

HAVE A HEART, SAVE MY LIVER! WHO HAS ACCESS TO THE CURE IN AFRICA?

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Thanks: Médecins du Monde (MdM), as some of the data is from mapCrowd, a crowdsourcing platform codeveloped with MdM

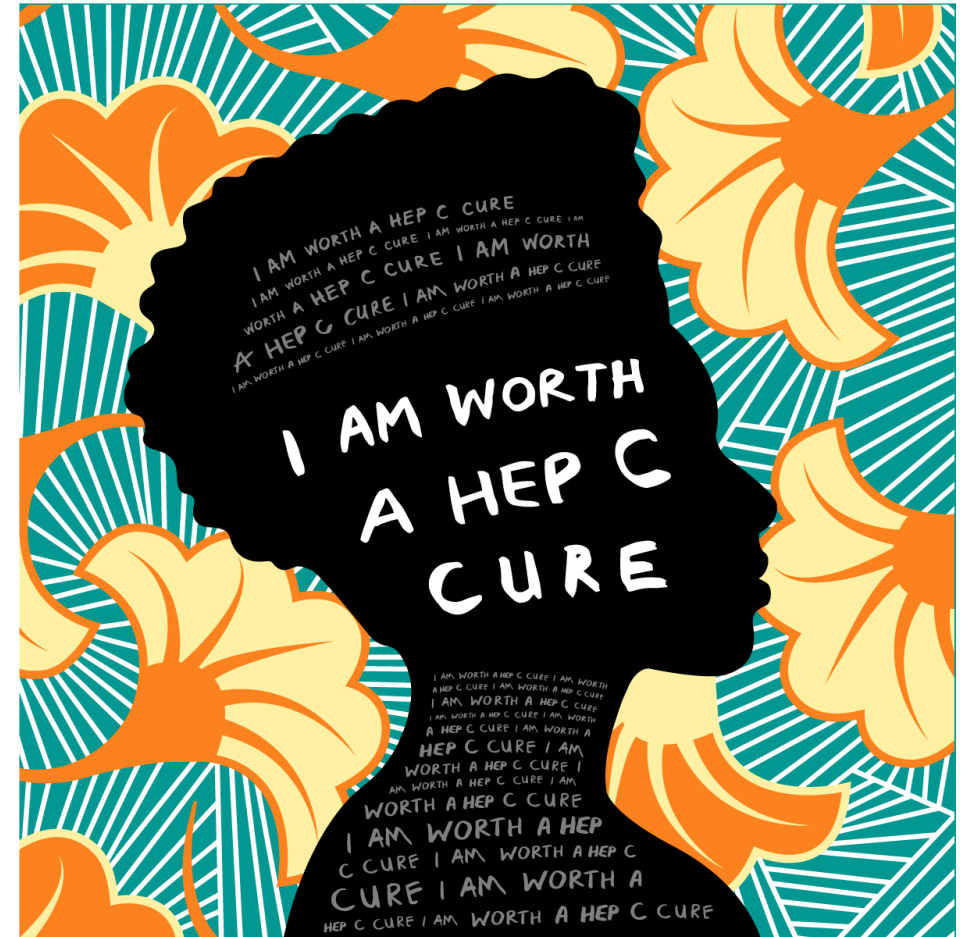
TAG
Treatment Action Group

TOPICS

- **HCV treatment access barriers in Africa**
- **Current DAA registration**
- **HCV treatment restrictions**
- **Recommendations**

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Despite voluntary licensing agreements, access to generic pangenotypic DAAs is not happening across African countries
- Delays in registration for DAAs continue to obstruct availability and access
- Treatment restrictions, including sobriety; prescriber; and fibrosis restrictions pose access barriers and should be removed
- Key populations -- people living with HIV or HBV coinfections, people who use and inject drugs, men who have sex with men, incarcerated people, and sex workers -- have highest burden of HCV infections and need to be prioritized in national plans
- **#WorthTheCure** campaign launched to address remaining treatment barriers



