

## Cameroon

## Positive-Generation\*

NGO – health (hepatitis, AIDS, tuberculosis, sexual and reproductive health) and human rights  
Yaoundé, Cameroon  
www.camerounaids.org

## SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

The respondent reviewed 25 items of information that the government of Cameroon reported for the 2013 World Health Organization Global Policy Report on the Prevention and Control of Viral Hepatitis in WHO Member States.

✓ The government information was thought to be accurate for **68.0%** of items.

Survey points marked "accurate":  
1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.5, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 5.1, 5.3 and 5.4.

✗ The government information was thought to not be accurate for **32.0%** of items.

Survey points marked "not accurate":  
1.3, 2.2, 3.4, 4.4, 4.5, 4.10, 5.2 and 5.5.

## Survey comments from Positive-Generation:

## Information reported by government (2012–2013)

✗ To our knowledge, this information is not accurate.

5.5. No drug for treating hepatitis B is on the national essential medicines list or subsidised by the government. The following drugs for treating hepatitis C are on the national essential medicines list or subsidised by the government: pegylated interferon and lamivudine.

## Civil society respondent comments (2014)

*Lamivudine is used in the national HIV protocol.*

## Statement from Positive-Generation regarding key hepatitis policy issues in Cameroon:

The main problems related to testing, care and treatment of viral hepatitis nationally are:

➤ **Screening.** The vaccine remains expensive (7000 CFA Francs each dose per week) given the very low standard of living of the population. No one has access or the disease is discovered already in an advanced state.

- **Care.** This is also very expensive and is only 30% funded by the government. Most patients prefer to be cared for traditionally because it is also considered a mystical disease by those who are not diagnosed in the hospital.
- **Treatment.** It is long, arduous and expensive, so patients need patience for both themselves and their friends and family members. The major problem with treatment is ignorance on the part of the patient about the illness. Very often the patient abandons the treatment due to a lack of financial means.

\* World Hepatitis Alliance member.