Chapter 8

From Risk To Resilience: The Transformative Power of Welfare Programs On Liver Health

Varsha Rawat^{1*}, Manisha Chandrakar², Anjali Wahane³, Dron Kumar Sahu⁴, Neha Sharma⁵, Kunal Chandrakar⁶

Abstract

Liver diseases are a growing global concern, affecting millions of people every year. These conditions, such as hepatitis, fatty liver, and cirrhosis, are typically aggravated by socioeconomic disparity, bad lifestyle choices, and a lack of access to proper healthcare. Welfare programs, when effectively administered, have the ability to make a major difference in preventing and treating liver-related health disorders. This chapter, "From Risk to Resilience: How Welfare Programs Can Transform Liver Health," examines how social and health policies can reduce the burden of liver illness. The conversation emphasizes on crucial issues such as free or low-cost healthcare, liver health awareness campaigns, dietary support for at-risk populations, and community-based treatments. Early detection and ongoing care through social programs can help to prevent problems. Using case studies and successful examples of such programs, this chapter emphasizes the significance of a coordinated strategy to combating liver illnesses. The role of government, non-profit organizations, and community involvement is also covered to create a comprehensive picture. The purpose is to highlight how welfare measures can be an effective instrument for promoting liver health and general public well-being.

Keywords: Nutrition, Liver health, Food security, Public welfare, Resilience

Page 117 ZenToks Books

¹Chhattisgarh Swami Vivekanand Technical University, Bhilai, Chhattisgarh, India.

²Rungta College of Pharmaceutical Sciences & Research, Bhilai, Chhattisgarh, India.

³Danteswari College of Pharmacy, Borpadar, Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh, India.

⁴MJ College Kohka Junwani Road Bhilai, Chhattisgarh, India.

⁵Bharti College of Pharmacy, Durg, Chhattisgarh, India.

⁶University College of Pharmacy, CSVTU, Bhilai, Chhattisgarh, India.

^{*}Corresponding Author.

1. Introduction

1.1 Overview of liver health issues

Liver diseases become one of the biggest health disorders globally, accounting for millions worldwide, with its main causes comprising non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, viral hepatitis, cirrhosis, and hepatocellular carcinoma of the viral types, WHO shows that in the year 2019, nearly causes comprising non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, viral hepatitis, cirrhosis, and hepatocellular carcinoma of the viral types, WHO shows that in the year 2019, nearly 1.1 million fatalities occurred due to viral hepatitis as it is hepatitis as it is responsible for mortality rates roughly comparable to tuberculosis and human immunodeficiency virus [1]. Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease was the most frequently identified cause of chronic liver diseases worldwide and is typically associated with conditions such as obesity and diabetes, with a range of 25% to 30% among many countries while increasing with obesity epidemic trends [2-3]. Unmanaged, the metabolic liver disorder can advance toward nonalcoholic steatohepatitis, fibrosis, and cirrhosis. Besides these factors, alcohol intake, viral hepatitis B and C, and toxic environmental substances all contribute significantly to liver damage in the world. Even with recent advances in diagnosis and treatment options, delayed care and late diagnosis are prevalent factors that exacerbate disease outcomes and increase health-related burdens [4-5].

1.2 Socioeconomic factors linked to liver diseases

Liver diseases disproportionately burden socioeconomically disadvantaged populations. In this respect, limited access to healthcare, poor nutritional status, and higher exposure rates to substances that damage the liver, such as alcohol and industrial toxins, play a major role in this gap [6-7]. Other risks are delayed diagnosis and further progression to advanced liver disease as people from the lower-income level mainly attribute such issues to an inability to access basic healthcare infrastructure or preventive care initiatives [8]. For instance, most patients who suffer from chronic liver diseases but have not been insured have not received their diagnostic tests or treatment, therefore deteriorating the patients' conditions [9].

Ethnic minorities and rural populations face greater barriers to care. In addition to geographical inaccessibility, ethnic minorities also face cultural stigma associated with conditions such as hepatitis, which further limits access to health services [10]. Welfare programs targeting these marginalized groups can make a transformative leap by filling such gaps in access to such services and providing monetary sources for treatment as well as precautionary care. This chapter explores the potential of welfare programs to reduce such disparities and improve liver health outcomes through medical needs and social determinants of health. Such programs, through an integrated approach, may enhance resilience and improve public health outcomes while reducing the socioeconomic burden of liver diseases [11].

Page 118 ZenToks Books

2. Understanding the worldwide burden of liver diseases

2.1 Global and Regional Statistics

Liver disease is an increasing health issue all over the globe, which affects millions of lives and causes a huge loss of life each year. On average, liver-related diseases account for 2 million deaths annually of these deaths, cirrhosis accounts for 1.16 million while liver cancer leads to 745,000 death cases. These statistics further emphasize the severe burden of global liver diseases [6]. There is a drastic variation in liver disease incidence across the regions. non-alcoholic fatty liver disease is one of the leading causes of chronic liver disease, which affects approximately 25% of the world's population. It is highly prevalent in areas with the highest rates of obesity and metabolic syndrome, especially North America, at 24%, and the Middle East, at 32% shown in Table 1.In contrast, viral hepatitis is one of the most important issues of public health in low- and middle-income regions. The proportion of chronic Hepatitis B Virusinfection rates is more than 8% in sub-Saharan Africa and East Asia [1,4].

Table 1: Global and Regional Liver Disease Statistics.