HBV & HCV NEW INFECTIONS & MORTALITY BY REGION



Source: WHO Progress Report on HIV, Viral Hepatitis, and STIs 2021

TREATMENT ACCESS BARRIERS IN AFRICA

Generic DAAs can cost <\$100/12-week treatment course

➤ Drug registration gap

- Failure of Pharma to provide data to regulatory authorities to aid in registering DAAs
- Limited resources to review regulatory dossiers
- HCV not prioritized & lack of political will to accelerate supply of generic DAAs despite voluntary license agreements
- Resulting in low demand for DAAs, and lack of commercial interest by generic companies

➤ Treatment rationing & restrictions

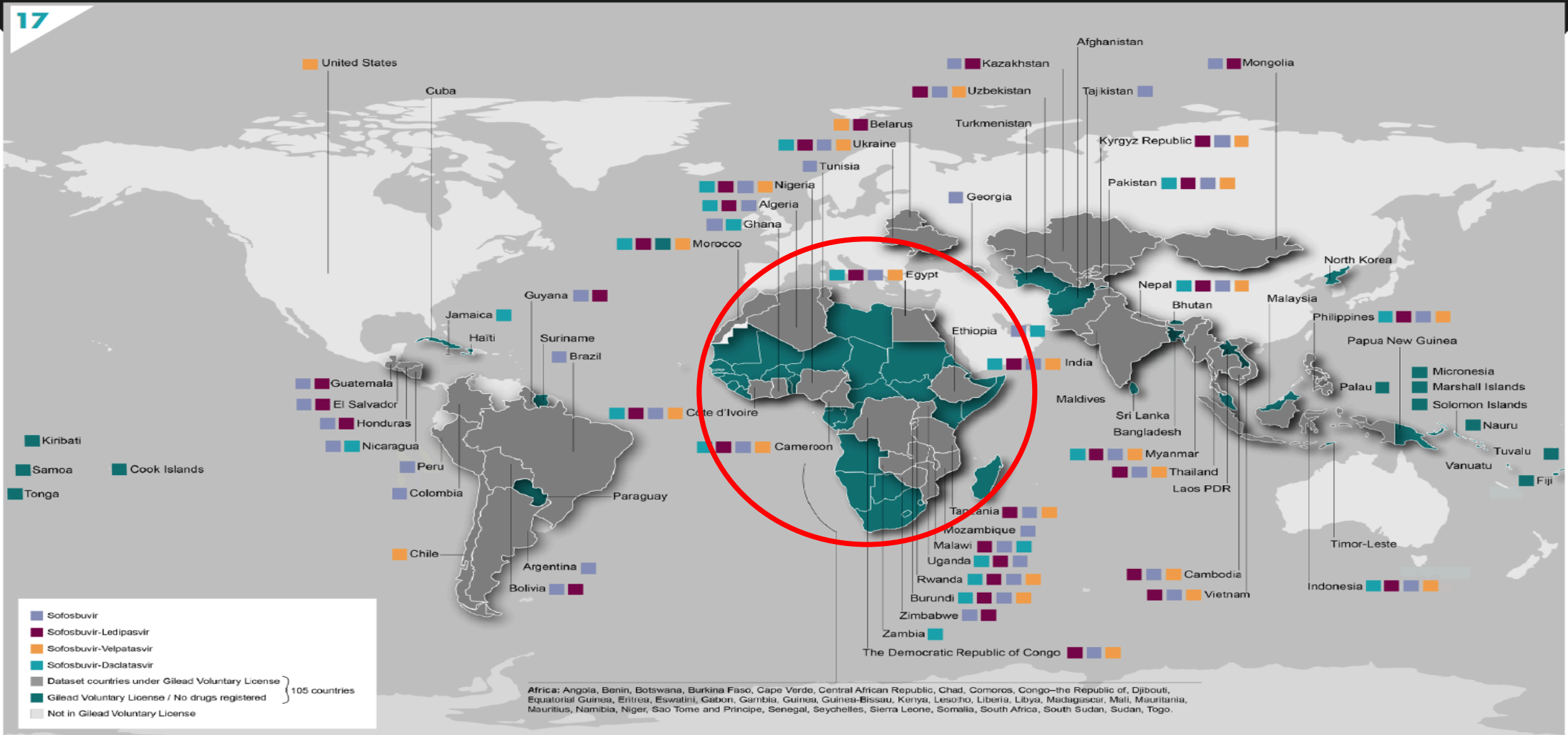
- Based on fibrosis – liver disease stage (limiting access to DAAs to people with advance Fibrosis, i.e., F3/F4)
- Sobriety restrictions (requiring people to abstain from drugs/alcohol as a precondition for treatment access)
- Prescriber/specialist restrictions (only hepatologists/infectious diseases specialists etc. can prescribe treatment)

