AUGUST 2016 - World Hepatitis Day Edition: A look at ASHM News, Resources, Courses, Conferences, and more

Make the elimination of viral hepatitis our next big achievement

28 July 2016: Today on World Hepatitis Day—only one of a handful of ‘World Health Days’ officially recognised by the World Health Organization, we reference the World Health Assembly’s commitment in May 2016 of adopting the Global Strategy for viral hepatitis, which commits all countries to working towards the goal of eliminating viral hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030.

Australia is leading the way for a NOhep future focusing on treatment as the important step on the road to elimination of viral hepatitis. World Hepatitis Day in Australia is coordinated nationally by Hepatitis Australia and rolled out at local level by Hepatitis Australia member and partner organisations. Read their Media Release here

ASHM reaffirms its commitment to seeing the virtual eradication of viral hepatitis by supporting the health workforce in Australia, New Zealand and the Asia and Pacific Regions to achieve this—through education and training; policy and advocacy; direct action and leadership.

Since July 2015, ASHM has delivered 85 training courses across Australia and one in New Zealand. Of these, 61 involved Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C education sessions. Four HBV s100 Prescriber courses were run, leading to the accreditation of 84 new HBV s100 community prescribers. Since the introduction of direct-acting antivirals for HCV on 1 March, ASHM has trained 304 GPs and 193 nurses in their usage, through both face-to-face courses and online webinars. ASHM is committed to ensuring that our training initiatives support the uptake of these medications into both hospital and community settings, to work towards the WHO goal of eliminating viral hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030.

Throughout 2016, we continue our work in the national delivery of quality accredited educational resources and training in the health management of Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C—also including our Viral Hepatitis Mentoring Program, Nurses Program, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Program and work with Community Pharmacy.

Lastly, in moving towards making the elimination of viral hepatitis our next big achievement, we urge all our members in the society to join us in becoming part of an exciting delegation at the 10th Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference. Don’t miss out on this 3-day meeting where leadership, science and community meet for advancing prevention, treatment and management of viral hepatitis.

Register today and join in the conversation at a leading multidisciplinary Viral Hepatitis delegation

Don't miss expert speakers leading the conversation in Viral Hepatitis
Have you registered yet? With two months leading to the 10th Australasian Viral Hepatitis 2016 Conference held in the Gold Coast, Queensland from 29 September to 1 October—hear, learn and be inspired from a multidisciplinary delegation who will be sharing research, experiences and best practices in the areas of their expertise. Don’t miss out on this education and networking opportunity with some of these keynote speakers (pictured above):

Andrew Hill (Senior Visiting Research Fellow, Pharmacology Department, Liverpool University, UK) presents Future research priorities for understanding strategies to enhance the hepatitis B and C care cascades.

Enaam Oudih (Practice Manager, Multicultural Services, Manager BBV programs, Relationships Australia) presents Communities responding to hepatitis B: Barriers, Enablers and Experiences. Speaking from her particular expertise in the areas of health and cultural diversity, Enaam has a strong interest in building skilled human resources to empower communities to make their own choices.

Alex Thompson (Director of Gastroenterology at Melbourne’s St Vincent’s Hospital) speaks of his more recent work focussing on clinical strategies to promote the elimination of the transmission of viral hepatitis, including primary care-based models of treatment for people who inject drugs and prisoners in the symposia session Eliminate hepatitis B: A multi-pronged approach is required.

Zoe Dodd (Hepatitis C Program Coordinator) presents The Future of Hep C Care for People Who Use Drugs: Lessons from a community-based, harm reduction, client-drive program in Toronto, Canada – a reflection on 10 years of setting up and providing Hepatitis C person-centred services in treatment and support to marginalized drug users. A dedicated conference committee have been working hard to put together an interesting and exciting program with internationally acclaimed invited speakers. View this, including all the proffered paper presentations online.

Both medical and non-clinical professionals working in the sector are also welcome to attend pre-conference associated event workshops held Wednesday 28 and Thursday 29 September.

Register your place before Sunday 31 July 2016 and save up to 20% on your registration. Never before has there been a more important conference to attend in Viral Hepatitis. We are at a unique moment in history to reduce the burden of HCV in Australia and New Zealand.

