

**African Hepatitis B Advocacy Coalition**  
Launch Meeting Agenda  
March 27 at 3pm Central Africa Time/9am Eastern Time  
Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84439632907>

**Agenda:**

**Coalition Moderators:** Kenneth Kabagambe and Catherine Freeland

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Coalition Presentation** (Discuss Coalition Goals, Objectives)

**Share Resources**

**Next Steps**

**Updates and Announcements from Partners**

**Next Meeting: April 24, 2025**

**Notes:**

**Background:**

**Hepatitis B Foundation About us**

- **Our Founding/ History**
- **Mission:** Nonprofit organization based in the United States dedicated to finding a cure and improving the quality of life for those affected by hepatitis B worldwide.
- **Website:** <https://www.hepb.org/>

**Coalition Against Hepatitis B in People of African Origin (CHIPO)**

- About us: The Coalition Against Hepatitis for People of African Origin (CHIPO) is a community coalition co-founded and led by the Hepatitis B Foundation focused on addressing hepatitis B in African communities in the United States.
- Resources tailored to the community, ongoing webinars, coalition calls and information on hepatitis B awareness, education, prevention, and updates on research.

**African Coalition for Hepatitis B Advocacy (ABAC)**

**Background:** In 2024 in partnership with the Society on Liver Disease in Africa (SOLDA) the Hepatitis B Foundation launched a survey to gather information on the landscape of hepatitis B activities across Africa. Over 300 individuals, groups, organizations and researchers completed the survey and represented over 23 countries. Groups were participating in hepatitis B awareness, testing, linkage to care and treatment, advocacy, family counseling, vaccination, and patient support groups in their outreach. 97% of the individual respondents expressed interested in joining a community network or coalition that would help support and build capacity for their work. Individual survey participants also expressed Awareness, connecting with others, organization and capacity building, strategies for screening, integration, collaboration with local ministries of health, advocacy, addressing stigma and discrimination. Per the request of the individual participants in this survey the African Hepatitis B Advocacy Coalition was founded.

**ABAC Mission:** "To unite and build up African organizations, communities, and healthcare systems in the fight against hepatitis B through capacity-building, resource mobilization, data-sharing, and advocacy, with a focus on empowering patient voices, expanding access to screening, vaccination, and treatment, and achieving the World Health Organization elimination targets."

**ABAC Vision:** "Dedicated to achieving a healthy and hepatitis B-free Africa, where every community has equitable access to testing, prevention, management and treatment."

**ABAC Advisors:** Dr. Wendy Spearman, Kenneth Kabagambe, Theobald Ansah, Dr. Djeneba Fofana, Pharm. Prince Okinedo, Dr. Jose Debes, Danjuma Adda, Dr. Diallo Mountaga (check out the advisors bios and more information on our ABAC [website here](#))

**ABAC Membership Who can join:**

- Organizations, academics, and government groups working in the hepatitis B, liver cancer, or health space.

**How to join:**

- Submit an online application through the Hepatitis B Foundation.
- Application Form Includes:
  - Contact Information
  - Organization Name
  - Mission and Description of Activities
  - Country and Preferred Language

**Membership Benefits:**

- Capacity-building support
- Networking with like-minded organizations
- Access to training, technical assistance, and knowledge-sharing platforms.
- Once you complete the [membership form here](#) you can expect to receive a call from Beatrice Zovich or Catherine Freeland from the Hepatitis B Foundation to discuss, meet, learn about your organization connect and answer any questions.

**Logo Contest:**

- Seeking logos designed by creators across the continent for the Africa Hepatitis B Advocacy Coalition (ABAC)

**How to submit:**

- Submit an online application using the QR code below

**Eligibility:**

Anyone and everyone from the African continent may participate-you do not have to be a member of the coalition or any specific organization to participate.

Additional details on submission and rules of this contest can be found at this link please be sure to review this like prior to submission.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1o8GxpXsYsms\\_t7fJTQTNh8D9yPsDzvTITon1uJD9\\_qo/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1o8GxpXsYsms_t7fJTQTNh8D9yPsDzvTITon1uJD9_qo/edit?usp=sharing)

**Discussion Points:**

- Connections with the First Ladies of Africa are important to leverage
- There is low government awareness and education
- There is an important aspect of this group to help address the silos in our work across the continent- this group can help create synergy
- Examples of advocacy are essential (and trainings will be part of future meetings)

**ABAC Coalition Links & Resources:**

Membership Form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe5cXRyx8NhA4dmZ9eC55gVK2zvn3oTIXKAAmgneu9GGRZ7ZA/viewform>

Logo Contest: <https://forms.gle/QGATdChqbtwPo9Va8>

WhatsApp Group: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/GrM9o38fk4h6JeQqOTCg4U>

Coalition Website: <https://www.hepb.org/research-and-programs/public-health-programs/african-hepatitis-b-advocacy-coalition-abac/>


Training Hub: <https://hepbtraining.org/>


Fact Sheets & Educational Resources: <https://www.hepb.org/research-and-programs/public-health-programs/global-resources/>

Anti-Discrimination Resources: <https://www.hepb.org/resources-and-support/hepatitis-b-foundations-discrimination-registry/>

## Upcoming Training Opportunities:

### Models of Care for the Prevention of Vertical Transmission of HBV in Africa 🇳🇮


 Date: Mon, 7 April 2025

 Time: 5:00 PM CAT

Join us for a practical, solutions-focused discussion with leading experts, exploring innovative strategies, real-world success stories, and community-driven solutions to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of hepatitis B.

What's on the agenda?

- Feasibility of Implementing the Triple Elimination Strategy in The Gambia
- Implementation Successes in Namibia
- Triple Elimination of [hashtag#HIV](#), Syphilis and Hep B MTCT in the Context of Funding Restrictions

 The webinar will conclude with an interactive panel discussion featuring leading experts, including representatives from the [Hepatitis B Foundation](#)

 Register now: <https://bit.ly/4231AWZ>

Webinar #2:

Join the Hepatitis B Foundation on **Thursday April 24<sup>th</sup> at 11am**, entitled **Hepatitis B in Southern Africa: Epidemiology, Integration, and the Role of Advocates in Civil Society** with **Dr. Michael Vinikoor**, Professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine, who will discuss the distinct epidemiology of hepatitis B in the Southern Africa region; efforts to integrate hepatitis B into HIV programs in Zambia and Malawi and the rationale for this, as well as initial experiences with this at referral centers; and opportunities for advocacy on the part of civil society organizations and other stakeholders across Africa, and where efforts should be prioritized.

We hope you can join us! [Register here.](#)