

Illness To Wellness Coverage Media Report



Experts Call for Universal Screening, Adult Immunisation and Maternal Care to Eliminate Viral Hepatitis by 2030

Date: 28th July 2026

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Name of the Publication	CNN News 18
Date	29/07/2026
Headline	'HEPATITIS FREE WORLD BY 2030' PLEDGE





Name of the Publication	News X
Date	29/07/2026
Headline	WORLD HEPATITIS DAY OBSERVED TODAY

FOUNDATION HOLDS HEPATITIS CONFERENCE TODAY

NewsX YouTube

BREAKING NEWS

CALL FOR UNIVERSAL SCREENING, IMMUNISATION

Mr. Rajesh Bhushan
Former Secretary,
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare,
Govt. of India & Chairperson, Governing
Council, Bharat to Wellbeing Foundation

(Prof. Dr. Jit K. Sarin)
Senior Professor,
Dept. of Hepatology & Director,
Liver and Biliary Sciences, New
Delhi, India
Member, Advisory Council,
Bharat to Wellbeing Foundation

Mr. Anil Rajput
Chairperson, Advisory
Council, Bharat to Wellbeing
Foundation

Illness to

CBI files chargesheet against 13 arrested accused in NEET Paper Leak

The Pioneer

TRUSTED SINCE 1865

Name of the Publication	The Pioneer
Date	29/07/2026
Headline	Experts push universal screening to end viral hepatitis by 2030

Experts push universal screening to end viral hepatitis by 2030

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

India has the knowledge, vaccines, diagnostics and treatments needed to eliminate viral hepatitis as a public health threat.

The next challenge is ensuring that these lifesaving interventions reach every individual—from expectant mothers and newborns to high-risk adults—through universal screening, adult immunisation, stronger maternal healthcare, early diagnosis and equitable access to treatment, leading policymakers, hepatologists and public health experts said at the second edition of the Illness to Wellness Foundation's conference on "Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment for Hepatitis," organised on the occasion of World Hepatitis Day 2026.

Delivering the keynote address, Rajesh Bhushan, former secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, and



chairperson, Governing Council, Illness to Wellness Foundation, said, "India has made meaningful progress through the National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme, but achieving greater impact will require stronger collaboration across stakeholders. Government, healthcare institutions, the private sector, civil society and development partners must work together to expand the reach of hepatitis services and ensure that quality care is available to every community."

Delivering the welcome address, Anil Rajput, chairperson, Advisory Council, Illness to Wellness Foundation, asserted, "We believe that success demands a whole-of-society approach. Governments, healthcare professionals, researchers, industry, civil society, the media and citizens all have vital roles to play. Public health succeeds not through isolated efforts but through partnerships that place prevention at the heart of national development. The Illness to Wellness Foundation remains commit-

ted to advancing this movement through awareness, evidence-based dialogue and collaborative action."

The conference featured three thematic technical sessions that examined critical dimensions of hepatitis prevention and management across the continuum of care.

Other spokespersons who delivered key notes are Padma Bhushan Dr (Prof) SK Sarin, senior professor, Department of Hepatology and Director, ILBS; Asha Hegde, director, South Asia-HIV/Hepatitis/STIs and Family Health, PATH India; Dr RS Mishra, principal director and head - Internal Medicine, Max Smart Super Speciality Hospital, Saket, Dr Anil Agarwal, co-chairman, Institute of Surgical Gastroenterology, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Dr Anita Shete-Aich, Scientist-E, Hepatitis Group, ICMR-National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune and Dr Suneela Garg, member, FICCI Swasth Bharat Task Force.

Name of the Publication	Millennium Post
Date	29/07/2026
Headline	Experts highlight need to curb hepatitis stigma

Experts highlight need to curb hepatitis stigma

SHIVANGI SHUKLA

NEW DELHI: Prevention, early diagnosis and equitable access to treatment were the focus of the Illness to Wellness Foundation's conference on "Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment for Hepatitis", organised on World Hepatitis Day 2026, as experts called for a stronger prevention-first approach to eliminate viral hepatitis by 2030.

Padma Bhushan Dr (Prof.) S. K. Sarin said India must prioritise expanding adult hepatitis B immunisation, promoting early diagnosis, eliminating stigma and ensuring timely treatment. "Preventing hepatitis is no longer only about scientific progress; it is about reaching every individual with the care they need," he said.

Women's health featured prominently in the discussions, with experts advocating universal hepatitis screening during pregnancy, measures to prevent mother-to-child transmission, timely birth-dose vaccination, improved maternal care and long-term monitoring of exposed infants.

Experts stressed that vaccinating newborns within the first hour of birth, or at least



within 12 hours, remains the single most effective intervention to prevent hepatitis B transmission. They said every pregnancy and every birth should be treated as an opportunity to prevent the disease.

Former Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan called for stronger collaboration among governments, health-care providers and other stakeholders to expand hepatitis services and ensure quality care reaches every community, particularly in rural areas.

Anil Rajput called for a "whole-of-society approach" involving all stakeholders to eliminate hepatitis. Dr R. S. Mishra stressed timely testing, reducing stigma and learning from countries such as China and Egypt to strengthen India's hepatitis elimination efforts.

The Statesman

Name of the Publication	The Statesman
Date	29/07/2026
Headline	Health experts call for a five-pronged approach to tackle Hepatitis B

Health experts call for a five-pronged approach to tackle Hepatitis B

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, 28 July

Public health experts on Monday flagged an urgent need for systemic action to tackle the growing Hepatitis B crisis in India.

