



We are glad to hear you are interested in treatment for hepatitis C!

Here are some things to think about (and do) before you make your decision about treatment:

**Why do treatment now?** New medicines have increased the chance of cure and have fewer side effects.

**Some people have worse liver disease than others.** If you have more severe liver disease (a lot of scarring in the liver or cirrhosis) you should consider getting treated sooner.

**What will happen during treatment?**

There are 6 FDA approved treatment options for **genotype 1**:

- Option 1 is Harvoni® (ledipasvir/sofosbuvir), 1 tablet taken once a day for 8-24 weeks. The most common side effects are feeling tired and headache. In clinical studies, treatment response rates to Harvoni® were 94-100%.
- Option 2 is Eplclusa® (sofosbuvir/velpatasvir), 1 tablet taken once a day for 12 weeks. The most common side effects are headache and feeling tired. In clinical studies, treatment response rates to Eplclusa® were 94-98% for genotype 1.
- Option 3 is Viekira Pak™ (ombitasvir, paritaprevir, and ritonavir tablets; dasabuvir tablets) co-packaged as 3 tablets in the morning and 1 tablet in the evening with food for 12-24 weeks. The major side effects are nausea, itching and insomnia. In clinical studies, response rates to Viekira Pak® treatments were 86-100%.
- Option 4 is Zepatier™ (elbasvir/grazoprevir), 1 tablet taken once a day for 12-16 weeks. The most common side effects are feeling tired, nausea and headache. In clinical studies, treatment response rates to Zepatier™ were 95-100%.
- Option 5 is Olysio® (simeprevir) plus Sovaldi® (sofosbuvir) 1 tablet of each taken once daily for 12 weeks. The most common side effects are feeling tired, headache and nausea. In clinical studies, treatment response rates to Olysio® and Sovaldi® were 86-100%.
- Option 6 is Daklinza™ (daclatasvir) plus Sovaldi® (sofosbuvir) 1 tablet of each taken once daily for 12 weeks. The most common side effects are headache and feeling tired. In clinical studies, treatment response rates to Daklinza™ and Sovaldi® were 50-100%.

The FDA approved **Genotype 2** treatment is Eplclusa® (sofosbuvir/velpatasvir), 1 tablet taken once a day for 12 weeks. The major side effects are headache and feeling tired. In clinical studies, the treatment response rate to Eplclusa® was 99% for genotype 2.

There are 2 FDA approved treatment options for **genotype 3**:

- Option 1 is Epclusa® (sofosbuvir/velpatasvir), 1 tablet taken once a day for 12 weeks. The most common side effects are headache and feeling tired. In clinical studies, treatment response rates to Epclusa® were 85-98% for genotype 3.
- Option 2 is Daklinza™ (daclatasvir) and Sovaldi® (sofosbuvir) 1 tablet of each taken once daily for 12 weeks. The most common side effects are headache and feeling tired. In clinical studies, treatment response rates for Daklinza™ and Sovaldi® were 58-98%.

Some treatments will require ribavirin which is 5-6 additional tablets divided between morning and evening with food. The major side effects are feeling tired, nausea, itching and skin rash, trouble sleeping, irritability and weakness. A common side effect of ribavirin is anemia.

**PLEASE NOTE: Ribavirin cannot be given to a pregnant or breastfeeding female or to a female who plans to become pregnant or a male who plans to father a child during or for 6 months after treatment because it can cause birth defects. There are no studies on Harvoni®, Epclusa®, Sovaldi®, Viekira Pak™, Zepatier™ or Daklinza™ in pregnant women or nursing mothers. Safety/risk during pregnancy or breastfeeding has not been established.**

## **Are you ready for treatment?**

To ensure that you will be successful in completing hepatitis C treatment we ask that the following items be done before starting treatment. We will review them together.

- It is recommended that you be alcohol and drug-free. If you have recent drug/alcohol abuse, you need to be in an approved drug treatment program.
- You need to discuss hepatitis C treatment with your primary care provider and get his or her “OK” to start treatment. You will have alternating appointments with Liver Clinic and Family Medicine during treatment. Your primary care provider can help you with non-liver related health problems during and after treatment.
- You should have a relative/close friend who is willing to help support you during treatment. If possible, please bring your support person with you to the treatment start appointment.
- You need to be committed to making every treatment appointment and getting **FREQUENT** blood draws (every 1-4 weeks). We will want to follow you very closely during treatment.
- Fibroscan in the Internal Medicine clinic on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.  
\*\*\*Do not eat or drink for 3 hours before Fibroscan\*\*\*

### **Additional Requirements If Checked:**

If you have cirrhosis, you may need an

\_\_\_\_ EGD (when a doctor looks into your esophagus and stomach for swollen veins that can bleed).

\_\_\_\_ Ultrasound of the liver (done in the past 6 months). This ultrasound checks your liver for cancer.

**Congratulations on completing all the pre-treatment requirements!**