Region	Prevalence Rate	Leading Cause	Mortality Rate
North America	24	Non Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease	Increasing trend in cirrhosis mortality
Middle East	32	Non Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease	Moderate
Sub-Saharan Africa	>8	Chronic Hepatitis B Virus	High
Eastern Europe	High	Alcoholic Liver Diseases	Significant due to heavy drinking
South Asia	Varies	Viral Hepatitis	High

Page 119 ZenToks Books

Alcoholic liver disease is another common problem persisting in Eastern Europe and Central Asia due to the consumption of more alcoholic beverages with weakened health services [12]. In affluent countries such as the United States, deaths caused by liver disease are increasing by a large proportion. For instance, between 1999 and 2016, deaths caused by cirrhosis increased by 65 percent, whereas young adults represented the largest increase in age-specific mortality [9]. In addition to the remarkable economic burden of billions of dollars annually through healthcare and lost productivity, liver diseases also have a huge impact on the economy. The situation is even worse in low- and middle-income countries with minimal access to diagnostic tools and treatment which usually leads to late-stage detection and poorer results. This need for tailored approaches in addressing the unique health challenges and socioeconomic conditions has a specific impact on the differences in liver diseases across various parts of the world [13-14].

2.2 Common Liver Disorders and Their Risk Factors

Liver diseases consist of numerous conditions with varying etiologies and risk factors. Treating these conditions requires knowledge regarding their prevalence, progression, and determinants [4]. The stages of liver disease are presented in Figure 1.

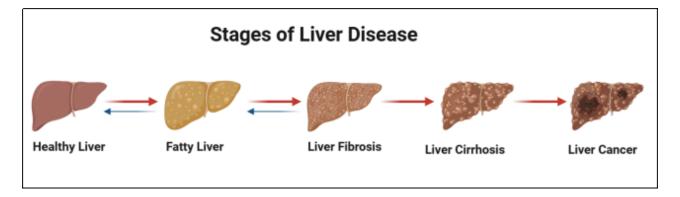


Figure 1: Stages of Liver Disease

Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease

Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease is currently evolving as a leading cause of chronic liver disease globally. It follows the lines very closely as a consequence of the increasing line of obesity syndrome and influences the patients possessing metabolic syndrome, type 2 diabetes, and sedentary lifestyle [15]. The risk of cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma increases immensely with a disease progression from non-alcoholic fatty liver disease to nonalcoholic steatohepatitis and advanced fibrosis. Unchecked non-alcoholic fatty liver could lead to a lifethreatening complication [16-17].

Page 120 ZenToks Books

Viral Hepatitis

Hepatitis B Virus: Hepatitis B Virus is one of the most common causes of chronic liver disease in the world, with an estimated 296 million people infected. It is responsible for more than 800,000 deaths every year, mainly due to complications such as cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma [1]. Its prevalence has been significantly reduced through vaccination programs in some areas, but the hepatitis B Virusremains endemic in many others [18-19].

Hepatitis C Virus

The hepatitis C Virusis estimated to affect about 58 million people worldwide, with 290,000 annual deaths. Advances in antiviral therapies have transformed its management, but gaps in diagnosis and treatment access persist in many parts of the world [20-23].

Alcoholic Liver Disease

Alcoholic Liver Disease is caused by chronic alcohol abuse and is worsened by poor nutrition and genetic predispositions. Alcoholic Liver Disease progresses from steatosis (fatty liver) to alcoholic hepatitis and eventually to cirrhosis. The global burden is particularly high in regions with cultural norms that promote heavy drinking [6,23].

Cirrhosis and Liver Cancer

Cirrhosis is an end-stage chronic liver disease with high morbidity and mortality. It ranks among the greatest risk factors for hepatocellular carcinoma, a leading form of primary liver cancer. The etiology of cirrhosis encompasses chronic hepatitis infections, excessive alcohol consumption, and non-alcoholic fatty liver. Decomposition generally portends severe deterioration in cirrhosis's prognosis [24-25].

3. Role of Welfare Programs in Maintaining Liver Health

Liver diseases constitute a vast variety of diseases including viral hepatitis to non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and cirrhosis, and place a tremendous burden on the health systems of different countries. The liver's condition can be substantially affected by an effective public health strategy, more so through welfare programs [26]. These programs provide easy access to health care and educate the general population on health and wellness about nutrition, education, and awareness-raising campaigns for diseases of the liver. The welfare programs such as free or low-cost healthcare, liver health awareness campaigns, and dietary, and nutritional support promote liver health across all populations as outlined in the next section [27].

3.1 Free or Low-Cost Healthcare Initiatives

One of the most important determinants of liver health is the access to health. Many diseases

Page 121 ZenToks Books

resulting from liver illnesses are found in low and middle-income countries where affordable healthcare is not readily available. Welfare programs providing free or low-cost health services are important in reducing the economic burden of liver diseases and ensuring that vulnerable populations receive timely medical attention [28].

Free Hepatitis Screening and Vaccination

For viral infections, which are the cause of liver diseases such as Hepatitis B and C, early detection and intervention prevent long-term complications, such as cirrhosis and liver cancer. In most regions, viral hepatitis prevalence remains high, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, and the Middle East [29]. Welfare programs for these regions include free or subsidized screening for hepatitis.

For instance, the WHO's Global Hepatitis Program is set to eliminate hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030, which includes improving access to testing and treatment. These efforts are supported by various welfare programs that provide hepatitis B and C screening, as well as free or low-cost antiviral treatments [4]. These programs in high-risk populations, such as injecting drug users or those who have multiple sexual partners, prevent complications of liver disease. Another preventive measure that is free for hepatitis B vaccination, especially in high-prevalence areas, prevents new infections and reduces the burden of chronic liver diseases due to hepatitis B Virus [30].

Access to Liver Disease Diagnostics and Treatment

Many low-income regions lack access to advanced diagnostic tools such as liver ultrasound, elastography, and blood tests such as hepatitis B Virus and hepatitis C Virus RNA tests due to the high costs involved. Thus, welfare programs providing these diagnostic services at reduced or no cost are important in early disease detection, allowing patients to start treatment before the disease advances to third-stage diseases such as cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma [31].

