

# THE HEPATITIS ADVOCACY FOUNDATION (HAF)

Driving Effective Advocacy for Viral Hepatitis in Delta State: Strategies for Results-Oriented Success

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#### Ignite the Passion!



First, and only patient-led viral hepatitis community-based organization in Delta State, and registered by the CAC of Nigeria

Began in 2020 (3years after my first diagnosis of HepB)



## VISSION

MISSION

Our VISSION is to facilitate a future where individuals diagnosed with viral hepatitis are provided equitable care, irrespective of their financial status, race, or social class, to accomplish a future free of hepatitis.

Our MISSION is to unite all stakeholders in the fight against viral hepatitis with the ultimate aim of achieving global elimination targets.

Hepatitis



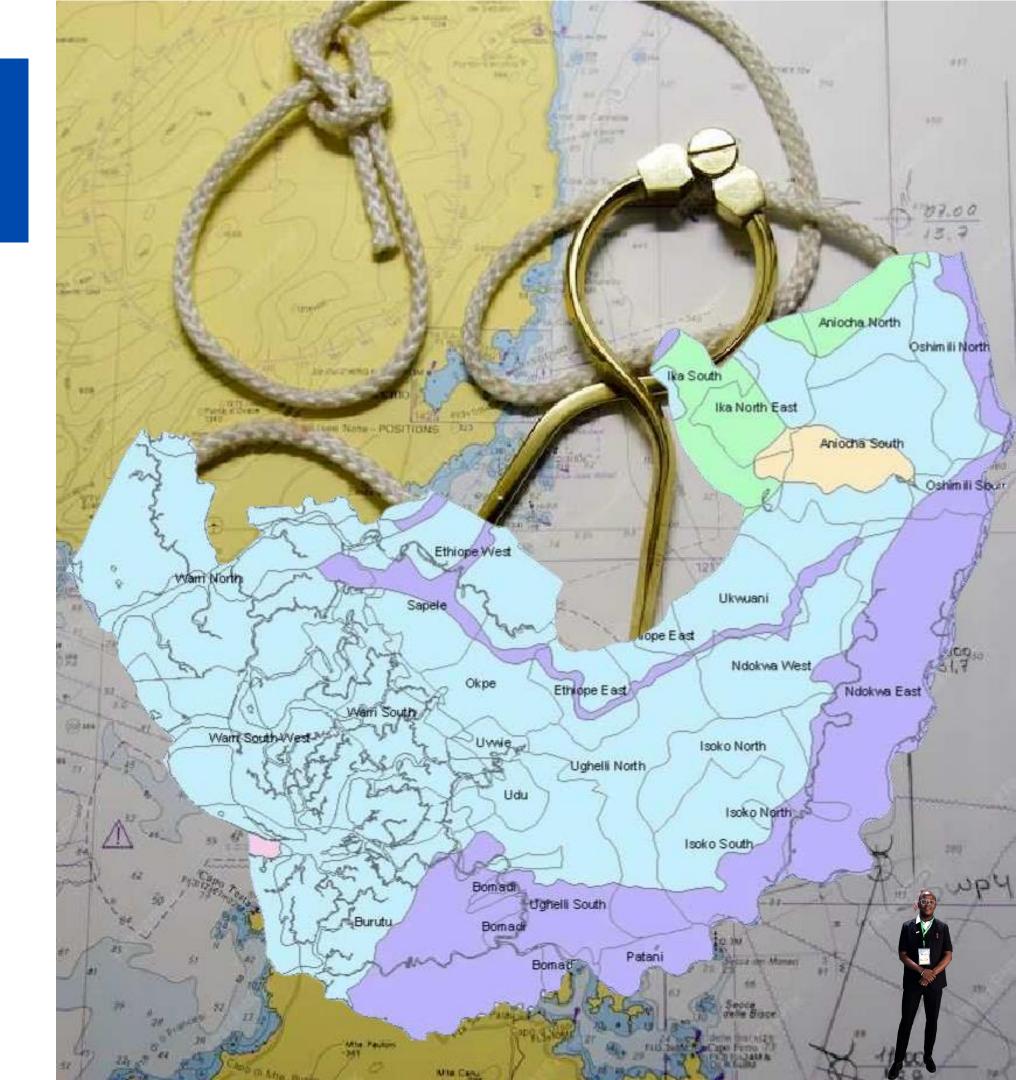


#### **Burden in Delta State**

Projected that 13% of its population are living with chronic viral hepatitis B or C or both.

