



# ACHIEVE

ASSOCIATIONS COLLABORATING ON HEPATITIS TO  
IMMUNIZE AND ELIMINATE THE VIRUSES IN EUROPE

Romania hepatitis meeting

## **Elimination of Viral Hepatitis in Romania: lessons learnt and the way forward**

BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

17 May 2018

More than **25** years active in the control  
and prevention of viral hepatitis in  
Europe

Member of ACHIEVE



# VHPB mission

- Mission statement

The objective of VHPB is to contribute to the **control** and **prevention** of **viral hepatitides**:

- by drawing the attention to this important public health problem
- by issuing prevention and control guidance and catalyse the development of recommendations,
- by encouraging actions to improve control, prevention and elimination.

**Focus audiences** are, in first instance, opinion leaders, policymakers, public health and health care professionals



# 2-3 meetings/year

(technical - country)





## **TECHNICAL MEETINGS: REVIEW AND ISSUE GUIDELINES OR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CRITICAL ISSUES IN VIRAL HEPATITIS**



## COUNTRY MEETINGS



# Objectives

- Understand strategies and programs to control viral hepatitis in the country
- Monitor progress of countries in control of viral hepatitis
- Create a platform where people of the country involved in viral hepatitis can discuss and can start future initiatives
- Initiate or accelerate the development of National viral hepatitis plan
- Draft guidelines to support countries based on lessons learned from other countries



# Countries covered

- Italy (2002)
- Germany and the Nordic Countries (2003)
- France (2004)
- UK (2005)
- Spain (2006)
- Greece (2007)
- The Netherlands (2008)
- Turkey (2009)
- Portugal (2010)
- Bulgaria (2011)
- Arctic Region (2012)
- Israel (2013)
- Brazil (2014)
- Baltic states (2015)
- Albania (2016)





# Web site [www.vhpb.org](http://www.vhpb.org)



## Viral Hepatitis Prevention Board

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### Recent meetings

- 2017 June, vienna, Austria
- 2016 October, Tirana, Albania
- 2016 March, Ljubljana, Slovenia

### Recent publications

- Innovative sources for funding of viral hepatitis prevention and treatment in low- and middle-income countries: a roundtable meeting report.  
Hepatology, Medicine and Policy; 2016, 1:16. DOI 10.1186/s41124-016-0022-8
- Single-Dose Hepatitis A Immunization: 7.5-Year Observational Pilot Study in Nicaraguan Children to Assess Protective Effectiveness and Humoral Immune Memory Response. 591 kB (.pdf)

### Recent newsletters

- Prevention and control of viral hepatitis in the Baltic States: lessons learnt and the way forward
- Towards a hepatitis-free Europe: how to make it feasible and affordable
- Burden and prevention of viral hepatitis in Arctic region

### News - 28 July 2017 World Hepatitis Day

28 July is World Hepatitis Day. The theme for 2017 is #ShowYourFace to eliminate hepatitis:

To encourage people to feel empowered, personally connected and understand their role in elimination, this year, the ELIMINATE HEPATITIS theme is brought to life through the #ShowYourFace campaign.

[Read more](#)

### News - WHA Response to the Cochrane Systematic Review on DAA-Based Treatment of Chronic Hepatitis C

The members of the Executive Board of the World Hepatitis Alliance (WHA) have written an open letter to the Cochrane Collaboration in which they raise doubts about the recent Cochrane review of direct-acting antivirals (DAAs) for the treatment of hepatitis C. The WHA points to the unsound methodology leading to unreliable conclusions.

[Read more](#)

### News - EASL Response to the Cochrane Systematic Review on DAA-Based Treatment of Chronic Hepatitis C

EASL, the European Association for the Study of the Liver, one of the leading associations of liver specialists, raises serious concerns after the recent publication of a Cochrane Group systematic review entitled "Direct acting antivirals for chronic hepatitis C" by Jakobsen et al. After reviewing 138 clinical trials, including 25,232 participants.

[Read more](#)

### News - WHO Global hepatitis report, 2017

In May 2016, the World Health Assembly endorsed the Global Health Sector Strategy (GHSS) on viral hepatitis 2016-2021. The GHSS calls for the elimination of viral hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030 (reducing new infections by 90% and mortality by 65%).

- Global hepatitis report 2017 full report
- Executive summary



Older news items can be found in the [news archive](#).

**VHPB**

- Centre for Evaluation of Vaccination (CEV)
- Vaccine & Infectious Disease Institute (Vaxinfectio)
- University of Antwerp
- Universiteitsplein 1
- B-2610 Antwerp, Belgium
- Tel: +32(0)3 265 25 23
- Fax: +32(0)3 265 26 40

**Executive Secretary**

- Pierre Van Damme

**Administrative and Scientific Secretariat**

- Brenda Janssens | ► Greet Hendrickx
- Ina Lodewyckx
- Alex Vorsters

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This website is part of the ► [WHO vaccine safety net](#)

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# Summary of more than two decades VHPB activities

- Since 1992, **25** years of experience
- **38** issues of Viral Hepatitis, 2 Newsletters
- Meetings: **47** VHPB meetings, 3 EE/NIS meetings, 1 global HAV meeting
- Board members: **39** representing **19** different countries and many disciplines
- Peer reviewed publications: more than **87**
- Since 1994, The VHPB Executive Secretariat is part of the Centre for the Evaluation of Vaccination, University of Antwerp







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## **Elimination of Viral Hepatitis in Romania: lessons learnt and the way forward**

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ACHIEVE  
Accelerating the Elimination of Hepatitis by  
Investing and Coordinating the Sector's Efforts

Romania hepatitis meeting

**Elimination of Viral Hepatitis in  
Romania:  
lessons learnt and the way forward**

BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

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# OBJECTIVES

- *Provide an overview of the current viral hepatitis situation in Romania: surveillance systems, epidemiology, screening, burden, prevention and the cascade of care*
- *Discuss the development, the implementation of a National hepatitis plan.*
- *Assess the needs to achieve the goal of eliminating viral hepatitis as a major public health threat by 2030 as set out in the WHO Global Strategy and WHO Europe Action Plan, building on the UN Sustainable Development Goals' (SDG) commitments.*
- *Discuss successes, issues and barriers to overcome, and the way forward.*