In addition, access to treatment drugs, such as direct-acting antiviral agents for hepatitis C, is important in decreasing the burden of liver disease. Direct-acting antiviral agents s are highly effective in curing the hepatitis C Virus; however, they are very expensive, making them inaccessible in low-income countries. Welfare programs that subsidize the cost of these drugs make them accessible to a wider population, thus greatly reducing the risk of long-term liver damage [32].

Alcoholic Liver Disease Treatment

Alcoholic liver disease is a major cause of morbidity and mortality related to the liver in most parts of the world. People with alcoholic Liver Disease often have more than medical issues; they are also socially stigmatized and psychologically discouraged from seeking treatment. Welfare programs, therefore, are important in the reduction of the prevalence of alcoholic

Page 122 ZenToks Books

Liver Disease and improving outcomes through integrated healthcare and social support services such as counseling, addiction treatment, and rehabilitation. Such programs should support alcohol cessation programs, in addition to making affordable treatment accessible for alcoholic Liver Disease, cirrhosis, and alcohol-related hepatitis [23-24]. Proper care is provided through combined medical treatment with psychosocial support that reduces alcohol intake, improves the health of the liver, and prevents further advancement of the alcoholic Liver Disease. For example, the WHO's Global Action Plan on Viral Hepatitis specifies increasing access to testing, care, and treatment, even within high-burden regions, particularly during the year 2025. If such efforts were included in national healthcare frameworks, it would make the prevention and treatment of conditions related to the liver more equitable for underprivileged populations [33].

Global Initiatives for Liver Health

Other welfare programs may be incorporated into global initiatives aimed at lowering the incidence of liver diseases. For example, the World Health Organization's Global Action Plan on Viral Hepatitis aims to improve testing, care, and treatment, which will mainly focus on the burden of the hepatitis epidemic in these areas. With the inclusion of such programs within the healthcare framework of their nations, these countries will ensure a fair level of prevention and treatment for their people concerning liver disease, especially targeting marginalized populations [34].

3.2 Liver Health Awareness Campaigns

Liver diseases, especially those caused by viral hepatitis and lifestyle-related conditions such as non-alcoholic fatty liver, are often underdiagnosed and undertreated. These can be avoided in case proper attention is provided for public perceptions as well as adopting healthier behavior toward disease benefits as early diagnosis helps a lot for its treatments [24].

Hepatitis Awareness

The high prevalence of hepatitis B Virus and hepatitis C Virus calls for public health interventions through awareness-raising campaigns about hepatitis, which educate the general population on modes of transmission of such viruses, their risk factors, and the importance of regular screening. For instance, in certain Asian and African communities, the disease is primarily transferred through unsafe practices in medicine, and use of the same contaminated needle, and transfusions of infected blood. Welfare programs that educate about safe practices, vaccination, and screening can go a long way in preventing viral hepatitis. In addition, the observance of World Hepatitis Day (July 28th) is in itself a global effort that helps spread messages concerning hepatitis around the world. The campaigns compel governments to enact policies on screening and vaccination and also educate the public on measures of prevention [35].

Page 123 ZenToks Books

Promotion of Healthy Lifestyle to prevent non-alcoholic fatty liver

Non-alcoholic fatty liver is now acknowledged as one of the most prevalent liver diseases in the world, mainly because of increasing obesity, sedentary lifestyles, and poor diet. Public health messages aimed at healthier diets, exercise, and control of weight are useful in the prevention of non-alcoholic fatty liver, which can prevent progression to nonalcoholic steatohepatitis and eventually cirrhosis. Welfare programs could also complement the above efforts with free or subsidized fitness sessions, nutrition consultants, and awareness literature on the value of staying in a healthy weight. The governments could also cooperate with schools, workplaces, and community centers and help them change lifestyles and healthy diets to get away from diseases related to improper diets and unhealthy lifestyles [36].

Social Media and Digital Platforms

In recent times, social media and digital forums have been increasing in their applications for health communications. These can have a great role in spreading health awareness regarding diseases of the liver amongst the youth more effectively. The welfare programs, therefore, would be able to propagate information on avoiding liver diseases and the importance of vaccination, including screening services using social media-based campaigns. These campaigns are both economical and reach out with huge potential to a large number of diverse audiences irrespective of geography and socio-economic lines [37].

Partnership with Healthcare Institutions

Healthcare providers such as hospitals, clinics, and general practitioners are the first to detect and treat most cases of liver disease. Welfare programs can collaborate with healthcare institutions to train healthcare professionals on how to prevent liver diseases, detect them early, and treat them effectively. These collaborations can also help develop a network for referring patients with liver diseases so that they are appropriately followed up and treated [37].

3.3 Dietary and Nutritional Support

Diet plays a key role in preventing and managing liver diseases. For patients with liver conditions, particularly those with non-alcoholic fatty liver or alcoholic liver disease, appropriate diet modifications can help reduce inflammation of the liver, improve liver function, and slow the progression of the disease.

Nutritional Support for non-alcoholic fatty liver

Dietary intervention is also recommended for most non-alcoholic fatty liver patients as the first line of management. Most studies have shown that maintaining a balanced diet, giving fewer intakes on processed foods, sugars, and unhealthy fats, decreases liver fat accumulation and improves liver function. Welfare programs with access to nutritionists and dietitians will help individuals with non-alcoholic fatty liver make better dietary choices. The Mediterranean

Page 124 ZenToks Books

diet, which is high in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and healthy fats such as olive oil, has been demonstrated to improve the health of the liver in individuals with non-alcoholic fatty liver. Welfare programs can implement such dietary guidelines in public health education and make available affordable food options that support liver health [38].