➤ Other health systems barriers*

Registration of Branded Sofosbuvir-based DAAs Under Gilead's Voluntary Licenses



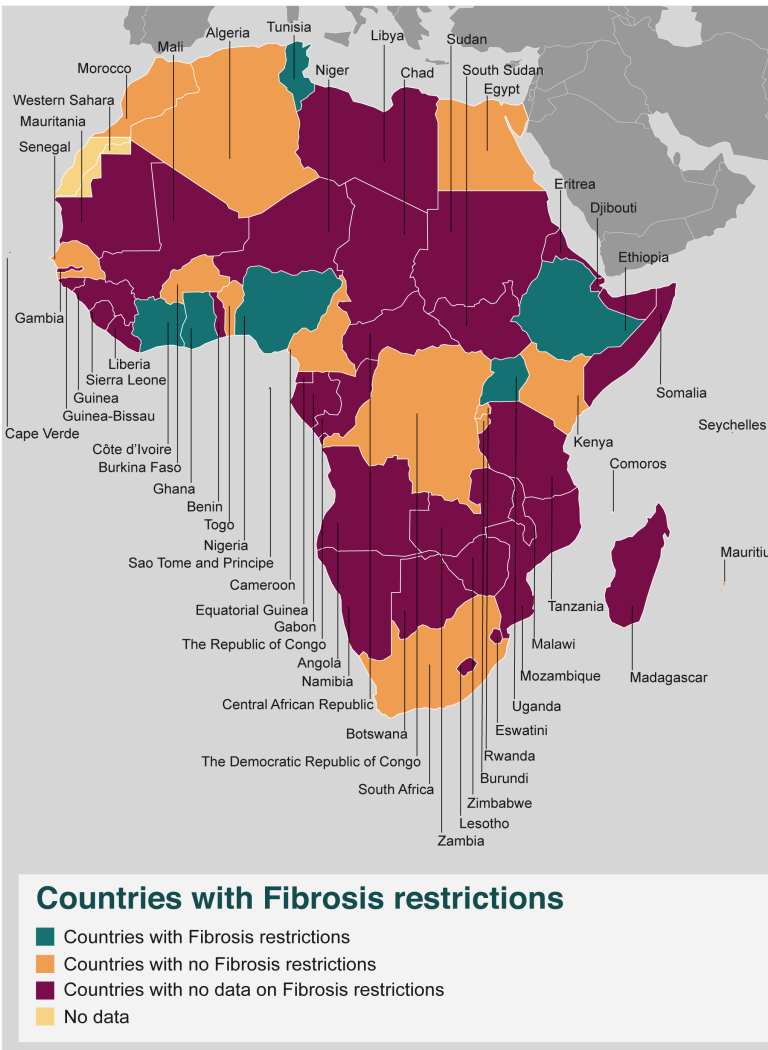
Source: mapCrowd data 2021



There are 27 countries where generic sofosbuvir-based DAAs are registered out of 105 countries in the Gilead voluntary licenses.

