



# Brief background on hepatitis B burden and hepatitis B birth dose vaccination barriers

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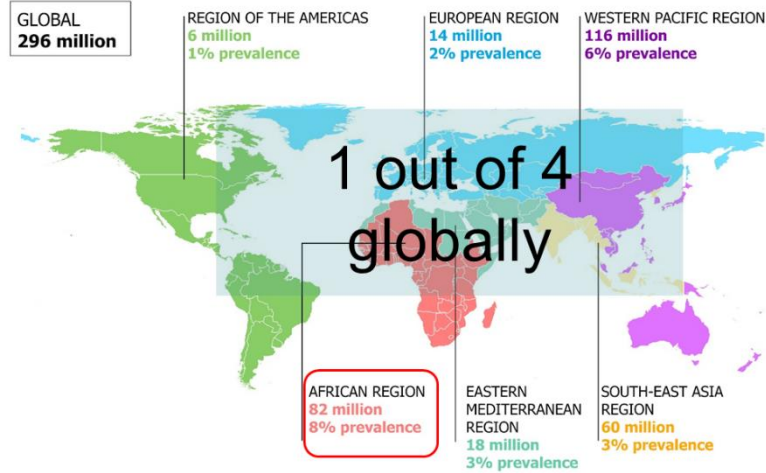
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Project ECHO Training, March 29, 2022

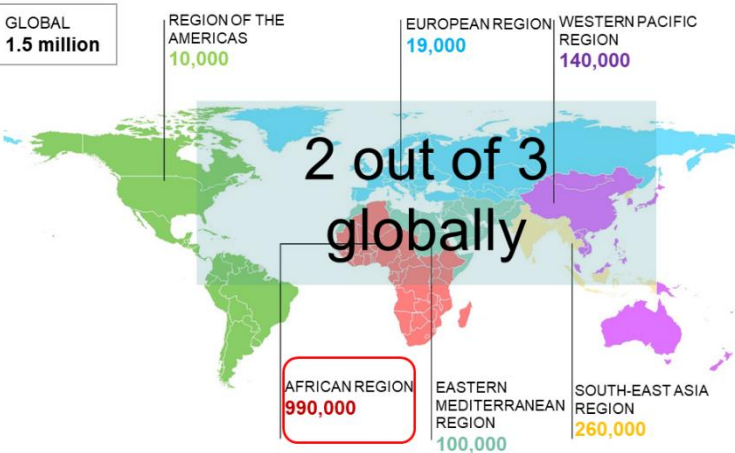


# Africa Has Highest HBV Burden and Majority of New Infections Occur Among Children

HBsAg prevalence, 2019

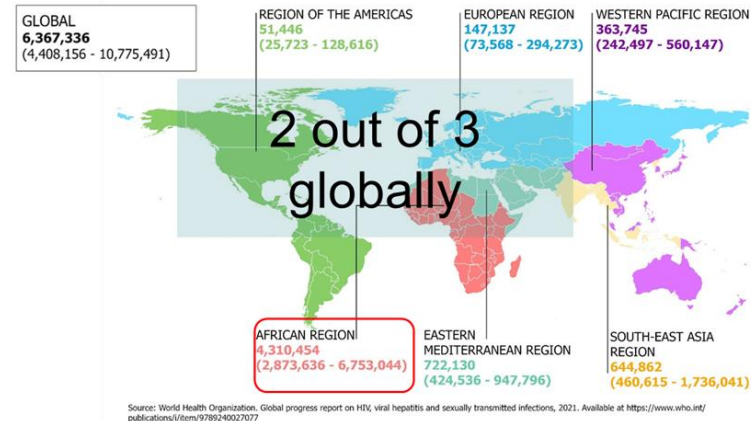


HBsAg incidence, 2019



Source: World Health Organization (2021). Global Progress Report 2021: HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections. Overview of the Global Health Sector Strategies, past and future.

HBsAg prevalence among children <5 years, 2019

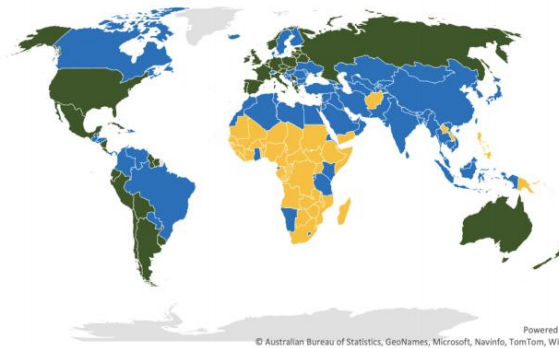


Source: World Health Organization. Global progress report on HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections, 2021. Available at <https://www.who.int/publications/item/9789240027077>