Support for Individuals with Alcoholic Liver Disease

Nutritional support is very important for the management of alcoholic Liver Disease. Chronic alcohol consumption leads to malnutrition, which may worsen liver damage. Welfare programs that provide nutritional support to patients with alcoholic Liver Disease can prevent or treat malnutrition. These programs may provide access to high-protein and high-calorie foods to support liver regeneration and reduce complications associated with cirrhosis and alcohol-related liver disease. Apart from nutritional support, welfare programs should provide individuals with alcoholic Liver Disease education on the adverse effects of alcohol intake on the liver and abstinence. Supplemental support groups and counseling to guide someone who quits alcohol can be coupled with dietetic intervention and enhance the prospects for recovery [39].

Food Insecurity and Liver Disease Risk

This, however, presents more problems, which can result from the prevalence of poor diet and food insecurity, contributing to risk factors like obesity, and diabetes, which increase risks toward liver diseases. Food insecurity solutions provided through various welfare programs like providing people access to healthy foods are one primary step to stopping the advancement of such disease; thus, an establishment of food banks, meal delivery, and government-sponsored food support provides means through which access is attained towards nutritional nutrition sources to promote hepatic well being [40-41].

Public health directives and access to liver-specific nutritional care

Besides providing overall nutritional support, welfare programs may evolve liver-specific nutrition guidelines to facilitate better management of these conditions in affected individuals. A patient with cirrhosis needs low sodium content for fluid accumulation, whereas an individual with fatty liver disease is supposed to minimize the intake of sugar and other refined carbohydrates. Nutritional support becomes a crucial factor in managing chronic liver diseases as well as the prevention of complications in patients [42].

4. Community-Based Interventions

4.1 Preventive Strategies at the Grassroots Level

Community - based interventions are critical to the prevention and management of liver diseases, especially among vulnerable populations. These programs target the fundamental

Page 125 ZenToks Books

causes of liver health problems: poor nutrition, lack of knowledge, and failure to receive timely medical care [43]. Local initiatives could encourage healthier long-term lifestyle changes and increase access to health screening while educating at-risk communities on liver health. This includes grassroots efforts the use of local health workers to reach out and provide mobile health clinics with school-based education programs that would significantly reduce liver disease incidence through early detection and preventive services. For instance, CHWs in rural settings can be trained to conduct basic screening for liver diseases, counsel on appropriate nutrition, and refer for further health care. This kind of local intervention is crucial in creating a resilient population with the knowledge and resources to protect liver health [44-47].

4.2 Case Studies of Effective Programs

Several successful case studies point to the impact of community-based intervention. For example, in one rural Indian intervention, local healthcare workers provided education on liver diseases, offered free hepatitis B immunizations, and facilitated screening for liver health; this led to a significant improvement in early detection of liver diseases, as well as a reduction in cirrhosis incidence in the affected community [48]. Another promising intervention was to conduct nutrition-education workshops toward the prevention of non-alcoholic fatty liver in neighborhoods with low socio-economic status by teaching families proper eating habits and exercise, on the importance of reducing sugar- and fat-related unhealthy foods and its impact on our liver health.

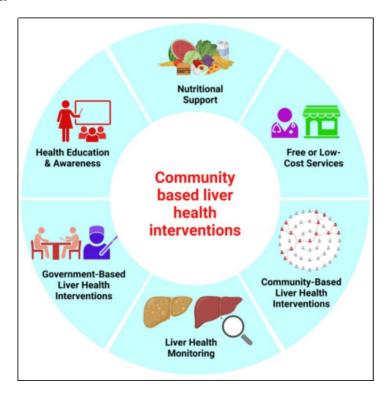


Figure 2: Components of community based liver health interventions

Page 126 ZenToks Books

Table: 1 Case studies of effective liver health programs.

Program	Region	Strategies	Outcomes	References
Rural India Hepatitis Awareness and Vaccination Program	India (Rural Areas)	Health education, free hepatitis B vaccination, liver disease screenings	Increased vaccination rates, reduction in hepatitis B cases	49
Nutrition Education Workshops for non- alcoholic fatty liver	Low-income Urban Areas	Nutrition education, diet modifications, regular health monitoring	Decrease in prevalence of non-alcoholic fatty liver, improved liver health outcomes	50
Community Health Worker Program for Hepatitis C	Sub-Saharan Africa	Training community health workers, providing antiviral medications	Improved access to treatment, higher rates of hepatitis C cure	51
Liver Health Awareness Campaign by NGO	Southeast Asia	Mass media campaigns, mobile clinics, screening events	Increased public awareness, early detection of liver diseases	52

5 Government and Non-Profit Involvement

5.1 Policies Supporting Liver Health

Government policies can boost liver health and ensure welfare programs are well implemented. Public health initiatives that focus on liver disease prevention can be initiated

Page 127 ZenToks Books

by governments, along with national liver health awareness campaigns. They can also provide subsidies for medical treatments to at-risk populations. Increasing public funding for liver diseases research and providing support for health policies based on evidence can help governments enhance the quality of care provided to those with liver conditions. Such policies as mandatory screening for hepatitis B and C, implementation of vaccination programs, and regulations to encourage healthful diets at schools and workplaces could go a long way in decreasing the burden of liver diseases. Governments can also incentivize collaboration between healthcare providers and welfare programs to create a more integrated approach to liver health [53-54].

5.2 Collaboration between Stakeholders

The multi-dimensional challenges in liver disease require collaboration among governments, non-profit organizations, and entities of the private sector. It is the role of NGOs and community groups to sometimes provide the critical link in terms of awareness, funding of research, and providing services that are much needed by people in less advantaged settings. In so doing, these stakeholders will create a holistic approach towards liver health, including its prevention, education, treatment, and long-term care [55]. For instance, collaboration between a government health ministry and a non-profit organization in the treatment and prevention of hepatitis C helped increase access to antiviral medications for low-income individuals. Through this collaboration, the initiative also launched a public awareness campaign about the importance of regular screening for liver diseases [56].

