



Journey towards Viral Hepatitis Elimination in 2030

Dr. Khin Sanda Aung

Project Manager

National Hepatitis Control Program

Department of Public Health



Presentation outlines

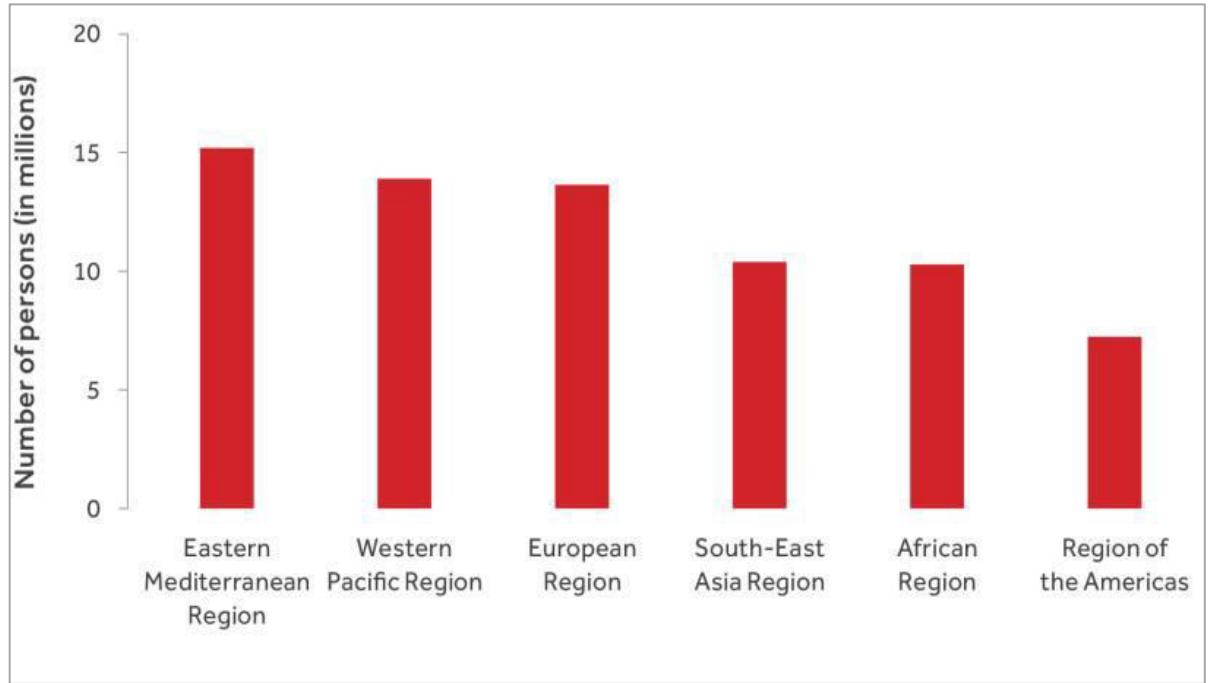
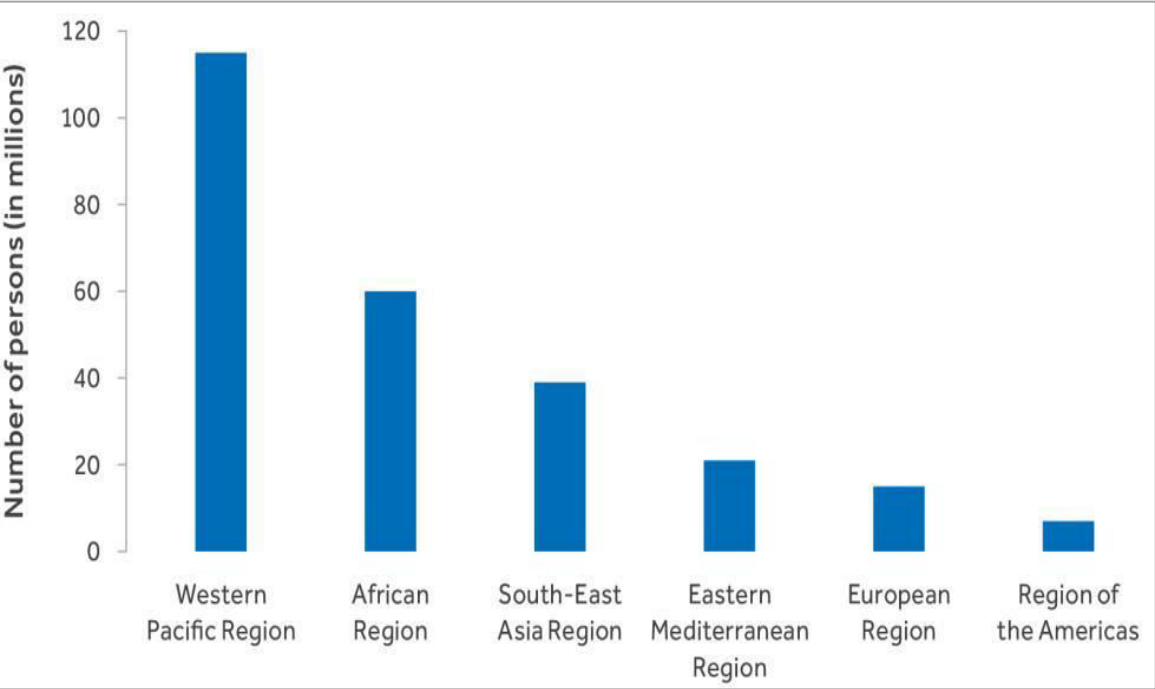
- Viral Hepatitis disease burden
- Four reasons to focus on Viral Hepatitis
- Viral Hepatitis elimination
- Action packages for viral hepatitis elimination
- Myanmar country profile on viral hepatitis response