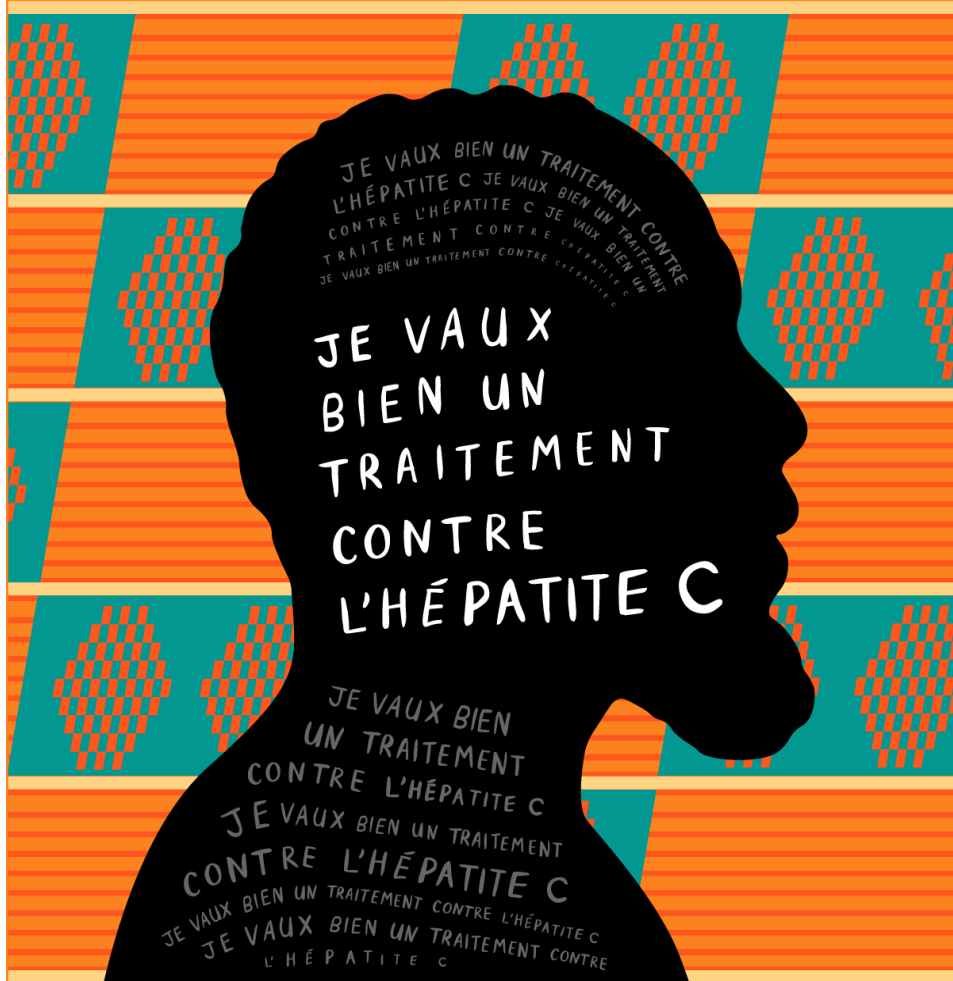
Source: mapCrowd data 2021

COMPARISON OF TREATMENT RESTRICTIONS



Source: mapCrowd data 2021

RECOMMENDATIONS



- International community & governments: Strengthen an African regional regulatory authority to speed up pending filings
- Governments: Through procurement agencies, pool procurement of DAAs with COVID-19, HIV, TB, and malaria medications relevant to the national epi profiles
- African CDC and all Ministries of Health: review national hepatitis plans to remove all treatment restrictions
- Governments: Make use of all legal TRIPS flexibilities, including compulsory licenses and patent oppositions to complement access to generics
- Governments: Leverage HIV; reproductive/sexual health; and harm reduction infrastructure and funding to Include HCV in the Global Fund & PEPFAR country proposals

QUESTIONS OR NEW DATA?

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