6. Challenges in Implementation

6.1 Barriers to Access and Equity

Implementation of welfare programs may face many barriers, which are mainly in resource-limited settings. One of the key issues for a lot of people is access to health care. Many live in rural areas or are residents of low-income communities. People who suffer from other barriers may never receive necessary liver health services because of lack of medical infrastructure, poor availability of trained healthcare providers, or even financial constraints [57]. The third set of barriers arises from social and cultural influences. The stigma of liver diseases, especially those related to alcohol or viral infections like hepatitis, can lead to unwillingness on the part of affected people to seek help. Such barriers demand an approach that can ensure that healthcare providers and leaders from within communities win people's trust and bring about access to equitable care [58].

6.2 Funding and Resource Allocation

Another challenge in the effective implementation of welfare programs is related to limited funding and resource allocation. Public health initiatives have to compete with other compelling health issues for the limited funding from governments. Similarly, non-profit organizations may not be able to get enough financial support to continue and expand their

Page 128 ZenToks Books

programs. The effective allocation of resources, such that programs for liver health reach the most vulnerable populations, calls for planning and proper prioritization. Moreover, international aid and cooperation with private sector entities can be used to fill the funding gap and make the welfare initiatives more sustainable [59].

7. Recommendations for Future Strategies

7.1 Integrated Approach to Public Health

An integrated approach to public health should be taken by welfare programs if they are going to be more effective in transforming the health of the liver. The approach should take into account multi-sectoral involvement, including the health sector, education, nutrition, and social welfare. Governments need to work in collaboration with health organizations, the local community, and the private sector to provide comprehensive strategies aimed at not only directly addressing the liver diseases but also the determinants of socioeconomic health [60]. Healthy diet, reduction in alcohol consumption, and access to regular screening for diseases affecting the liver could be an integrated approach. In addition to these, a comprehensive approach towards tackling the deeper social determinants such as poverty, education, and employment may also be involved [61].

7.2 Role of Technology in Early Detection and Care

Technological advancements can contribute to better outcomes in liver health. Telemedicine, mobile health applications, and AI tools can assist in the early detection of liver diseases, provide remote consultations, and ensure continued monitoring for those at risk. Technology can also help in the distribution of educational content and health resources to areas that are less privileged, thereby improving health literacy and empowering people to make decisions regarding their liver health [62]. AI-based algorithms can aid healthcare providers in diagnosing liver diseases like cirrhosis and liver cancer from imaging data, thus enabling faster and more accurate diagnoses. The mobile apps that track symptoms and medication adherence will help patients manage chronic conditions such as liver disease more effectively, thus improving long-term outcomes [63].

8. Conclusion

This chapter underlines the importance of welfare programs in promoting healthier livers as well as dealing with this increasingly prevalent challenge of liver disorders. Socio-economic factors like poverty, restricted availability of healthcare, and environmental stress, contribute immensely in influencing the epidemiology and evolution of liver disease. Individuals in lower socio-economic classes are exposed to even higher risks due to bad health care, dietary habits, and more deplorable levels of awareness regarding liver condition. Hence, welfare programs with precise targeting of etiological causes of diseases of the liver are critical in preventing such conditions. Nutrition-based interventions have been proven effective in the alleviation of

Page 129 ZenToks Books

the burden of liver diseases, and the most common form of this burden has been non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. Diets poor in carbohydrates and fats can dramatically enhance the liver's functionality as well as decelerate the progression of the disease. Detection and prevention programs also basically form a part of relief from liver disease. These identify the high-risk population and intervene early so that improved clinical outcomes can be achieved with minimal economic and social burden due to liver disorders. It is thus integrated with public health policies in line with social welfare measures for an all-round approach toward the prevention and management of liver diseases.

Strong collaboration among healthcare providers, policymakers, and welfare organizations ensures support to the population at risk. Multifaceted strengthening of welfare programs, therefore, stands critical. Early diagnosis and intervention can also be facilitated by proactive screening programs, especially in vulnerable populations and underserved communities. Equivalent importance should also be given to access programs regarding affordable healthcare; these address differences in the supply and price of diagnostic and therapeutic services. Nutritional support for economically deprived individuals can actually reduce risks associated with liver disease, such as malnutrition and an unhealthy diet. The transformative aspect of any community education campaign is that it empowers an individual with knowledge regarding risk factors and possible preventive measures. This will encourage people to assume healthier lifestyles and eliminate or reduce stigma to liver disease. Finally, it puts welfare programs under national health policy so that there is one uniform and streamlined strategy against the liver disease with resource allocation and proper policy implementation for long-term sustenance for support. All this indicates the vital importance of building a strong welfare system to battle against diseases in relation to livers and developing healthy communities.

References

- 1. Palma-Lara I, Ortiz-López MG, Bonilla-Delgado J, Pérez-Escobar J, Godínez-Aguilar R, Luévano-Contreras C, Espinosa-García AM, Pérez-Durán J, Alonso-Themann PG, Nolasco-Quiroga M, Flores-Estrada J. A landscape of liver cirrhosis and transplantation in Mexico: Changing leading causes and transplant as response. Annals of Hepatology. 2025 Jan 1;30(1):101562.
- 2. Durazzo, M.; Ponzo, E.; Bonetto, S.; Fagoonee, S.; Pellicano, R. Liver diseases in the elderly. Minerva Med.2019, 110 (1), 35–51.
- 3. Fan, J.; Shi, Y.; Peng, Y. Autophagy and Liver Diseases. Adv. Exp. Med. Biol.2020, 1207, 497–528.
- 4. Younossi, Z. M.; Koenig, A. B.; Abdelatif, D.; Fazel, Y.; Henry, L.; Wymer, M. Global Epidemiology of Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease–Meta-Analytic Assessment of Prevalence, Incidence, and Outcomes. Nat. Rev. Gastroenterol. Hepatol.2018, 15 (1), 11–20.

