

Information for Action: Developing an Operational Guide to assist countries in collecting monitoring and evaluation indicators for viral hepatitis.

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Background: The *Global Health Sector Strategy (GHSS) on Viral Hepatitis 2016-2021*, calls for the elimination of viral hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030. Based on GHSS priority targets, the WHO developed 10 Core Indicators and 27 Additional Indicators to enable member states to establish the status of viral hepatitis in their country, identify gaps, and establish framework to monitor progress towards the targets.

Some countries reported difficulties in obtaining or collating data to enable reporting against the core indicators. This collaborative project was inspired by the need to support member states in the effective collection and analysis of data to report against the core indicators for viral hepatitis elimination.

Methods: In partnership with WHO and national Ministries of Health, we developed an operational manual to guide national approaches to utilising and analysing information by identifying appropriate data sources for collection and harnessing existing disparate data sets. Workshops were conducted in regions to test the utility of the guidelines, ensuring the recommendations were applicable in different contexts/health systems.

Results: The project developed, piloted and produced a guide to support the collection and reporting of core indicators for global hepatitis elimination to monitor and evaluate the response to hepatitis across the Western Pacific and South East Asia. The Guide assisted Ministries of Health and their stakeholders to report progress towards the globally endorsed indicators and elimination targets for hepatitis B and C.

Conclusion: Member States were provided with guidelines to inform the development of their cascades of care and progress towards the GHSS targets. The guide will be presented with outcomes of workshops and resulting improvements in reporting against the core indicators in those countries. With impact evaluation continuing, the lessons to date will be presented to allow consideration of use of these approaches globally, to promote good data to guide viral hepatitis elimination.

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