REGISTER NOW for earlybird registration fees still available until 31 July 2016

“I am excited about the confluence of great ideas and speakers from all facets of contemporary viral hepatitis in Australia and New Zealand – translational sciences, epidemiology the community sector and clinicians. When diverse groups of highly capable people get together and exchange ideas, great things happen!”

– Krispin Hajkowicz, Co-Committee member

10th Australasian Viral Hepatitis 2016 Conference

ASHM NEWS

Rollout of Direct Acting Antivirals

Viral Hepatitis Clinical Research Program – a rapidly expanding area of clinical research and development within the Kirby Institute, continues to publish monthly data on Monitoring hepatitis C treatment uptake in Australia. Each issue has shown a really interesting insight into this dramatic rollout, with close on 20,000 people coming forward for treatment in just 3 months. Read more

Forthcoming Launch of Third National Hepatitis B Mapping Project 2014-15

The Second National Hepatitis B Mapping Project 2013-14 reported that only 14% of people with chronic hepatitis B (CHB) received appropriate monitoring for their condition. CHB is estimated to affect approximately 220,000 Australians, however less than 50% have been diagnosed. This third national report to be launched later this year can be used to monitor the impact of initiatives to increase treatment uptake and appropriate care for people with CHB. Read more
Seeking expressions of interest Australia-wide for Viral Hepatitis Mentoring Program

ASHM invites all health professions working the area of viral hepatitis to be part of its Mentoring Program—a continuing professional development program that aims to strengthen collaborations between tertiary and primary care (mentors and mentees) through one-to-one relationships, and to enhance patient-centered continuity of care.

ASHM will continue to roll-out the launch of this program in Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria, and Queensland in 2016. Visit the website for frequently asked questions. Register your interest now via education@ashm.org.au or call Beni Falemaka on (02) 82040739.

Strengthening Capacity in Partnership with Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services

Throughout 2015-16, ASHM has delivered face-to-face training Australia-wide through its Indigenous Program. The focus of education courses on viral hepatitis, HIV and sexual health for Aboriginal health workers, nurses, general practitioners and allied health workers working with these communities, also comprises Hepatitis B and C capacity building projects with many regional Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations. Find out more.

SECTOR NEWS

Hepatitis Australia launch new video. With 230,000 Australians living with Hepatitis C and the threat of liver disease, Kurt, Amanda and Jack are three people featured in a new video produced by Hepatitis Australia talking about their experiences of the new treatments. Watch it on the Hepatitis Australia YouTube channel.

RESOURCES

Primary Care Providers and Hepatitis C is an updated booklet including information on the hepatitis C virus, the natural history of HCV, and a straightforward 12 step plan for the management of HCV and treatment protocols with the new direct acting antiviral (DAAs) medications. Download the resource.

The Nurses and Hepatitis C profession-based booklet provides education about: the disease and its prevention; lifestyle and psychosocial factors; testing and diagnosis; support during treatment; resources and referral to support services.

It is aligned with the 'Australasian Hepatology Association’s Consensus-based Nursing Guidelines for the Care of Patients with Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, Advanced Liver Disease and and Hepato-cellular Carcinoma'. Order the resource.
The Australian recommendations for the management of hepatitis C virus infection: a consensus statement 2016, is now accessible as an App, available for download via Google Play and the Apple Store. It is also available as a website resource. This resource provides guidance on diagnosis, assessment, monitoring and the use of new treatments for hepatitis C. Read More

Australian Indigenous Health InfoNet Resources

The Australian Indigenous Alcohol and Other Drugs Knowledge Centre have published evidence-based data to reduce harmful AOD use in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, proving valuable resources for a wide range of health professionals, policy makers and others working in this health sector. Information includes: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations; the context of Indigenous health; various measures of population health status; selected health conditions; and health risk and protective factors.

Link to three key resources below:

- Overview of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health status 2015
- Review of Illicit Drug Use Among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- Review of volatile substance use among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

ASHM COURSES – AUGUST to OCTOBER

ASHM Training available for a broad range of clinicians, not just general practitioners. On offer is a range of training courses and format for clinicians at all levels who are seeking to up skill in HIV, hepatitis C and hepatitis B management. While GPs usually make up the majority of participants in our courses, sexual health physicians, AoD and general physicians as well as ID physicians who might be wanting to update their viral hepatitis skills are encouraged to attend. Nurses working in hepatitis are also able to attend these, in addition to courses in the Nursing Program.