Page 130 ZenToks Books

- 5. Stanaway, J. D.; Flaxman, A. D.; Naghavi, M.; Fitzmaurice, C.; Vos, T.; Abubakar, I.; Abu-Raddad, L. J.; Assadi, R.; Bhala, N.; Cowie, B.; et al. The Global Burden of Viral Hepatitis from 1990 to 2013: Findings from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2013. Lancet2016, 388 (10049), 1081–1088.
- 6. Asrani, S. K.; Devarbhavi, H.; Eaton, J.; Kamath, P. S. Burden of Liver Diseases in the World. J. Hepatol. 2019, 70 (1), 151–171.
- 7. Peery, A. F.; Crockett, S. D.; Murphy, C. C.; Lund, J. L.; Dellon, E. S.; Williams, J. L.; Jensen, E. T.; Shaheen, N. J.; Barritt, A. S.; Lieber, S. R.; Kochar, B.; Barnes, E. L.; Fan, Y. C.; Pate, V.; Galanko, J.; Baron, T. H.; Sandler, R. S. Burden and Cost of Gastrointestinal, Liver, and Pancreatic Diseases in the United States: Update 2018. Gastroenterology2019, 156 (1), 254–272.e11.
- 8. Calle, E. E.; Rodriguez, C.; Walker-Thurmond, K.; Thun, M. J. Socioeconomic Status and Chronic Liver Disease Mortality Risk. Clin. Liver Dis.2020, 15 (2), 69–76.
- 9. Tapper, E. B.; Parikh, N. D. Mortality Due to Cirrhosis and Liver Cancer in the United States, 1999–2016. BMJ2016, 362, k2817.
- 10. Rawat V, Jain V. Formulation, optimization and characterization of ellagic acid phytovesicular system for bioavailability enhancement. Indian Drugs. 2023 Jul 1;60 (7).
- 11. Tang, H.; Pittman, D.; He, J.; Hong, H.; Jin, Q.; Wang, L.; Lou, X. Health Disparities in Liver Disease. Hepatol. Commun.2021, 5 (2), 200–209.
- 12. Singal, A. K.; Bataller, R.; Ahn, J.; Kamath, P. S.; Shah, V. H. ACG Clinical Guideline: Alcoholic Liver Disease. Am. J. Gastroenterol.2018, 113 (2), 175–194.
- 13. Wang, X., Lin, S. X., Jin, Y. W., et al. (2020). Impact of socioeconomic status on chronic liver disease in a population-based study. Liver International, 40(1), 267-276.
- 14. Gao, B.; Bataller, R. Alcoholic Liver Disease: Pathogenesis and New Therapeutic Targets. Gastroenterology2011, 141 (5), 1572–1585.
- 15. Yan, C.; Hu, W.; Tu, J.; Li, J.; Liang, Q.; Han, S. Pathogenic Mechanisms and Regulatory Factors Involved in Alcoholic Liver Disease. J. Transl. Med.2023, 21 (1), 300.
- 16. Pouwels, S.; Sakran, N.; Graham, Y.; Leal, A.; Pintar, T.; Yang, W.; Kassir, R.; Singhal, R.; Mahawar, K.; Ramnarain, D. Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD): A Review of Pathophysiology, Clinical Management, and Effects of Weight Loss. BMC Endocr. Disord.2022, 22 (1), 63.
- 17. Manisha Chandrakar, Khomendra Sarwa, Gaurav Kashyap, Rahul Singh, Vijendra Kumar Suryawanshi, Varsha rawat, Kunal chandrakar. Comparative Anthelmintic Potential Study of Aqueous and Ethanolic Extracts of Leucaena Leucocephala Pod. Int. J. of Pharm. Sci., 2024, Vol 2, Issue 11, 1172-1179.

