

## SOS Hépatites Mali\*

NGO – hepatitis patient group  
Bamako, Mali

## SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

The respondent reviewed 25 items of information that the government of Mali 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 **20.0%** of items.

Survey points marked "accurate":  
1.2, 2.2, 4.1, 4.4 and 4.8.

✗ The government information was thought to not be accurate for **48.0%** of items.

Survey points marked "not accurate":  
1.1, 1.3, 2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 4.2, 4.5,  
4.6 and 5.3.

— The respondent took no position on the government information for **32.0%** of items.

Survey points marked "take no position":  
4.3, 4.7, 4.9, 4.10, 5.1, 5.2, 5.4 and 5.5.

## Survey comments from SOS Hépatites Mali:

## Information reported by government (2012–2013)

✓ To our knowledge, this information is accurate.

**1.2** There is no designated governmental unit/department responsible solely for coordinating and/or carrying out viral hepatitis-related activities. It is not known how many people work full-time on hepatitis-related activities in all government agencies/bodies.

**2.2** The government collaborates with the following in-country civil society group to develop and implement its viral hepatitis prevention and control programme: SOS Hépatites.

**4.1** There is a national hepatitis A vaccination policy.

**4.4** There is a national policy specifically targeting mother-to-child transmission of hepatitis B (Annex B).

## Civil society respondent comments (2014)

**A focal point has been appointed in the Ministry of Health.**

**The government does collaborate with CSOs, but does not support them technically or financially.**

**Included in the hepatitis B immunisation programme for children.**

**Yes, at least the national immunisation programme for children takes this into account.**

\* World Hepatitis Alliance member.

### Information reported by government (2012–2013)

### Civil society respondent comments (2014)

✓ *To our knowledge, this information is accurate.*

**4.8** There is a national infection control policy for blood banks. All donated blood units (including family donations) and blood products nationwide are screened for hepatitis B and hepatitis C

*The only structure that does this in Mali are the blood banks during blood donations. But from national policy.*

✗ *To our knowledge, this information is not accurate.*

**1.1** There is no written national strategy or plan that focuses exclusively or primarily on the prevention and control of viral hepatitis.

*In Mali a national strategy and plan are not written – no plan or national programme that takes into account the fight against viral hepatitis.*

**1.3** The government does not have a viral hepatitis prevention and control programme that includes activities targeting specific populations.

*No doesn't exist, nothing in this direction has been done.*

**2.1** The government did not hold events for World Hepatitis Day 2012 and has not funded other viral hepatitis public awareness campaigns since January 2011.

*No the government does not organise, only SOS Hépatites while the ministers participate.*

**3.1** There is no routine surveillance for viral hepatitis.

*Formal routine surveillance does not exist.*

**X** *To our knowledge, this information is not accurate.*

#### Information reported by government (2012–2013)

**3.2** There are no standard case definitions for hepatitis. Hepatitis deaths are not reported to a central registry. Of the hepatitis B and hepatitis C cases, 15%–20% and 4.98%, respectively, are reported as “undifferentiated” or “unclassified” hepatitis

**3.3** Liver cancer cases and cases with HIV/hepatitis coinfection are registered nationally. The government publishes hepatitis disease reports annually.

**3.4** It is not known whether hepatitis outbreaks are required to be reported to the government. There is adequate laboratory capacity nationally to support investigation of viral hepatitis outbreaks and other surveillance activities.

**3.5** It is not known whether there is a national public health research agenda for viral hepatitis, or whether viral hepatitis serosurveys are conducted regularly.

**5.3** People testing for both hepatitis B and hepatitis C register by name; the names are kept confidential within the system. Hepatitis B and hepatitis C tests are not free of charge for all individuals, but they are free of charge for blood donors. Hepatitis B and hepatitis C tests are compulsory for blood donors.

#### Civil society respondent comments (2014)

*No centralised data on national level, except the national centre for blood transfusions.*

*No, only SOS Hépatites Mali, in collaboration with the blood transfusion centre and Gabriel Touré hospital, publically present the cases on 28th July.*

*No, only blood banks do this during blood donations.*

*No nothing in this direction.*

*But SOS Hépatites and blood banks regularly do this. But people are not taken up/supported after their test.*

**—** We take no position regarding this statement.

### Information reported by government (2012–2013)

**4.3** It is not known what percentage of newborn infants nationally in a given recent year received the first dose of hepatitis B vaccine within 24 hours of birth or what percentage of one-year-olds (ages 12–23 months) in a given recent year received three doses of hepatitis B vaccine.

**5.1** It is not known how health professionals obtain the skills and competencies required to effectively care for people with viral hepatitis. There are no national clinical guidelines for the management of viral hepatitis. There are national clinical guidelines for the management of HIV, which include recommendations for coinfection with viral hepatitis.

**5.2** The government does not have national policies relating to screening and referral to care for hepatitis B or hepatitis C.

**5.4** Publicly funded treatment is not available for hepatitis B or hepatitis C.

### Civil society respondent comments (2014)

*But I know that in some health centres, the registers contain the statistics of children vaccinated against hepatitis especially hepatitis B.*

*However there is a network of professionals created by seven hepatitis specialists.*

*Nothing has been done officially in Mali apart from the actions of SOS Hépatites Mali who fight for that.*

*But that doesn't exist.*

### Statement from SOS Hépatites Mali regarding key hepatitis policy issues in Mali:

Information, communication, sensibilisation populations for prevention against hepatitis.

Advocacy/lobbying for the Mali Government to develop a national programme against viral hepatitis and build partnership relations with the World Health Organization and other organisations around the world.

Scale up and implement programme against hepatitis and care of patients.

Strengthening capacities/support orphans, widows and widowers of hepatitis.

Create a dynamic database to track the evolution of hepatitis in Mali.