Speaking at the Illness to Wellness Awareness Conference in New Delhi on World Hepatitis Day, Rajesh Bhushan, former Secretary of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, and Chairperson, Illness to Wellness Foundation, outlined five key priorities: expanding screening and surveillance, ensuring timely birth-dose vaccination, decentralising access to treatment, increasing community-level awareness, and using real-time data for informed action.

DURING THE SESSION, HEALTH EXPERTS ALSO HIGHLIGHTED ALARMING GLOBAL DATA THAT ONLY 45 PER CENT OF NEWBORNS RECEIVE THE HEPATITIS B VACCINE WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BIRTH, WHICH IS A CRITICAL GAP IN PREVENTION.

Bhushan affirmed his support for raising public awareness and urged boosting the health strategy to fight the viral disease, "Only 3 per cent of hepatitis B patients in India are aware of their condition, and less than 1 per cent of eligible individuals are receiving antiviral treatment. These are not just statistics; they reflect a silent public health crisis that demands immediate, coordinated action."

राजस्थान पत्रिका

Name of the Publication	Rajasthan Patrika
Date	29/07/2026
Headline	विशेषज्ञों ने यूनिवर्सल स्क्रीनिंग और वयस्कों के टीकाकरण पर दिया जोर

विशेषज्ञों ने यूनिवर्सल स्क्रीनिंग और वयस्कों के टीकाकरण पर दिया जोर

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नई दिल्ली@पत्रिका. भारत में सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य के लिए खतरे के रूप में व्याप्त वायरल हेपेटाइटिस को जड़ से खत्म करने के लिए जरूरी जानकारी, टीके, डायग्नोस्टिक्स और प्रभावी उपचार की व्यवस्था उपलब्ध है। अब सबसे बड़ी चुनौती यह सुनिश्चित करने की है कि जीवन बचाने वाली ये सुविधाएं गर्भवती महिलाओं एवं नवजात शिशुओं से लेकर ज्यादा जोखिम वाले वयस्कों समेत प्रत्येक व्यक्ति तक पहुंचें। इसके लिए यूनिवर्सल स्क्रीनिंग, वयस्कों का टीकाकरण, मातृ स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं को मजबूत बनाने, जल्दी डायग्नोस करने

और सही इलाज तक सभी के लिए समान पहुंच सुनिश्चित करने की जरूरत है। विश्व हेपेटाइटिस दिवस 2026 के अवसर पर इलनेस टु वेलनेस फाउंडेशन की तरफ से आयोजित सम्मेलन हेपेटाइटिस की रोकथाम, निदान और उपचार" के दूसरे संस्करण में नीति-निर्माताओं, हेपेटोलॉजिस्ट और सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य विशेषज्ञों ने यह बात कही। इलनेस टु वेलनेस फाउंडेशन की गवर्निंग काउंसिल के अध्यक्ष राजेश भूषण ने कहा कि राष्ट्रीय वायरल हेपेटाइटिस नियंत्रण कार्यक्रम के माध्यम से भारत ने उल्लेखनीय प्रगति की है।

The Pioneer

TRUSTED SINCE 1865

Name of the Publication	The Pioneer
Date	29/07/2026
Headline	Experts push universal screening to end viral hepatitis by 2030

Experts push universal screening to end viral hepatitis by 2030

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By Pioneer News Service



India has the knowledge, vaccines, diagnostics and treatments needed to eliminate viral hepatitis as a public health threat. [India News Portal](#)

The next challenge is ensuring that these lifesaving interventions reach every individual—from expectant mothers and newborns to high-risk adults—through universal screening, adult immunisation, stronger maternal healthcare, early diagnosis and equitable access to treatment, leading policymakers, hepatologists and public health experts said at the second edition of the Illness to Wellness Foundation's conference on "Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment for Hepatitis," organised on the occasion of World Hepatitis Day 2026.



Name of the Publication	ETV Bharat
Date	29/07/2026
Headline	Public Health Experts Call For Greater Adult Immunisation And Maternal Care To Eliminate Viral Hepatitis By 2030

Public Health Experts Call For Greater Adult Immunisation And Maternal Care To Eliminate Viral Hepatitis By 2030

They advocated a prevention-first approach of early diagnosis, equitable treatment and stronger maternal healthcare at a conference on the occasion of World Hepatitis Day 2026.



ITW Summit held in Delhi on World Hepatitis Day (ETV Bharat)



By ETV Bharat Health Team

Published : July 29, 2026 at 9:29 AM IST



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India has the knowledge, vaccines, diagnostics and treatments needed to eliminate viral hepatitis as a public health threat. The next challenge is ensuring that these lifesaving interventions reach every individual, from expectant mothers and newborns to high-risk adults through universal screening, adult immunisation, stronger maternal healthcare, early diagnosis and equitable access to treatment, leading policymakers, hepatologists and public health experts said at the second edition of the Illness to Wellness Foundation's conference on 'Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment for Hepatitis,' organised on the occasion of World Hepatitis Day 2026.

Express Healthcare

Name of the Publication	Express Healthcare
Date	29/07/2026
Headline	Experts call for universal screening and adult immunisation to eliminate viral hepatitis by 2030

Experts call for universal screening and adult immunisation to eliminate viral hepatitis by 2030

Speakers at the Illness to Wellness Foundation conference say expanding screening, vaccination, maternal healthcare and treatment access is key to ending viral hepatitis as a public health threat



REPORT By EH News Bureau on July 29, 2026