Global < 1%; African Region 2.53%

Number of Countries Meeting the Goal <1% HBsAg Prevalence among <5 yrs. of age

■ <1% ■ <1% ■ >1%



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Africa has not met 2020 interim targets for hepatitis elimination

- Vertical (mother-to-child) common mode of HBV transmission in Africa
- Up to 25% of HBV infected infants will die prematurely from liver failure, cirrhosis and liver cancer



# HBV Infection MTCT is Preventable

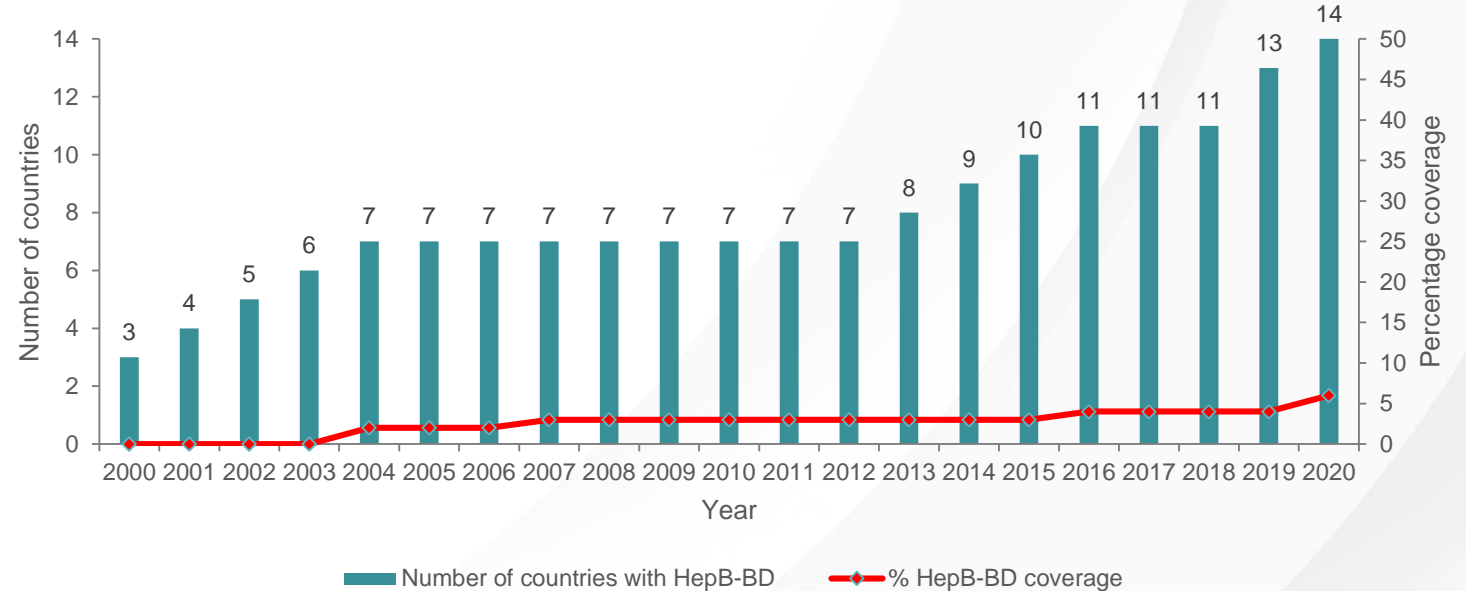
Only 14 countries in Africa have introduced the birth dose

Country	Year HepB-BD was introduced
1 Gambia	1997
2 Botswana	2000
3 Mauritius*	2000
4 Algeria	2001
5 Carbo Verde	2002
6 Sao Tome Principe	2003
7 Nigeria	2004
8 Mauritania	2013
9 Namibia	2014
10 Angola	2015
11 Senegal	2016
12 Cote d'Ivoire	2019
13 Equitorial Guinea	2019
14 Benin	2020

\*Using a screening and targeted vaccination strategy

Hepatitis B birth dose coverage is very low

Number of African countries with HepB-BD and HepB-BD coverage, 2000-2020



# Hepatitis B birth dose vaccination barriers



# Lack of awareness among mothers

- Lack of awareness about HBV infection and its consequences
- Lack of awareness about prevention of mother to child HBV transmission using HepB-BD
- Misinformation about vaccines

Decreased vaccine demand





# Knowledge gaps among healthcare workers

- Knowledge on timeliness
- Incorrect contraindications
- Vaccine storage requirements



Decreased vaccine coverage



Gavi/2021/White Rhino Films-Lameck Orina

# Health system barriers

- Vaccine access at point of need
- Poor MCH and EPI collaboration
- Poor vaccine stock management
- Lack of guidelines