Viral Hepatitis Disease Burden

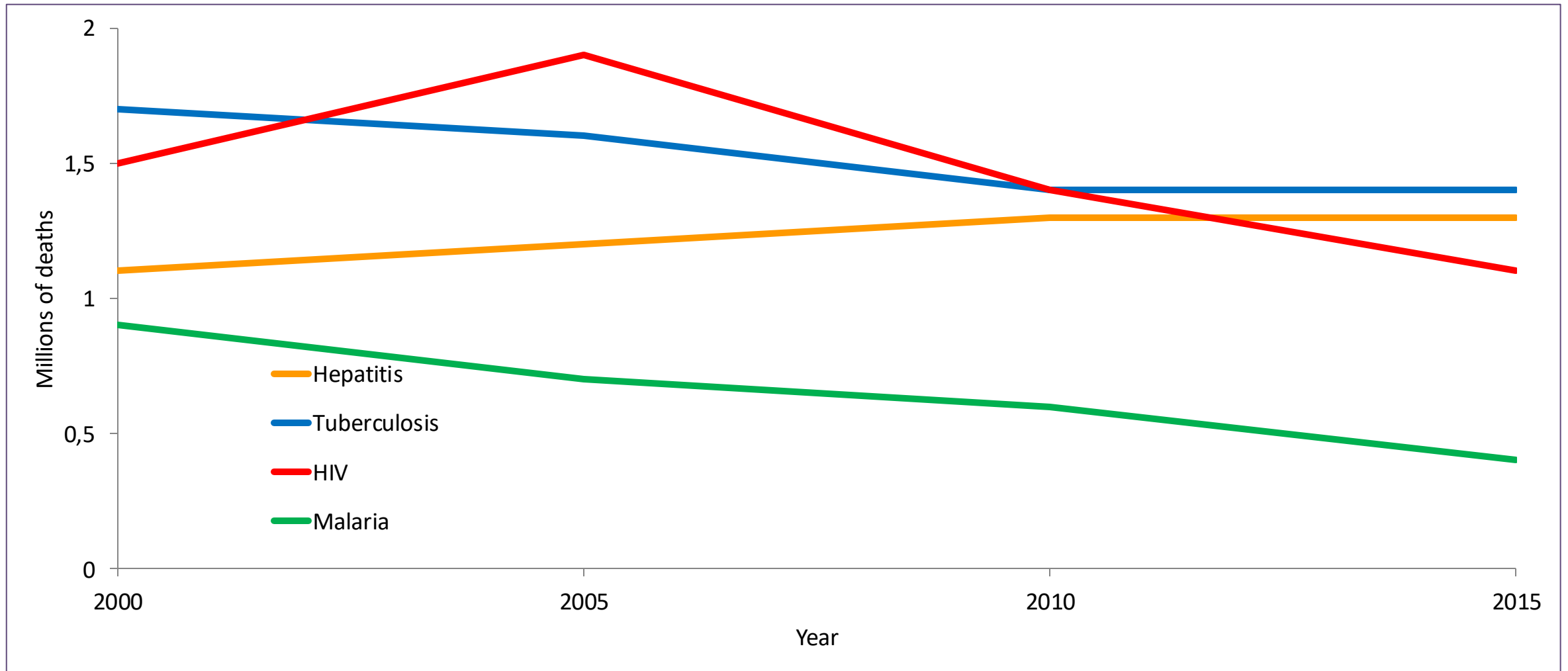
Global estimates of HBV and HCV infection

**257 million people living with HBV
(68% in Western Pacific/ Africa)**

**71 million people living with HCV
(one third in Asia Pacific)**



Hepatitis mortality is increasing



Ref: World Health Organization. South-East Asia Regional Office. Regional strategy for the prevention and control of viral hepatitis. 2013. Available from: http://www.searo.who.int/entity/emerging_diseases/topics/CD_282.pdf

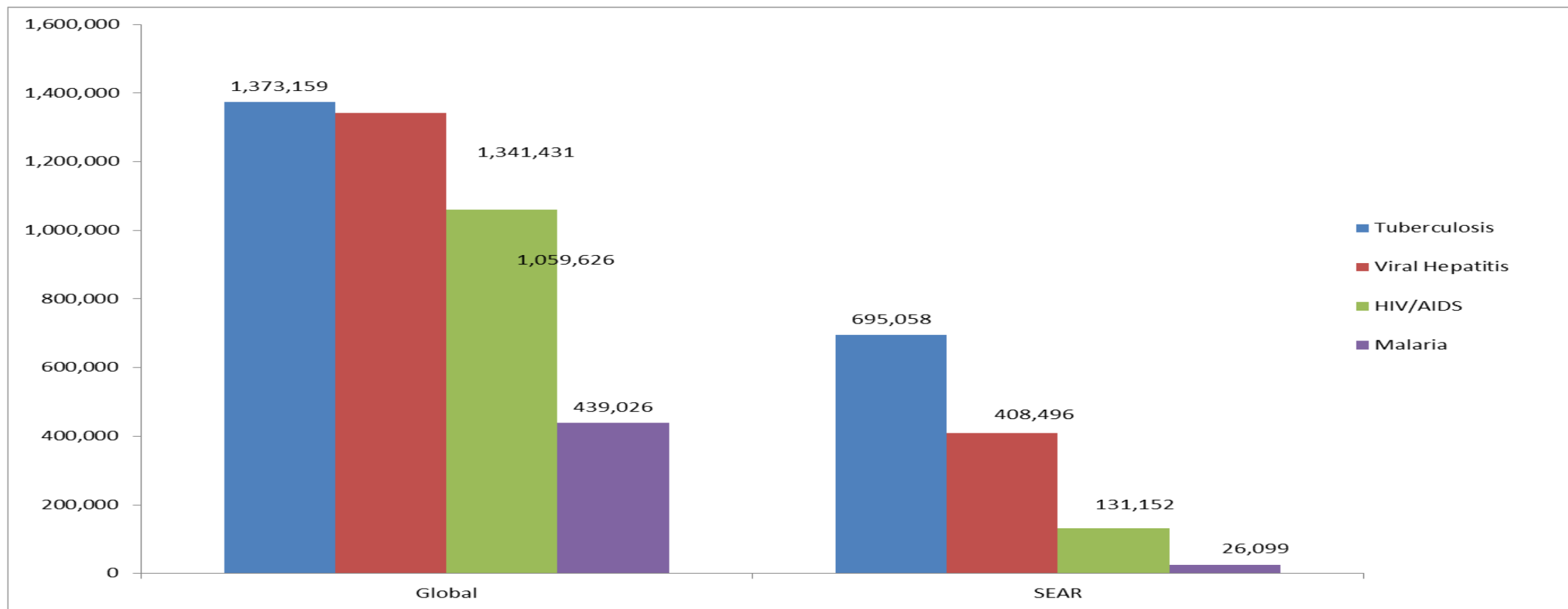
Viral Hepatitis Disease Burden (cont:)