Page 131 ZenToks Books

- 18. Maurice, J.; Manousou, P. Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease. Clin. Med. (Lond.)2018, 18 (3), 245–250.
- 19. Guvenir, M.; Arikan, A. Hepatitis B Virus: From Diagnosis to Treatment. Pol. J. Microbiol.2020, 69 (4), 391–399.
- 20. Almeida, P. H.; Matielo, C. E. L.; Curvelo, L. A.; Rocco, R. A.; Felga, G.; Della Guardia, B.; Boteon, Y. L. Update on the Management and Treatment of Viral Hepatitis. World J. Gastroenterol.2021, 27 (23), 3249–3261.
- 21. Pietschmann, T.; Brown, R. J. P. Hepatitis C Virus. Trends Microbiol. 2019, 27(4), 379-380.
- 22. Pirro, M.; Bianconi, V.; Francisci, D.; Schiaroli, E.; Bagaglia, F.; Sahebkar, A.; Baldelli, F. Hepatitis C Virus and Proprotein Convertase Subtilisin/Kexin Type 9: A Detrimental Interaction to Increase Viral Infectivity and Disrupt Lipid Metabolism. J. Cell. Mol. Med.2017, 21(12), 3150-3161.
- 23. Reshetnyak, V. I.; Karlovich, T. I.; Ilchenko, L. U. Hepatitis G Virus. World J. Gastroenterol.2008, 14(30), 4725-4734.
- 24. Osna, N. A.; Donohue, T. M., Jr.; Kharbanda, K. K. Alcoholic Liver Disease: Pathogenesis and Current Management. Alcohol Res. 2017, 38(2), 147-161.
- 25. Moon, A. M.; Singal, A. G.; Tapper, E. B. Contemporary Epidemiology of Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis. Clin. Gastroenterol. Hepatol.2020, 18(12), 2650-2666.
- 26. Dhar, D.; Baglieri, J.; Kisseleva, T.; Brenner, D. A. Mechanisms of Liver Fibrosis and Its Role in Liver Cancer. Exp. Biol. Med. (Maywood)2020, 245(2), 96-108.
- 27. Varsha Rawat, Mamta Mairisha. Uncovering the Mysteries of the Mumps Virus: A Thorough Examination of Discoveries, Obstacles, and Paths Ahead. Journal of Xidian University. Vol: 18, Issue: 5, 2024 May 18.
- 28. Ufere, N. N.; Hinson, J.; Finnigan, S.; Powell, E. E.; Donlan, J.; Martin, C.; Clark, P.; Valery, P. C. The Impact of Social Workers in Cirrhosis Care: A Systematic Review. Curr. Treat. Options Gastroenterol.2022, 20(2), 160–176.
- 29. Brahmania, M.; Rogal, S.; Serper, M.; Patel, A.; Goldberg, D.; Mathur, A.; Wilder, J.; Vittorio, J.; Yeoman, A.; Rich, N. E.; Lazo, M.; Kardashian, A.; Asrani, S.; Spann, A.; Ufere, N.; Verma, M.; Verna, E.; Simpson, D.; Schold, J. D.; Rosenblatt, R.; McElroy, L.; Wadwhani, S. I.; Lee, T.-H.; Strauss, A. T.; Chung, R. T.; Aiza, I.; Carr, R.; Yang, J. M.; Brady, C.; Fortune, B. E. Pragmatic Strategies to Address Health Disparities along the Continuum of Care in Chronic Liver Disease. Hepatol. Commun. 2024, 8(5), e0413.
- 30. Greenhill, C. A New Low-Cost Point-of-Care Test for Liver Function Has Been Developed. Nat. Rev. Gastroenterol. Hepatol.2012, 9, 618.
- 31. Ballester, M. P.; Jalan, R.; Mehta, G. Vaccination in Liver Diseases and Liver Transplantation: Recommendations, Implications, and Opportunities in the Post-COVID Era. JHEP Rep.2023, 5(8), 100776.

Page 132 ZenToks Books

- 32. Bangura, M.; Frühauf, A.; Mhango, M.; Lavallie, D.; Reed, V.; Patiño Rodriguez, M.; Smith, S. J.; Lakoh, S.; Ibrahim-Sayo, E.; Conteh, S.; Lado, M.; Kachimanga, C. Screening, Vaccination Uptake, and Linkage to Care for Hepatitis B Virus among Health Care Workers in Rural Sierra Leone. Trop. Med. Infect. Dis.2021, 6(2), 65.
- 33. Renu Singh, Varsha Rawat, Vaibhav Tripathi, Rachna Sahu. Discovery and Optimization of Coumarin Derivatives as HIV-1 Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors: A Comprehensive QSAR, Molecular Docking, and ADMET Study. Journal of Chemical Health Risks. Volume 9 Issue 2, Pages 87-95.
- 34. Kanwal, F.; Shubrook, J. H.; Adams, L. A.; Pfotenhauer, K.; Wong, V. W.-S.; Wright, E.; Abdelmalek, M. F.; Harrison, S. A.; Loomba, R.; Mantzoros, C. S.; Bugianesi, E.; Eckel, R. H.; Kaplan, L. M.; El-Serag, H. B.; Cusi, K. Clinical Care Pathway for the Risk Stratification and Management of Patients With Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease. Gastroenterology2021, 161 (5), 1657–1669.
- 35. Geddawy, A.; Ibrahim, Y. F.; Elbahie, N. M.; Ibrahim, M. A. Direct Acting Anti-hepatitis C Virus Drugs: Clinical Pharmacology and Future Direction. J. Transl. Int. Med.2017, 5 (1), 8–17.
- 36. Louvet, A.; Mathurin, P. Alcoholic Liver Disease: Mechanisms of Injury and Targeted Treatment. Nat. Rev. Gastroenterol. Hepatol.2015, 12 (4), 231–242.
- 37. Sarin, S. K.; Choudhury, A.; Sharma, M. K.; Maiwall, R.; Al Mahtab, M.; Rahman, S.; Saigal, S.; Saraf, N.; Soin, A. S.; Devarbhavi, H.; et al. Acute-on-Chronic Liver Failure: Consensus Recommendations of the Asian Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver (APASL): An Update. Hepatol. Int.2019, 13 (4), 353–390.
- 38. Abdulfattah, A. A.; Elmakki, E. E.; Maashi, B. I.; Alfaifi, B. A.; Almalki, A. S.; Alhadi, N. A.; Majrabi, H.; Kulaybi, A.; Salami, A.; Hakami, F. I. Awareness of Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease and Its Determinants in Jazan, Saudi Arabia: A Cross-Sectional Study. Cureus2024, 16 (1), e53111.
- 39. Isunju, J. B.; Wafula, S. T.; Ndejjo, R.; Nuwematsiko, R.; Bakkabulindi, P.; Nalugya, A.; Muleme, J.; Kimara, W. K.; Kibira, S. P. S.; Nakiggala, J.; et al. Awareness of Hepatitis B Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Among Healthcare Providers in Wakiso District, Central Uganda. PLoS One2022, 17 (6), e0270181.
- 40. Renu Singh, Varsha Rawat. Navigating Life With Parkinson's: A Comprehensive Review. Int. J. of Pharm. Sci., 2024, Vol 2, Issue 10, 448-460.
- 41. Taneja, S. L.; Passi, M.; Bhattacharya, S.; Schueler, S. A.; Gurram, S.; Koh, C. Social Media and Research Publication Activity During Early Stages of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Longitudinal Trend Analysis. J. Med. Internet Res. 2021, 23 (6), e26956.
- 42. Tadokoro, T.; Morishita, A.; Himoto, T.; Masaki, T. Nutritional Support for Alcoholic Liver Disease. Nutrients2023, 15 (6), 1360.

