low prevalence middle-high income



Subic et al, Liver Int 2018 in press

# HBV cure: An attainable goal within the next



• Collaboration between Academia, Industry and Stakeholders

National health programs







• International HBV cure programs