WHO SEA region

- An estimated **39.4 million** people living with chronic hepatitis B
- An estimated **10.3 million** people living with chronic hepatitis C
- Viral hepatitis is responsible for an estimated 410,000 deaths per year with 78% of total mortality being attributed to liver cancer and cirrhosis due to hepatitis B and C

Viral Hepatitis Disease Burden (cont:)

VH - important public health problem in the WHO South-East Asia Region



Viral Hepatitis Disease Burden (cont:)



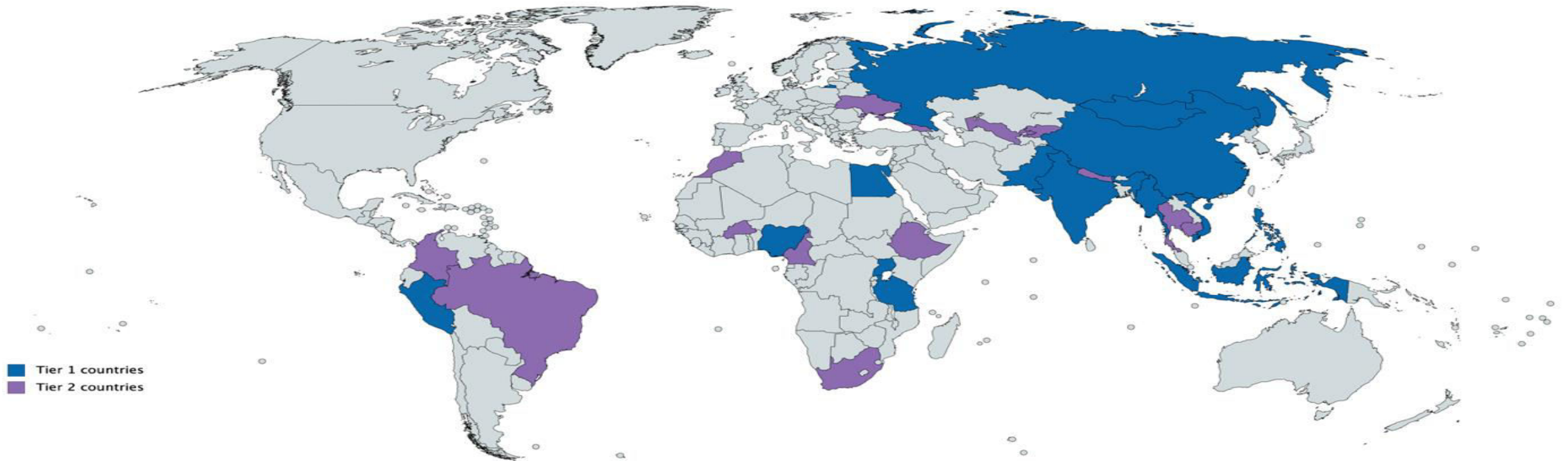
Myanmar

- Hepatitis endemic country
- One of the 28 countries which are regarded as WHO's priority countries for VH response
- VH prevalence in general population
 - * **HBV** - **6.5%** (approx: 3.3 million)
 - * **HCV** - **2.7%** (approx: 1.4 million)

(Source: National Sero-prevalence survey on VH in 2015)

