

Event highlights hepatitis dangers

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Boston area medical students and local residents took to the Common yesterday to raise awareness about hepatitis, trying to break a world record in the process.

In honor of World Hepatitis Day, the World Hepatitis Alliance tried to break the record for the most people to participate in an event at multiple venues over 24 hours. About 100 people came to the Common yesterday.

To show how the viral liver disease has been ignored, groups around the world, including Boston's Team HBV, acted out "see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil."

"The motions are supposed to show how hepatitis as a problem is being ignored," said David Yang, president of Team HBV Boston, and a pre-med student at Harvard.

World Hepatitis Day comes after police say a former employee of Exeter Hospital in New Hampshire infected at least 30 patients with hepatitis C when he used painkillers on himself and allowed the needles to be reused.

Team HBV will hold free hepatitis B screenings Aug. 5 at MAP for Health, 322 Tremont St., Boston.

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