Our courses are accredited by Colleges and so build to your regular CME/QACPD and professional standards requirements. For more information on ASHM Courses, please contact education@ashm.org.au or +61 2 8204 0796

Click on the links below to see a list of ASHM accredited Continuing Professional Development training and courses to be delivered nationally in 2016:

- HIV and STI Courses [PDF]
- Hepatitis B and C Courses [PDF]
- Hepatitis B Webinar Series (6 Parts)
- Hepatitis C Webinar Series (6 Parts)

Chronic Hepatitis C: Curing Hepatitis C in 2016

1 August 2016
Campbelltown NSW
Info & Register

Multicultural Health Service and HIV and Related Programs (HARP) Unit in partnership with Hepatitis NSW present ‘Research to Practice Forum: Partnering with Communities on Hepatitis B’

2 August 2016
Rydges Sydney Central, Sydney NSW
WentWest Limited and Western Sydney Local Health District presents ‘Hepatitis B: Masterclass for General Practice’
4 August 2016
Holiday Inn Parramatta, Sydney NSW

HBV Prescriber Update: Interactive Case Discussion Session (Gilead-funded)
4 August 2016
Parkroyal Darling Harbour, Sydney NSW

Do you work with clients from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds? An Introduction to Hepatitis B
4 August 2016
Hilton Adelaide, Adelaide SA
Note: For expressions of interest of this course, please contact education@ashm.org.au

Hepatitis C New Treatments Course - for GPs and other medical practitioners
6 August 2016
Rydges on Swanston, Melbourne VIC

Fundamentals of Hepatitis B Virus, Part II Webinar
6 August 2016 | 6-6:30pm
NB: No prerequisite attendance to previous webinars in this series are required for registration

Chronic Hepatitis C: Curing Hepatitis C in 2016
17 August 2016
Ipswich Girls Grammar School, Ipswich QLD

Chronic Hepatitis C: Curing Hepatitis C in 2016
18 August 2016
Broken Hill NSW
Note: For expressions of interest of this course, please contact Lucie.Perrissel@ashm.org.au

Hepatitis B/C Education for GPs, Nurses and Allied Health Workers
19 August 2016
Njernda Medical Service, Euhuca VIC

Hepatitis C New Treatment
20 August 2016
Grand Chancellor, Hobart TAS
Note: For expressions of interest of this course, please contact May.Wang@ashm.org.au

Hepatitis B s100 Prescriber Update (Gilead Funded)
25 August 2016
Canberra ACT
Hepatitis B s100 Prescriber Course  
27 August 2016  
Doubletree by Hilton, Cairns QLD  
Info & Register

Hepatitis C webinar series: Recommendations for treating hepatitis C in people who inject drugs  
30 August 2016 | 6:30-7:30pm  
NB: No prerequisite attendance to previous webinars in this series are required for registration  
Info & Registration

Hepatitis B Nursing: Preventing Liver Cancer in Primary Care  
6 September 2016  
Rydges on Swanston, Melbourne VIC  
Info & Register

Chronic Hepatitis C: Curing Hepatitis C in 2016  
13 September 2016  
Muswellbrook NSW  
Note: For expressions of interest of this course, please contact Lucie.Perrissel@ashm.org.au

HIV s100 Prescriber Course  
17-18 September 2016  
Sydney NSW  
Note: For expressions of interest of this course, please contact HIVprescriber@ashm.org.au

Hepatitis B s100 Prescriber Course  
October 2016 (Date TBA)  
Canberra ACT  
Note: For expressions of interest of this course, please contact education@ashm.org.au

Hepatitis B s100 Prescriber Update (Gilead Funded)  
25 August 2016  
Darwin NT  
Note: For expressions of interest of this course, please contact education@ashm.org.au

Hepatitis B Nursing: Preventing Liver Cancer in Primary Care  
31 August 2016  
Rydges South Park, Adelaide SA  
Info & Register

