Asian Liver Center at Stanford University is a global leader in the fight against hepatitis B — afflicting 240 million people and a major cause of liver cancer worldwide. Twenty years ago, we became the first organization in the U.S. to address the disproportionately high rates of chronic hepatitis B and liver cancer in Asians and Asian Americans. Through Collaboration, Advocacy, Research, Education and Outreach, we are working towards eliminating the transmission, stigma, and deaths associated with this preventable and treatable disease.

#JOINJADE

YEAR IN REVIEW 2015
NEW USES FOR OLD DRUGS

In collaboration with Bin Chen and Professor Atul Butte in bioinformatics, we discovered an old, FDA-approved deworming drug could reverse the genetic changes in liver cancer to resemble that of healthy livers.

We are now planning a clinical trial at Stanford Cancer Center to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of the drug in patients with liver cancer. We are also investigating other anti-parasitic drugs with anti-cancer activity.

Such “repurposing” of FDA-approved drugs offers a faster and cheaper way to identify drugs that could treat other diseases like liver cancer. Currently, only one drug is FDA approved to treat liver cancer.

ADOPTING NANOTECHNOLOGY FOR HEPATITIS B AND LIVER CANCER DETECTION

To address the testing needs of 240 million people living with chronic hepatitis B, we have launched a research project in collaboration with Professor Shan Wang in engineering. Our goal is to develop a smart phone-based diagnostic device using a magneto-nano chip to test for hepatitis B, monitor treatment response, and screen for liver cancer. This type of easy-to-use diagnostic device would be invaluable to enable low and middle-income countries to scale up hepatitis B prevention, treatment and care programs in the next decade.

MATHEMATICAL MODELING TO SUPPORT HEPATITIS B MANAGEMENT

A team of students led by Mehlika Toy, PhD is developing mathematical models and translating them into free, web-based tools for doctors and hepatitis B patients.

By entering basic patient data, such as age and blood test results, the tool will provide guidance to the patient and doctor whether hepatitis B treatment is indicated. It also calculates the reduction in cancer and cirrhosis risk if the patient follows recommended monitoring and treatment.

TEAM SPOTLIGHT

Mei Sze Chua, PhD received her doctorate from University of Nottingham and postdoctoral training in molecular pharmacology at Stanford. She joined the Asian Liver Center in 2003 and became senior research scientist in 2007.

Wei Wei, PhD received his doctorate from Wuhan University before joining the Asian Liver Center as a postdoctoral fellow in 2007 and was appointed to research associate in 2012.

Mehlika Toy, PhD, DrPH received her training from Erasmus University Rotterdam and Harvard School of Public Health before joining the Asian Liver Center in 2014 as a postdoctoral fellow. She was appointed to research associate in 2015.
Millions of viewers and thousands of comments were posted in response to our China social media campaign to promote newborn vaccination on World Hepatitis Day featuring video messages by Hai Qing and China superstar Yao Chen.

25 subway stations in Beijing featured “3 shots OK” digital displays with popular Chinese movie star Hai Qing to promote hepatitis B vaccination and to celebrate World Hepatitis Day in partnership with China World Health Organization and others.

38 cities, 13 provinces, 40,000 people: We partnered with 69 non-governmental organizations in China to spread hepatitis B education through factory outreach, street shows, walkathons, and kids programs.

Asian Liver Center and World Health Organization joined Hong Kong Hep B Free Foundation to celebrate the World Hepatitis Day JoinJade event. Guests holding the “3 shots ok-for-life” sign included John Tsang, Hong Kong’s financial secretary who praised the Foundation’s contributions and achievements in promoting community awareness and action to prevent hepatitis B and liver cancer in Hong Kong.

At our Beijing press conference, Director Li Quanle, National Health and Family Planning Commission, Zhang Guomin, China CDC, Dr. Lance Roderwald, China World Health Organization, and provincial leaders applauded the success of the 2-year project and encouraged its adoption nationwide. The Asian Liver Center was honored for its many years of contributions to the Chinese efforts to fight hepatitis B.

Representatives from 37 countries and the Asian Liver Center gathered at the World Health Organization Western Pacific Regional office in Manila to brainstorm the development of the first regional action plan to prevent, diagnose and treat hepatitis B and C. The plan was subsequently approved by all the countries. The region accounts for 60% of liver cancer deaths in the world, even though it makes up only 25% of the population.