28 WHO Tier 1 and 2 Priority countries

Technical support & assistance to countries that account for most of the burden

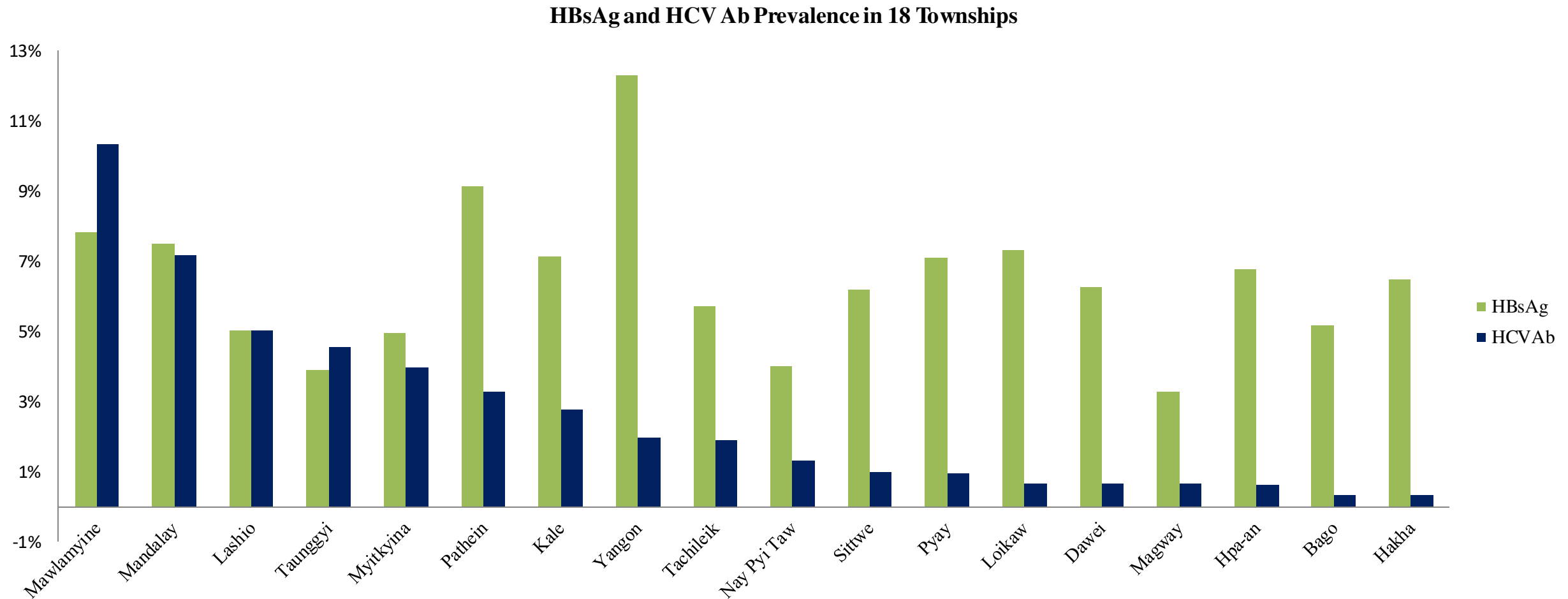


AFR: Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, S. Africa
AMR: Colombia, Brazil, Peru
EMR: Egypt, Morocco, Pakistan
EUR: Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Russian Fed.
SEAR: India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand, Vietnam
WPR: Cambodia, China, Mongolia, Philippines

Selection criteria

- Disease Burden
- Regional priority countries
- Workplans WHO country office
- Expressions of interest at regional meetings

The prevalence of hepatitis B antigen and hepatitis C antibodies among general population in 18 selected townships of Myanmar (May – Nov 2015)



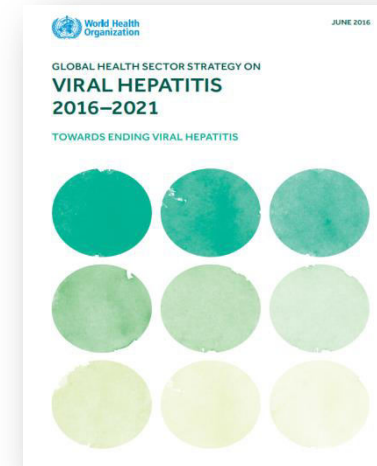
Source: Sero-prevalence survey on VH by DoPH & DMR 2015

Four reasons to focus on Viral Hepatitis

- It is the **seventh leading cause of mortality** worldwide and is an important public health problem in SE Asia
- Viral hepatitis is only communicable disease where **mortality is increasing**
- Viral hepatitis causes at least as many, if not more, deaths annually than TB, AIDS or malaria; Around 90% of these are due to hepatitis B and C infections
- Viral hepatitis infections are, to a large extent, **amenable to prevention and control**; There are **effective vaccines** to prevent hepatitis A and B, an **effective treatment for hepatitis B** and now a **cure for hepatitis C** in most cases

Viral Hepatitis Elimination

➤ Global Health Sector Strategies - Roadmap for disease elimination



Goal of GHSS on Viral Hepatitis (2016 -2021)

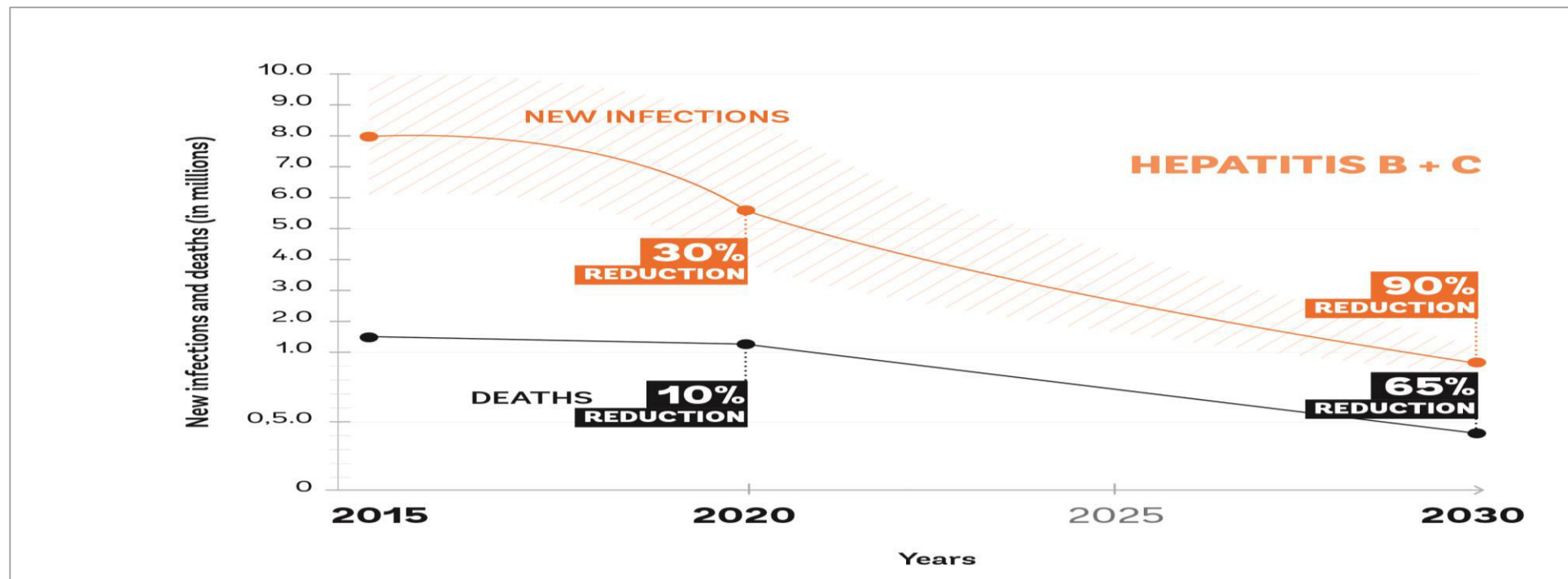


Eliminate viral hepatitis as a major public health threat by 2030

Eliminate viral hepatitis as a major public health threat by 2030, as defined by:

