



CHIPO: Coalition Against Hepatitis

for People of African Origin

Conference Call Minutes

March 18th, 2024

10:00-11:00 am EDT

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84423698934?pwd=d1hGcEE5VW1UOGFhVXdzbWVlOTZlZQQT09>

Phone: +1 646 558 8656

Attendees: Please let me know if I missed you, misspelled your name, or got only your partial information!

Holly Moore (Hep B Foundation), Beatrice Zovich (Hep B Foundation), Jose D Debes (University of Minnesota), Agatha Adigwe (Multicultural Aids Coalition), Nettie Johnson (ACANA), Leso Munala (St. Catherine University, MN), Nadiif Buraale (Ohio State University Cancer Center), Bilan Hussein (Columbus Department of Health), Farma Pene (NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene), Elizabeth Koch (Columbus Department of Health), Hannah Keal (Africa Health Research Institute), Londiwe Myeza, Aweiys Hersi Hashi (Ministry of Health - Somalia), Abubakar Jama (Ministry of Health - Somalia), Rachida Toni (Interpreter), Amadou Goita (Adilo ONG, Mali), Oludolapo King (Columbus Department of Health), Alma Chavez (NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene), Dr. Hamza Karaama, Myra (Muhlenberg College), Aasire-Nifaawuo Ferdinard (Vaxcare Connect Ghana), Jean-Jaques Kayembe (Congolese Health Board, Seattle), Adesuwa (Rise Against Hepatitis Global Initiative, Nigeria), Nicole Ducray (Hepatitis B Foundation)

10:00 am: Welcome and Updates:

- **Welcome to new CHIPO members:** Africa Health Research Institute (Durban, South Africa), African Life Center (New York City), Bekwarra Hepatitis B Support Advocacy Initiative (Nigeria), Foundation for a Healthier Senegal, Hepatitis Aid Organization (Kampala, Uganda), Reaching the Unreached International (Ghana), Somali Hepatitis Trust, Survivor Aid (Juba, South Sudan), Youth Aid Liberia, Zidkijah Medical Center (Kenya), Africa Hepatitis Coalition (Juba, South Sudan)
- **B Informed Webinar:** (Part of Hep B United's new educational webinar series - happening on March 19th at 3pm Eastern Time, highlighting effective social media utilization) https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mmpCK7IHTZ2iUwzCNMSY3Q#/registration
- **Resource Repository:** [Access the repository](#), [add to the repository](#) - a compilation of tools and resources from across Hep B United
- **Hepatitis Awareness Month Proclamation/Resolution** (to adapt and use with City Councils and local jurisdictions in the US) <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qv0O6F68C4z2-Hx6l-xOHlHq-fQVDHAI/edit?usp=sharing&oid=100724688224260381020&rtpof=true&sd=true>
- **Hepatitis Awareness Month Activities form** (let Hep B United know what you are doing to celebrate HAM!) <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScb9f6xLb40z07jMjX-CPF8k6Bky6m9pgjE1L4ATO8TQwRfOg/viewform>

- **Mini Grant Forecast (only open to US partners at this time):**
<https://www.hepbunited.org/assets/aa2da5728b/Hep-B-United-2024-Mini-Grants-Program-Grant-Forecast.pdf> - application opens on April 1st
- **Philip B the Voice Story:** <https://www.hepbstories.org/b-the-voice/philip> (Each month we are featuring different stories in our #justB (US-focused) and #BtheVoice (global-focused) campaigns. Philip, who lost his brother to hepatitis B, is sharing his story this month from Ghana.)
- For those who are interested in starting with raising hepatitis B awareness, please find our toolkit with educational resources translated into several different languages [here](#).

10:15am: Presentation from African Network for Hepatitis B Awareness and Education (Dr. Jose D Debes – University of Minnesota Medical School)

African Network for Hepatitis B Awareness and Education is a network of clinicians and researchers around the African continent in partnership to reduce the burden of hepatitis B. See a list of their members [here](#) and contact [here](#) to join.

African Hep B Network Projects

- Surveys related to HBV and HCC knowledge and attitudes have focused on general awareness, vaccination for pediatric providers, reasons for not vaccinating, and difference between East and West Africa
 - Publications based on this information:
 - [Knowledge of Hepatitis B Transmission Risks among Health Workers in Tanzania](#)
 - [Hepatitis B Awareness and Vaccination Patterns among Healthcare Workers in Africa](#)
 - Assessment of hepatocellular carcinoma surveillance practices in Africa
- Letter to the Editor: [The Waiting Room Project: An Approach to Community Health Education in Hepatitis B](#)
- Outreach for HBV awareness and testing
- HBV Africa app
 - Includes: Basics of hepatitis B, Clinical manifestations of hepatitis B, Approach to patients with hepatitis B, and Teach your community about hepatitis B (includes simple messages to translate)
 - Download on [Apple](#) and [Google Play](#)
 - No translation is available currently, but in the next few years will try to show the effectiveness of the app and get funding for translation to local languages.
- Point of Care testing for HBV and HCC using ultrasound in Tanzania Emergency Department

Questions

- What to do with limited resources: Focus on the big messages about dos and don'ts for transmission and interact with local government
 - The biggest challenge is awareness to get people to know about it and raise it to the level of local government repeatedly to improve funding.
 - Find local funding sources and attract volunteers to help with non-profit work.
- How to get started with hepatitis work in Africa: Pick a place where you know the people and

where those people are just as excited as you are about the idea

- Work with the local communities and start with data to show people that there is a problem there and how you plan to fix it.
- ***One of the calls that we plan for this upcoming year will focus on technical assistance for small grassroots groups and coalitions interested in hepatitis B elimination in Africa.***

10:50am: Member Updates

Feel free to send member news and updates you might have to the listserv!

11:00am: Conclusion

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be on **Monday May 13th at 10am Eastern Time.**

Thanks so much for joining! Please keep us updated about research and programmatic news and let us know if you'd like to present at the next meeting!