Students from Nanjing University, recipients of our China College Fund, shared homemade cakes with peers to show that HBV is not spread through food. At Henan Medical University, 100 volunteers provided hepatitis B education to 10,700 people.

Dr. So on a field visit to remote villages in Qinghai, China presented a JoinJade bracelet to a schoolgirl after she was quizzed about hepatitis B vaccination. Dr. Zhou, deputy director of maternal and child health displayed his approval with the “3 shots ok-for-life” sign.

QINGHAI AND GANSU HEALTHCARE WORKERS AND PREGNANT WOMEN EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROJECT IMPROVED HBV PREVENTION

30 downtown businesses in Palo Alto displayed storefront window stickers to promote hepatitis B awareness.

15 NEW CORPORATE PARTNERS IN 8 CITIES IN THE BAY AREA EDUCATED EMPLOYEES ABOUT HEPATITIS B RISK AND PREVENTION.
TeamHBV chapters in high schools and colleges around the world promoted hepatitis B and liver cancer awareness in their respective campuses and communities.

Asian Liver Center placed 2nd among community organizations in the 2015 Chinese New Year Parade in San Francisco to welcome the year of the ram. We featured a 10-person Jade Dragon, Fei Tian jade ribbon dancers and jade lantern carriers, all led by musical rams!

Jade Champion awardees for outstanding preventive and educational efforts in the corporate sector: Michael Hsieh, Team Research; Albert Pham & Lopa Patel, Lockheed Martin; Angeline Lotilla, Pericom Semiconductor; Savannah Burnett, Silicon Valley Employers Forum; Henry Huang, AT&T.

Gold Sponsors

CTT Inc.  
Paul & Tammy Davis  
King Pang & Maggi Yum  
Ms. Belinda So  
Ms. Patricia Yee Ping So  
Zeshan Foundation

Asian Liver Center at Stanford University  
780 Welch Road, CJ 130  
Palo Alto, CA 94304, USA  
Tel: 888.311.3331  
Fax: 650.736.8001  
Online: liver.stanford.edu/donations.html

To learn more:  
liver.stanford.edu  
hepbmoms.org  
apavh.org  
yucorps.org  
joinjade.cn (in Chinese)

Thank You

Jade Sponsors (>$100,000)

Ho Shung Pun  
(in memory of Ho Shung Yuk)  
Dr. C.J. & Ha Lin Yip Huang  
Dr. Joseph & Hon Mai Lam Goodman  
Ms. Florence Lee  
Providence Foundation

To all our donors, thank you for your generous support. Donations are tax deductible to the full extent provided by law.

Make A Donation

TeamHBV at Castilleja High School, Palo Alto mobilized hundreds of students to recognize the school’s annual Hepatitis B Awareness Day. Students wore jade, participated in trivia games, purchased lollipops, Jade Ribbon cookies, and handmade rhinestone-studded Jade Ribbon hair ties to raise funds for awareness.

Dr. So was honored by the Asian American Network for Cancer Awareness, Research and Training as the 2015 recipient of the Christopher Jenkins Cancer Control Award for his many career accomplishments in liver cancer control, including his national and international impact on hepatitis B prevention, management and treatment.

Golfing to fight hepatitis B. 64 employees from multiple companies joined hepatitis B advocates Sandy Andrada, San Jose Councilman Manh Nguyen, and U.S. Congressman Mike Honda at Deep Cliff Golf Course in Cupertino at a fun outing to play night golf and learn about the linkage between hepatitis B and liver cancer.

“Through my volunteer experience, I have really grown as an individual - learning to take the initiative to help others, be proactive, and improving my skills in leadership, organization, and communication. I have had so much fun working while continually being inspired by the interns and staff. I hope others will volunteer to make an impact on health on a global scale!”

Presidential Volunteer Service Award recipient Rinka Murakami, Mountain View High School senior

Gold Sponsors ($10,000 - $100,000)

CTT Inc.  
Paul & Tammy Davis  
King Pang & Maggi Yum  
Ms. Belinda So  
Ms. Patricia Yee Ping So  
Zeshan Foundation