



### **Ending Lifelong Hepatitis B Treatment:**

**Project Title:** Developing a Functional Cure for Chronic HBV by Targeting cccDNA

**Lead Researcher:** Dr. Victor Mudenda – PhD, Biochemistry (HBV Virology), Certified Medical Laboratory Scientist, Doctor of Medicine (MD) Candidate, HBV patient.

### **“From Patient to Researcher: Why I’m Fighting to End Lifelong HBV Therapy”**

#### **Introduction: My Personal Journey Behind the Mission**

In September 2023, my life changed forever when I was diagnosed with chronic Hepatitis B Virus (HBV). Since then, I have been receiving ongoing treatment at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Hospital, working closely with their world-class Infectious Disease Clinic. Every month, I take my medication knowing it will not cure me, but it will only hold the virus at bay. I also know that, like millions of others worldwide, I am expected to remain on this therapy for the rest of my life.

Living with HBV is not just a medical condition, but it is a daily reminder of the uncertainty, emotional weight, and financial burden that lifelong treatment brings. This reality has deepened my determination to find a better solution, not only for myself, but for every patient who shares this struggle.

As a PhD graduate in Biochemistry with a focus on HBV virology and a certified Medical Laboratory Scientist, I have the scientific knowledge to tackle this problem. But as a patient, I also have the personal urgency and empathy to fight for a cure. My goal is to develop a functional cure that targets the virus at its root by eradicating cccDNA, the

“hidden archive” of HBV in our cells—so that patients can finally end their dependence on life-long medication.

**Statement of Purpose – Why This Project Matters Now:**

Through my nonprofit, Lily Flower of the Valley Corporation, I am leading a global collaboration with scientists such as Professor Mykola G. Shcherban and Dr. Anastasiya Bezrodna, and in close partnership with UCSF infectious disease specialists. Together, we are pursuing innovative strategies that combine molecular biology, therapeutic design, and patient-centered research to overcome the barriers to curing HBV.

This is more than a scientific challenge, it is a humanitarian mission. Chronic HBV affects over 296 million people worldwide, causing devastating health consequences, lost productivity, and emotional distress for patients and families. A cure would not only save lives but also lift an enormous economic and emotional burden from communities across the globe.

By supporting this project, donors are not just funding another research initiative, they are investing in a future where no one has to wake up every day wondering if their treatment will be available, affordable, or effective for the rest of their lives. They are helping turn my personal fight into a global victory against HBV.

During my admission to UCSF Hospital in September 2023:



