



COALITION AGAINST HEPATITIS FOR PEOPLE OF AFRICAN ORIGIN

COALITION MEETING

WEDNESDAY JULY 17, 2024



INTRODUCTION OF RAHGI

- **OUR VISION** - A hepatitis free world
- **OUR MISSION** - We look to prevent the further transmission of hepatitis and to advocate against discrimination and stigmatization on all levels for those with lived experience
- **OUR OBJECTIVES** - Awareness, prevention and control, linkage to care, policy change advocacy

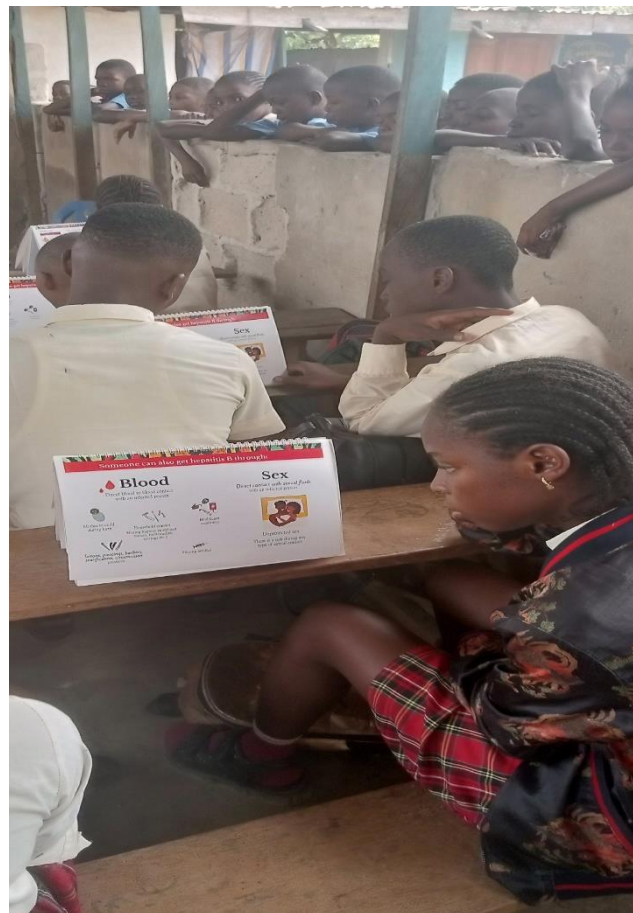
OUR ACTIVITIES- RAISING AWARENESS



MORE ACTIVITIES- SCREENING/VACCINATION



FURTHER ACTIVITIES- ANTI HEPATITIS CLUB AHC





ADVOCACY JOURNEY



Co-Runner-Up: Rise Against Hepatitis Global Initiative, Nigeria, submitted by Adesuwa Oni



"This sensitization took place at Bodija market in Ibadan, Oyo state, Nigeria on 2nd February, 2022 by sharing flyers to people visiting the market." This activity is important for

First Place (Tie)

This photo submitted by **Oni Adesuwa** from the RISE Against Hepatitis Global Initiative was one of two First Place winners in the category of "Sharing awareness: Increasing community knowledge of hepatitis B and C."

Taken on July 17, 2023 during a sensitisation event at Life Foundation School in Owerri, Nigeria, Adesuwa shares: "A little girl (student) wrote on her paper 'my mother says I'm fully vaccinated and fully protected from hepatitis' IT WAS

NIGERIA - HEPATITIS ELIMINATION PROFILE



WORKING TOGETHER, WE WILL **ACHIEVE ELIMINATION.**

This National Hepatitis Elimination Profile (N-HEP) was developed by the Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination. Funding for this N-HEP was provided by Gilead Sciences. The Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination retained final control over the content.

The Coalition thanks the Federal Ministry of Health, Rise Against Hepatitis Global Initiative, especially, Oni Adesuwa, and Care for Social Welfare International (CASWI), especially Ifeanyi Damian, for their review and feedback of this profile.



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HOW TO SPECIFICALLY ADDRESS EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION THAT IS FACED BY MANY PEOPLE LIVING WITH HEPATITIS B, ESPECIALLY IN AFRICA

- **PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS** - Awareness remains the most potent tool for reducing discrimination and stigmatization. The more people learn about hepatitis its myth and facts the better. This will help in addressing misconceptions, and reducing stigma.
- **WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING** - Conduct training for employers, colleagues, and staff to dispel myths and misconceptions about hepatitis B. Create a pledge or certification program for employers to commit to non-discriminatory practices and supportive policies for employees with HBV. Recognize and publicize companies that adhere to these standards.
- **SUPPORT NETWORKS** - Establish support groups or networks for individuals living with HBV, providing a platform for sharing experiences, advice, and resources. These networks can also serve as a collective voice for advocacy.
- **COLLABORATION WITH HEALTH WORKERS** - Encourage health workers to Speak up for patients during healthcare team discussions, emphasizing the importance of workplace inclusion and fair treatment.
- **POLICY ADVOCACY** - Advocate for stronger legal protections at local, state, and national levels. This includes pushing for legislation that explicitly prohibits discrimination based on HBV status.



Looking at the Key Components of the National Policy on HIV/AIDS and the Workplace

- 1. Non-Discrimination:** The policy emphasizes the importance of non-discrimination and equal treatment of employees, regardless of their HIV status. It specifically prohibits discrimination in hiring, promotions, benefits, and termination based on an employee's HIV status.
 - 2. Confidentiality:** Employers are required to respect the confidentiality of employees' HIV status. Information about an employee's health condition should not be disclosed without their informed consent.
 - 3. Voluntary Testing:** The policy advocates for voluntary and confidential HIV testing. Mandatory testing as a condition for employment or continued employment is prohibited.
 - 4. Workplace Programs:** Employers are encouraged to implement workplace programs that provide education and awareness about HIV/AIDS, promote prevention, and offer support and care for affected employees
 - 5. Reasonable Accommodation:** Employers should provide reasonable accommodations to employees living with HIV/AIDS to enable them to continue working productively. This might include flexible working hours or adjustments to workload.
 - 6. Zero Tolerance for Stigma:** The policy aims to create a supportive work environment free from stigma and discrimination. Employers should foster an inclusive culture where employees feel safe and supported.
 - 7. Health and Safety:** Employers are responsible for ensuring a safe working environment and minimizing occupational risks. This includes providing appropriate training and resources to manage any potential risks associated with HIV/AIDS.
- Many of the components in the National Policy on HIV/AIDS and the Workplace can be adapted to support employees living with HBV or we push for the development and implementation of the national policy on HBV and the workplace



THANK YOU

FROM RAHGI