*** Reduction of VH incidence by 90%,**

*** Reduction of mortality due to sequelae of VH by 65%**

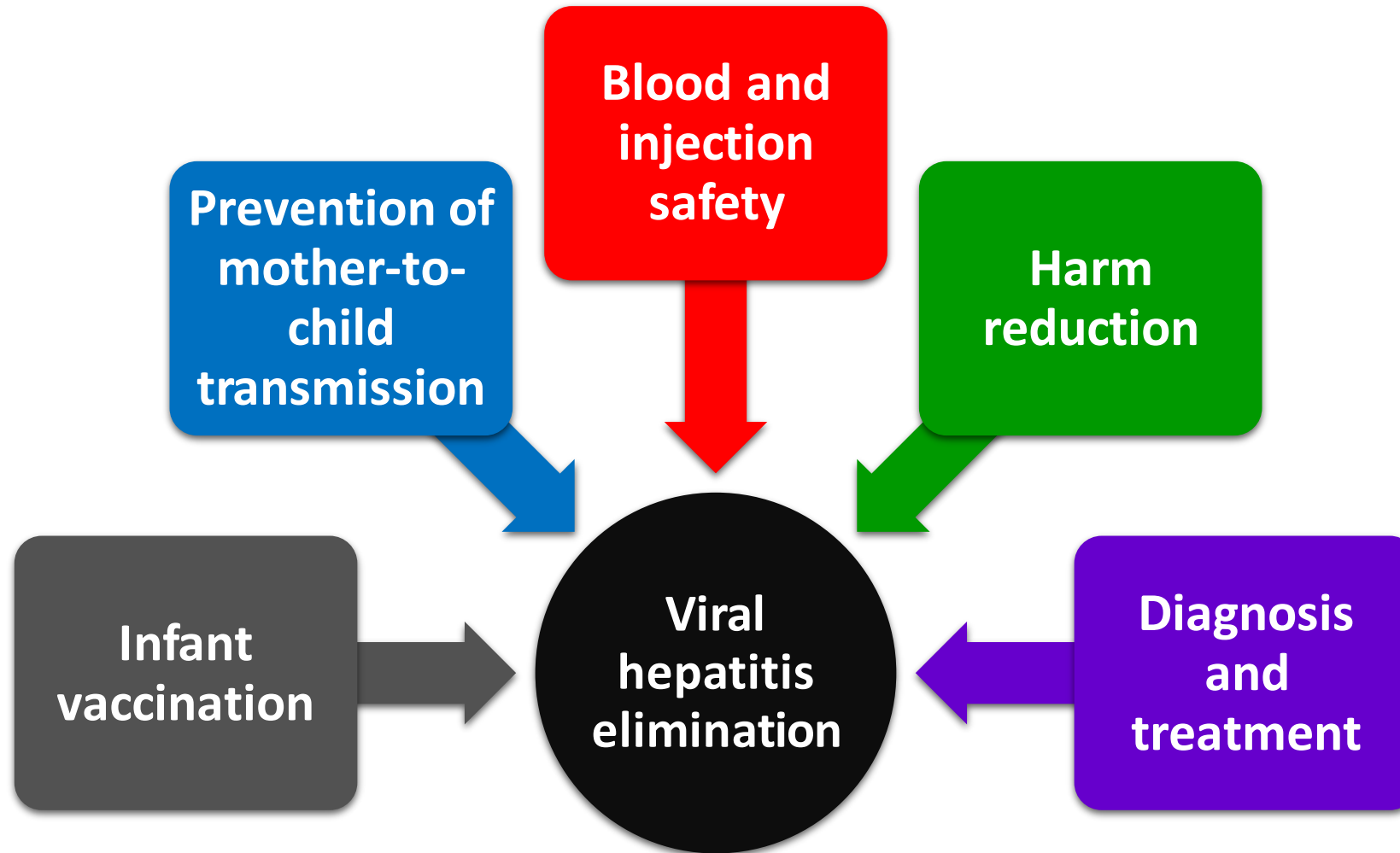




Goal 3 – Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages

Target 3.3 – **Combat Hepatitis**

Action Packages for Viral Hepatitis Elimination



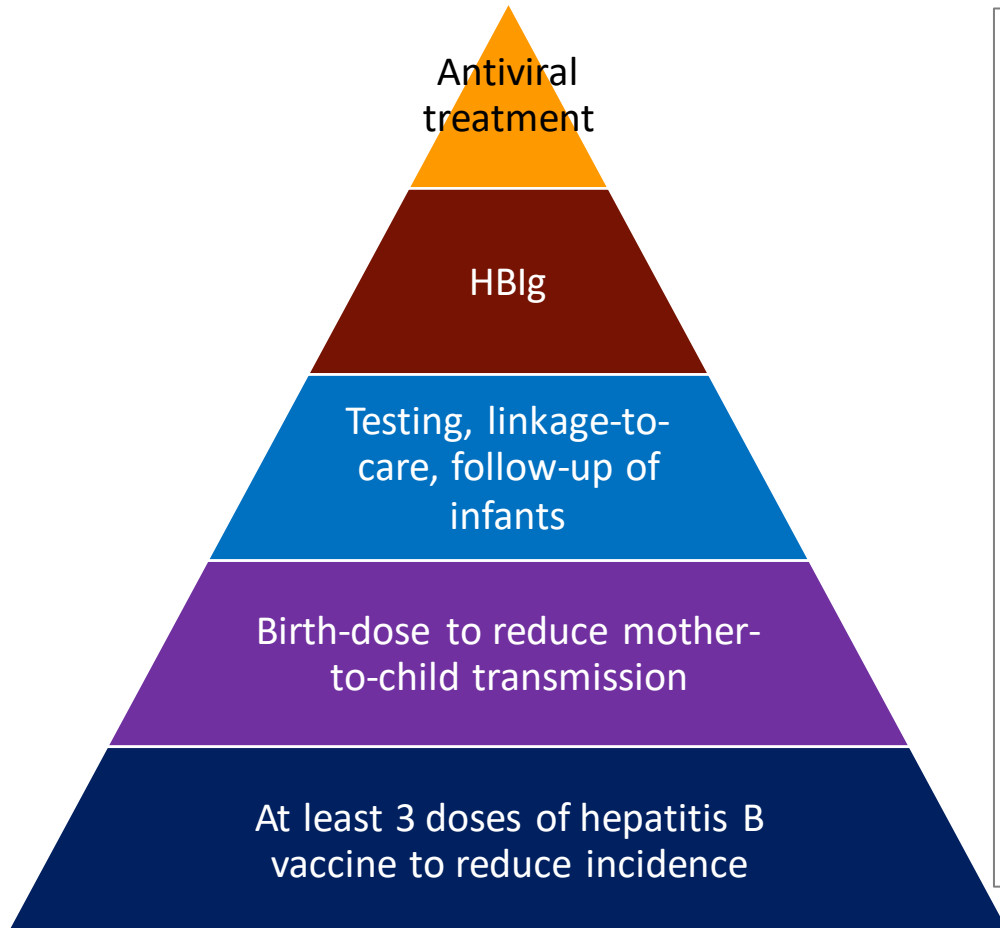
Hepatitis B vaccination

Opportunities and Challenges

