HEPATITIS B ELIMINATION
OVERVIEW

- Background
- Goal
- Audience
- IEC materials
- Activities and events
- Distribution channels
HREP Malawi, a local health nongovernmental organization in Malawi, was involved in the advocacy and launch for Pentavalent, measles 2 dose, and Rota virus vaccines. The organization championed the support and involved high level personalities and policy makers to promote immunization and the introduction of the new vaccines and was awarded for it.

Currently, it is advocating for Hepatitis B birth dose in Malawi where babies are vaccinated at 6, 10 and 14 weeks with DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib, protects against diptheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B, poliomyelitis, and Haemophilus influenzae type b).
The goal is to have a community that is aware of Hepatitis B and Hepatitis B birth dose, when it needs administered and where they can access it.

This will help create demand and drive to be included to the routine vaccines a newborn is given.
AUDIENCE

Target groups

► women of child bearing age and care givers since they are mostly the ones responsible for following up on a child's vaccines.

► Key pop women of child bearing age these are at a higher risk of contracting Hepatitis B.

► community members in general these help dissemination of information thus need to be informed correctly.

► High level officials to influence the inclusion of the birth dose to the routine vaccines.
IEC MATERIALS AND DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS

Designed to raise awareness about Hepatitis B birth dose.

- Posters and flyers
- Radio messages
- Social media posts
ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

- Health talks during antenatal clinics and teen mother groups.
- Interviews with journalists.
- High level meeting.
In Malawi world hepatitis day was commemorated on 28th July were HREP staff, Ministry of Health and media officials were in attendance.

Facts of hepatitis were shared, the different types, routes of transmission, situation analysis in the country and what can be done to eliminate Hepatitis B by 2030.
Health and Rights Education Programme (Hrep) has called for intensified awareness and diagnosis of hepatitis which is said to be killing millions of people globally.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), less than one in 10 people worldwide have access to hepatitis treatment and about 91 million people in Africa have chronic hepatitis.

The virus causes inflammation of the liver that leads to severe disease and liver cancer, the United Nations health agency says.

On July 28, the world commemorated World Hepatitis Day on the theme ‘I can’t wait’ with a call for increased efforts for awareness, diagnosis and treatment of the disease.

Hrep said worldwide, 290 million people are living with viral hepatitis unaware and that there are also an estimated 60 million new infections annually in the WHO African region which Malawi is part of.

“Without finding the undiagnosed and linking them to care, millions will continue to suffer and lives will be lost,” Hrep Executive Director Maziko Matemba said in the context of this year’s commemoration.

Matemba added that in Malawi, prevalence rates among the general population are not well known and that mortality related to these infections is not accurately established owing to limited data availability.

According to Hrep, most people in Malawi who are living with Hepatitis B Virus get the infection as infants and young children before the vaccine and blood back screening were implemented in early 2006.

The organisation has also called on people from across the world to take action and raise awareness to find the “missing millions” by bringing hepatitis messages closer to the primary health care facilities and communities.

Hrep also wants the introduction of Hepatitis vaccine at birth and to include hepatitis indicators and targets in the Health Sector Strategic Plan which is under development.
WAY FORWARD

- Scheduled a meeting with the District health officer for Blantyre district which will get input on IEC materials.
- The meeting will result in identification of priority areas where to conduct community activities.
- Community activities focus on advocacy of Hepatitis B birth dose.
THANK YOU