The Hepatitis C Virus Treatment Revolution—Can the Developing World Afford it?

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ABSTRACT

Hepatitis C is the leading cause of hepatocellular carcinoma worldwide. Recently, several new, highly effective directly acting antivirals have entered the introduced in the market. But the high cost of these medications prohibits the widespread use in the developing world. We, through our paper would like to suggest steps towards making these medications widely available to the population that needs them the most.

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Key words: Hepatitis C; Directly acting antivirals; Developing world
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We suggest that the following steps should be taken by the international community for the widespread availability and success of anti HCV DAA in the developing world.

(a) Cost- effective screening programs; (b) Recognition of directly acting antivirals (DAAs) as essential medications; (c) Creating international funding streams and giving subsidies to the poor nations; (d) Generic manufacturing of DAAs; (e) Global activism and political will; (f) Increasing public awareness regarding the widespread epidemic of HCV. We believe that making the developing world part of the HCV treatment revolution is imperative towards achieving the goal of global eradication of HCV.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

There are no conflicts of interest with regard to the present study.

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