- Implement a comprehensive immunization programme based on WHO guidance
- Strengthen birth dose immunization programme
- Consider catch-up vaccination in groups with low coverage
- Offer vaccination to people at increased risk
- Tremendous achievement and still not uniform across the globe
- Hard-to-reach populations
- Hepatitis B birth-dose - a major challenge

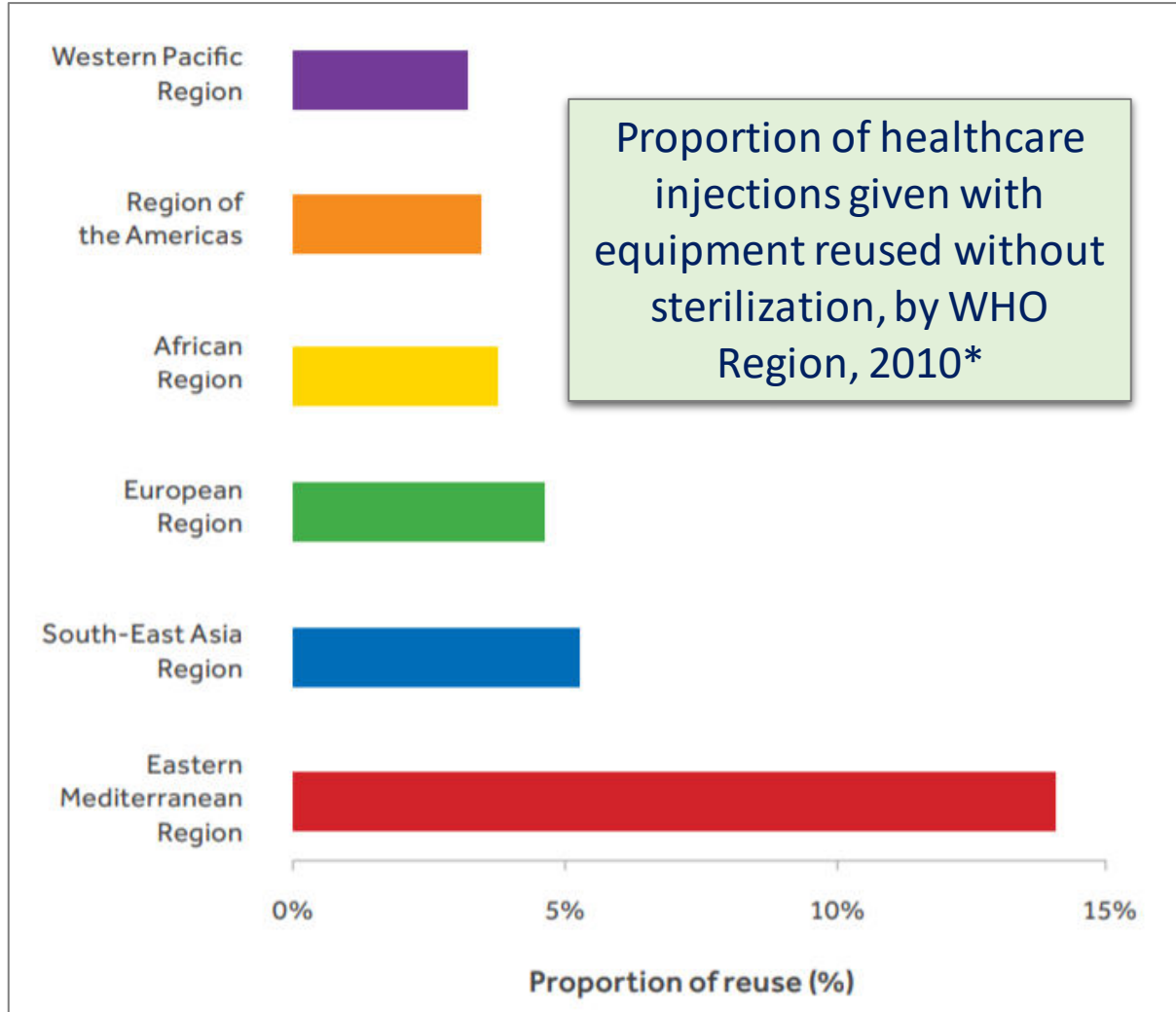
Preventing mother-to-child transmission of HBV