Page 133 ZenToks Books

- 43. Yang, C. H.; Perumpail, B. J.; Yoo, E. R.; Ahmed, A.; Kerner, J. A., Jr. Nutritional Needs and Support for Children with Chronic Liver Disease. Nutrients 2017, 9 (10), 1127.
- 44. Bittermann, T.; Goldberg, D. S.; Rudel, R. K.; Byhoff, E. Liver Disease Etiology and Race/Ethnicity Are Associated with Neighborhood Food Insecurity Risk in US Candidates for Liver Transplant. Liver Transpl.2024, 30 (10), 1086–1090.
- 45. Frohme, J.; Tacke, F. The Socioeconomic Aspects of Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease: Food Insecurity as a Novel Risk Factor for Steatosis and Liver Fibrosis. Hepatobiliary Surg. Nutr.2020, 9 (4), 543–545.
- 46. Zhang, R. Lipasin, a Novel Nutritionally-Regulated Liver-Enriched Factor That Regulates Serum Triglyceride Levels. Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.2012, 424 (4), 786–792.
- 47. Jones PD, Lai JC, Bajaj JS, Kanwal F. Actionable solutions to achieve health equity in chronic liver disease. Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology. 2023 Jul 1;21(8):1992-2000.
- 48. Kardashian A, Serper M, Terrault N, Nephew LD. Health disparities in chronic liver disease. Hepatology. 2023 Apr 1;77(4):1382-403.
- 49. Khan J, Shil A, Mohanty SK. Hepatitis B vaccination coverage across India: exploring the spatial heterogeneity and contextual determinants. BMC Public Health. 2019 Dec;19:1-4.
- 50. Herren OM, Gillman AS, Marshall VJ, Das R. Understanding the changing landscape of health disparities in chronic liver diseases and liver cancer. Gastro hep advances. 2023 Jan 1;2(4):505-20.
- 51. Luma HN, Eloumou SA, Noah DN, Eyenga BA, Nko'Ayissi G, Taku TS, Malongue A, Donfack-Sontsa O, Ditah IC. Hepatitis C continuum of care in a treatment center in sub-Saharan Africa. Journal of clinical and experimental hepatology. 2018 Dec 1;8(4):335-41.
- 52. Holt B, Mendoza J, Nguyen H, Doan D, Nguyen VH, Cabauatan DJ, Duy LD, Fernandez M, Gaspar M, Hamoy G, Manlutac JM. Barriers and enablers to people-centred viral hepatitis care in Vietnam and the Philippines: Results of a patient journey mapping study. Journal of Viral Hepatitis. 2024 Jul;31(7):391-403.
- 53. Sengupta S, Gill V, Mellinger JL. Alcohol-associated liver disease and public health policies. Hepatology. 2024 Dec 1;80(6):1323-41.
- 54. Lazarus JV, Mark HE, Colombo M, Demaio S, Dillon JF, George J, Hagström H, Hocking S, Lee N, Nieuwenhuijsen MJ, Rinella ME. A sustainable development goal framework to guide multisectoral action on NAFLD through a societal approach. Alimentary Pharmacology & Therapeutics. 2022 Jan;55(2):234-43.
- 55. Patel AA, Woodrell C, Ufere NN, Hansen L, Tandon P, Verma M, Lai J, Pinotti R, Rakoski M, Palliative Care Education, Advocacy, and Research in Liver Disease (PEARL) Workgroup and the AASLD Public Health/Healthcare Delivery Special Interest Group (SIG). Developing priorities for palliative care research in advanced liver disease: a multidisciplinary approach. Hepatology Communications. 2021 Sep;5(9):1469-80.

Page 134 ZenToks Books

- 56. Basil B, Myke-Mbata BK, Eze OE, Akubue AU. From adiposity to steatosis: metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease, a hepatic expression of metabolic syndrome—current insights and future directions. Clinical Diabetes and Endocrinology. 2024 Dec 2;10(1):39.
- 57. Strauss AT, Brundage J, Sidoti CN, Jain V, Gurakar A, Mohr K, Levan M, Segev DL, Hamilton JP, Sung HC. Patient perspectives on liver transplant evaluation: A qualitative study. Patient Education and Counseling. 2024 Jun 7:108346.
- 58. Merkel-Holguin L, Drury I, Gibley-Reed C, Lara A, Jihad M, Grint K, Marlowe K. Structures of oppression in the US child welfare system: Reflections on administrative barriers to equity. Societies. 2022 Feb 14;12(1):26.
- 59. Eslava-Schmalbach J, Garzón-Orjuela N, Elias V, Reveiz L, Tran N, Langlois EV. Conceptual framework of equity-focused implementation research for health programs (EquIR). International Journal for Equity in Health. 2019 Dec;18:1-1.
- 60. Mokaya J, McNaughton AL, Burbridge L, Maponga T, O'Hara G, Andersson M, Seeley J, Matthews PC. A blind spot? Confronting the stigma of hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection-A systematic review. Wellcome open research. 2018;3.
- 61. Challoumis C. Integrating Money Cycle Dynamics and Economocracy for Optimal Resource Allocation and Economic Stability. Journal of Risk and Financial Management. 2024 Sep 22;17(9):422.
- 62. Chen Z, Salazar E, Marple K, Das SR, Amin A, Cheeran D, Tamil LS, Gupta G. An Albased heart failure treatment adviser system. IEEE journal of translational engineering in health and medicine. 2018 Nov 23;6:1-0.
- 63. Lee D, Yoon SN. Application of artificial intelligence-based technologies in the healthcare industry: Opportunities and challenges. International journal of environmental research and public health. 2021 Jan;18(1):271.

Page 135 ZenToks Books