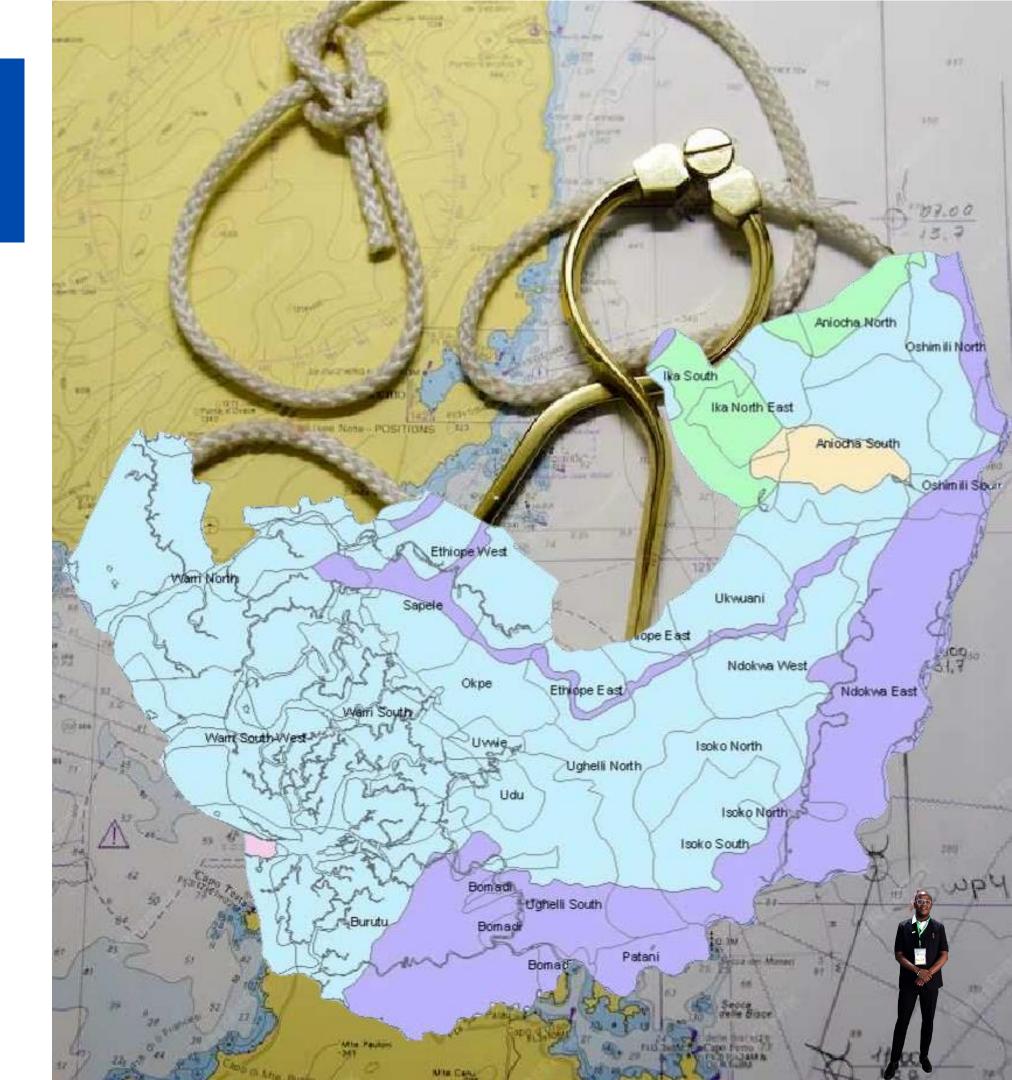
Hence, with a population of approx.
6.8 Million, Delta State has not less that 884 Thousand persons currently infected.

# But where are they?



# Landscape of Challenges in Delta State

Accessing diagnostics and treatments for viral hepatitis poses significant challenges in Delta State. Suboptimal awareness among healthcare providers and the general public, as well as the stigma and discrimination faced by PLHB/C, coupled with the inadequate budgetary allocation for viral hepatitis by the government, have an adverse impact on the drive to eliminate the disease.



## Go for the Jugular!

At its core, advocacy involves conveying information to inspire action. As such, the intended recipients of this message should be those capable of implementing the changes we seek. These changes are embedded in our challenges





#### Ultimate Focus

The Hepatitis Advocacy Foundation's primary concern is to advocate for improved access to diagnostics, care and medications for all persons living with chronic viral hepatitis in Delta State in keeping with the political declaration on Universal Health Coverage (UHC).





### **Patient-led Awareness Creation**

Empowering patients to become advocates can drive **policy change** and improve **healthcare services**. Patients play will a crucial role in shaping the **response** to viral hepatitis in Delta State



#### Raising Public Awareness

Raising public awareness through education campaigns and community events can help reduce stigma and encourage individuals to seek testing and treatment for viral hepatitis.





## Building Partnerships

Collaboration with government agencies, healthcare providers, and non-governmental organizations, both locally and internationally, is essential to create a unified approach towards viral hepatitis elimination in Delta State.



#### **Advocacy Climax**

We hold the belief that with robust political will, efforts aimed at enhancing access to healthcare and reducing disparities in Delta state can be significantly improved.



#### **Political Action**

His Excellency 's Approval



## DELTA STATE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL DELTA STATE CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH COMMISSION GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

P.M.B 300 NO. 10 DBS Road Asaba Delta State of Nigeria +234 9062739090 www.dschc.org.ng

2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2023

The Medical Directors,
All DSCHC Accredited Facilities.

#### INCLUSION OF HEPATIS B & C SCREENING FOR ALL PREGNANT WOMEN

His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Delta State Rt. Hon. Sheriff F.O. Oborevwori has graciously approved the inclusion of Hepatis B & C screening for all pregnant women in Delta State.

- 2. In the light of the above, Hepatis B & C screening should be carried out for all pregnant women seen under the Delta State Contributory Health Scheme. The DSCHC service tariff will be adjusted accordingly to reflect this change. In the meantime, all hospitals should commence implementation immediately.
- 3. Thank you as we look forward to your continued support in the successful implementation of the Scheme.

Olorogun Dr. Isaac Akpoveta

DG/CEO





#### What worked for us

- 1. Identifying key stakeholders
- 2. Lobbying using our lived experiences
- 3. Policy engagement using official data/information from WHO, CGHE, WHA, HBF, FMoH...
- 4 .Purpose-driven collaborations
- 5. Awareness campaigns on TV and social media.





#### Call to Action

We must unite to advocate for the rights of patients and drive policy change to achieve micro-elimination and improve health outcomes in Delta State.





## Two options:

- 1. Wait untill things happen!
  - 2. Make things happen!

For us, waiting isn't an option



# Finally!

By fostering a collaborative effort and political will, we can drive positive changes and ensure quality care for individuals affected by viral hepatitis in Delta State.



# Thanks for your time!