Opportunities and Challenges



- Most countries - screen pregnant women
- Triple elimination is an opportunity: HIV, hepatitis B and syphilis
- Poor linkage-to-care
- Poor uptake of Hepatitis B birth-dose; particular challenge in Africa

Blood and injection safety



Opportunities and Challenges

- Benefits expand beyond viral hepatitis
- From 2000 to 2010*:
 - A reduction of 83% and 91% of HCV and HBV infections transmitted through unsafe injections.
- Unsafe injections from 39.5% to 5.5%.
- Unnecessary injections highest priority.
- Still to go for 100% voluntary, non-remunerated blood donations.

Harm reduction



Opportunities and Challenges

- A set of interventions as defined by WHO, UNODC and UNAIDS for people who inject drugs (PWID)
- Benefits expand beyond viral hepatitis
- The evidence-based package of interventions proven to have the biggest impact
- Failure to implement mainly due to stigma, discrimination and criminalization

Diagnosis of hepatitis B and C infections



- Diagnosis is critical for effective treatment and care
- Main challenges are cost and complexity of diagnostic pathways
- WHO guidance provides simplified testing approaches and strategies
- Innovation in diagnostic technologies and service delivery models essential to find and treat the remaining millions

Treatment of hepatitis B and C infections



Opportunities and challenges

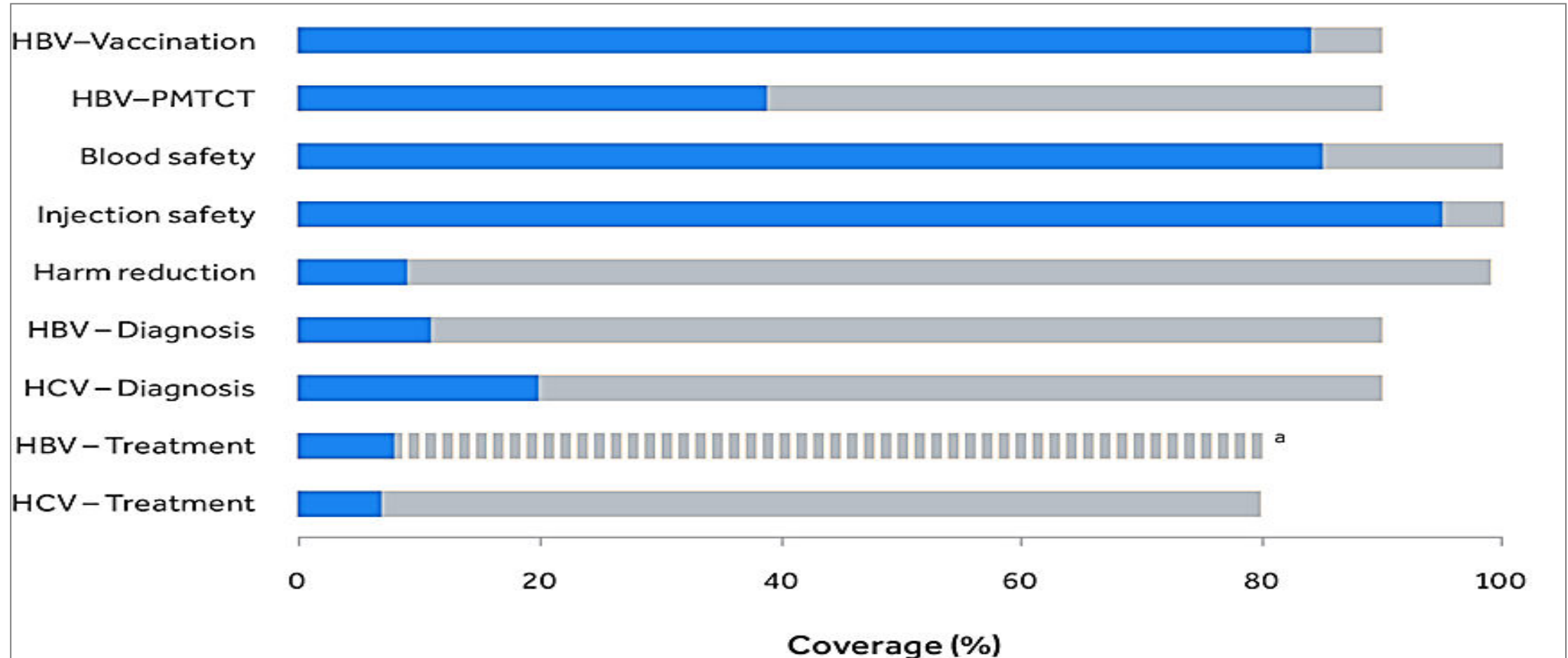
- New HCV medicines revolutionized hepatitis response in the past few years
- Rapidly increasing access in many countries due to price reduction
- Delivering services and medicines to people is the main challenge
- HBV treatment available to majority of LMICs, however life-long treatment comes with own challenges
- Documenting treatment outcomes is critical

5 core interventions for VH elimination & target

	Intervention	Indicator	2015 Baseline	2030 Target
1.	3 doses HBV vaccination	Coverage	84%	90%
2.	HBV PMTCT	Coverage	39%	90%
3.	Blood/ Injection Safety	Screened donation	97%	100%
		Safe injections	5%	100%
4.	Harm Reduction	Sets/PWID/year	27	300
5.	HBV & HCV Testing and Treatment	% diagnosed	9% (HBV), 20% (HCV)	90%
		% treated	8% (HBV), 7% (HCV)	80%

