

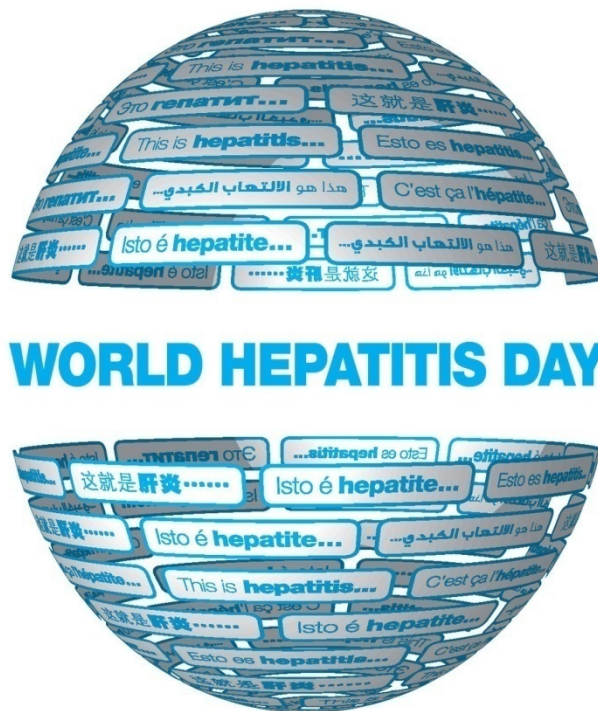
World Hepatitis Day 2017

Viral hepatitis is one of the leading causes of death globally, accounting for 1.34 million deaths per year – that’s as many as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis or malaria. Together, hepatitis B virus and hepatitis C cause 80% of liver cancer cases in the world.

Viral hepatitis is not found in one location nor amongst one set of people; it is a truly global epidemic that can affect millions of people without them even being aware. Currently, 90% of people living with hepatitis B and 80% living with hepatitis C are not aware of their status. This can result in the real possibility of developing fatal liver disease at some point in their lives and in some cases, unknowingly transmitting the infection to others.

With the availability of effective vaccines and treatments for hepatitis B and a cure for hepatitis C, the elimination of viral hepatitis is achievable, but greater awareness and understanding of the disease and the risks is a must, as is access to cheaper diagnostics and treatment.

With the inclusion of hepatitis in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the recent adoption of the world’s first global hepatitis strategy, we are at a pivotal moment. Now more than ever political commitment is needed. Without urgent action, deaths will continue to rise and the epidemic will continue to grow.



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World Hepatitis Day presents an ideal opportunity: an opportunity to join together and raise the profile of viral hepatitis among the public, the world’s media and on the global health agenda.

“ELIMINATE HEPATITIS” is the theme for World Hepatitis Day 2017.

The elimination of viral hepatitis has now been firmly put on the map. At the 69th World Health Assembly in Geneva, 194 governments adopted [WHO's Global Strategy on Viral Hepatitis](#), which includes a goal of eliminating hepatitis B and C in the next 13 years. The community responded by launching [NOhep](#), the first ever global movement to eliminate viral hepatitis by 2030.

On World Hepatitis Day 2017, we can build on this momentum and accelerate progress towards achieving the goal of elimination by 2030.

World Hepatitis Day is observed on 28th July since 2011, as per the decision of World Health Organization. 28th July is the **birth day** of **Dr. Baruch Samuel Blumberg**, the discoverer of Hepatitis –B virus.

World Hepatitis Day is one of eight official global public health campaigns marked by the World Health Organization (WHO), along with World Health Day, World Blood Donor Day, World Immunization Week, World Tuberculosis Day, World No tobacco Day, World Malaria Day & World AIDS Day.

In Tripura Hepatitis Foundation of Tripura was formed as early as 28th July, 2002. That way this **World Hepatitis Day** is **15th Foundation day** of the organisation. In these 15 years we have organised thousands of Awareness program, few thousand patients have been treated in our Liver clinic. Many patients have been diagnosed newly through camps, almost 11 lac people had been vaccinated in Tripura by the foundation. Based on these efforts we have taken new program of mass Hepatitis B vaccination “**TARGET 2020**”. Now we have taken every Rural Development Block as our unit of Vaccination program.

World Hepatitis Day 2017 will be organised by all 35 branches of Hepatitis Foundation of Tripura. There will be awareness program, Hepatitis –B & C detection program, school program & rally etc. This year the basic motto of foundation is to aware Health Care providers.

The State Level Program will be organized at **KLS Auditorium** of **Agartala Govt. Medical College** on **28th July 2017** at **5:30 pm**, It is expected that health care providers of various institute of Agartala will participate in the program.

Shri Manik Sarkar Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura will be the **Chief Guest** of the program. **Dr. Sujit Chowdhury**, Eminent Hepatologist, Kolkata will be present as expert. **Dr. J.K. Dev Verma**, Director of Health Services

,**Dr N Darlong** ,Director of Family Welfare & Preventive Medicine, **Dr. K.K. Kundu**, Principal, Agartala Govt. Medical College & **Dr. Chinmoy Biswas** ,Principal, Tripura Medical College .will be our honoured guest of the program .The program will be followed by cultural program by students of various health institutions.

The **28th July 2017** is the **15th foundation day** of the **Hepatitis Foundation of Tripura** .The organization will fix up the target of Hepatitis – B vaccination by 2020 at Tripura . Screening of Hepatitis –B will be done extensively through out the state in the next three years. Various unexplored area will be explored during this period.

The foundation is getting help from Govt, Panchayet Raj system , political people . This joint effort will definitely make us successful .

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