Hepatitis C webinar series: Hepatitis C in prisons  
20 September 2016 | 6:30-7:30pm  
NB: No prerequisite attendance to previous webinars in this series are required for registration  
Info & Register

HIV Case Discussion  
October 2016 (Date TBA)  
Sydney NSW  
Note: For expressions of interest of this course, please contact education@ashm.org.au
Hepatitis C – Effective Treatment for Everyone, Everywhere: A Satellite Meeting of the 10th Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference

Wednesday 28 September 2016 | 11:30am-7:00pm
Crowne Plaza Surfers Paradise, Gold Coast QLD

This innovative meeting aims to explore optimal models for delivering care to people from diverse backgrounds and settings, including Indigenous Australians, people who inject drugs, people on opioid substitution programs, people from culturally and linguistically diverse populations, people who are incarcerated, young people, people living with HIV, HCV co-infection, homeless and itinerant people, and people living in rural and remote areas.

This event is free to attend with meal and tea break included. The meeting is a great opportunity to develop your network, share ideas and experience, and plan future community HCV interventions. The invitation is open to all in the sector, however registrations close 21 September.

Info & Register

SCHOLARSHIPS
Apply for 2017 Gilead Australia Fellowship
Research Grants by 31 August 2016

This funding initiative supports the development, exploration and implementation of best practice in enhancing patient care in the specific disease areas of HIV, chronic viral hepatitis and haematological oncology. It is open to researchers at Australian hospitals, clinics, universities, research institutes and professional organisations, in both urban and rural areas, including: clinical and academic staff, young investigators, nurses, GPs, and other healthcare providers/researchers. Apply online

CONFERENCES

Finding relevant medical conferences and events made easy
Healthcarelink.com.au has launched a new online platform for medical and healthcare professionals to access all CPD based conferences and courses information in one place. The platform offers all healthcare and medical professionals the opportunity to register their profile with preferred topics and location. The system will send alerts as matching events and courses are offered around Australia and overseas. Sign up online

GPCE | 26 - 28 August 2016
Brisbane, QUEENSLAND
Visit the website

Adelaide, SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Visit the website

Adelaide, SA
Visit the website

Global Indigenous SAY NO to Family & Domestic Violence Conference | 14-16 September 2016
Adelaide, SA
Visit the website

International Congress of Tropical Medicine and Malaria | 18-22 September 2016
Brisbane, QLD
Visit the website

Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference | 29 September-1 October 2016
Gold Coast, QLD
Early Bird Registration closes on 31 July
Visit the website

Rural Medicine Australia | 20-22 October 2016
Canberra ACT
Visit the website

Join us in Adelaide for TWO MAJOR CONFERENCES
Earlybird registration fees still available until 11 September 2016

Australasian Sexual Health 2016 Conference | 14-16 November 2016
Adelaide, SA
Visit the website

Adelaide, SA
Visit the website

Promotional registration discount available to ASHM Members to join for International Congress
for Tropical Medicine and Malaria

Held in Brisbane from 18-22 September, this is one of the world’s leading tropical medicine conferences, and has been held every four years since 1914. ASHM members can take advantage of attending the HIV sessions on 18 September for a reduced day-rate of $350 (a $50 discount) by inserting the promotional discount code - ASHM2016 - along with their ASHM membership number in the registration form. Register for this offer before August 15 by visiting the website.

ASHM Reports Back from AIDS 2016

Follow the most recent clinical posts from members and guests of ASHM from the biennial 21st International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2016) held on 18-22 July 2016 in Durban, South Africa. The conference convened over 18,000 delegates from around the world in the interest of advancing global public health initiatives. Subscribe to posts here.

Northern Queensland Primary Health network conference provides opportunity for ASHM to network with key providers in North Queensland

Held 9-10 July in Cairns, the conference theme ‘Connecting General Practice’ brought together a range of Primary Care providers to discuss health policy, strategies, models of care, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, mental health, adolescent and aged care. Cairns GP Dr Heather McNamee presented an informative session; ‘Hepatitis C: a treatment revolution’. ASHM staff in Queensland networked with a number of key providers in the region highlighting ASHM membership benefits and forthcoming training opportunities available in Queensland.

A selection of ASHM’s conference and course presentations, and related educational videos, are available for viewing free on VIMEO

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