Global baseline estimates of the coverage of core interventions, 2015

Major gaps in HBV Birth dose vaccination, Harm Reduction, Testing & Treatment



Myanmar country profile on Viral Hepatitis response

Policies

Vaccination

Three doses in routine childhood immunization	✓
Birth dose of Hep B vaccine	✓
Vaccination for HCWs	✓
Vaccination for high risk groups	✓

Blood & Injection Safety

Screening of donated blood for HBV/HCV	✓
Safe Injection and IPC policy	✓
Hepatitis B screening to all pregnant women	✓
Harm reduction services for PWID	✓

Testing & treatment

National testing policy aligned with WHO guidelines	✓
Use of WHO pre-qualified test kits	✓
National treatment guidelines aligned with WHO	✓

Country profile (cont:)

Access to Treatment

Availability of medicines for
Hep B treatment



Annual cost for Hep B treatment

400 USD/ person

Availability of DAAs for
Hep C treatment



12 weeks cost for Hep C
treatment

93 USD/ person

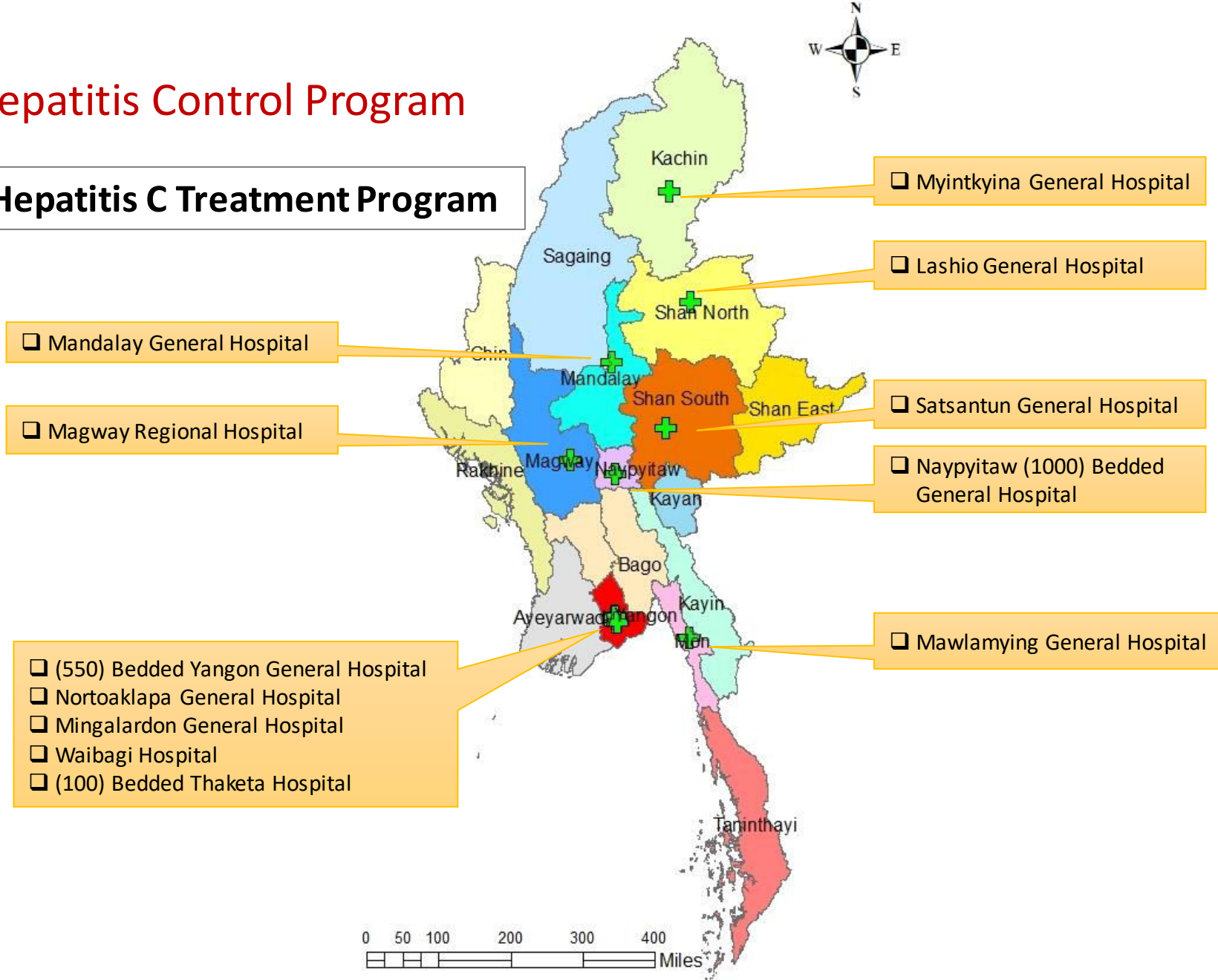
Health Sector Response

National Plan for viral hepatitis	Developed
Coverage of 3-dose Hep B vaccine schedule	90%
Coverage of Hep B vaccine for newborns (birth dose)	25%
Estimated PWID population size	93,000
Needles and syringes distributed per PWID/year	351
Percentage of PWID receiving OST in 2018	17.2%

Facilities offering serological testing (HBsAg) for HBV	11910
Facilities offering nucleic acid testing (NAT) for HBV	3
Facilities offering serological testing (Anti-HCV) for HCV	11910
Facilities offering nucleic acid testing(NAT) for HCV	8

National Hepatitis Control Program

Public Sector Hepatitis C Treatment Program



T  **GETHER**
FOR ELIMINATION  **N**

Thank you very much
for your kind attention!