



ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM

Liver Disease & Hepatitis Program
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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 final 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 treatment 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 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 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 Epclusa® (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 Epclusa® 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.

- You must 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 should have a relative/close friend who is willing to help support you during treatment.
- 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.

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).

_____ If you have cirrhosis, you need to have an ultrasound of the liver (done in the past 6 months). This ultrasound checks your liver for cancer.

Once everything you need to do on the list has been done, call your primary care provider to make an appointment to plan for hepatitis C treatment. At this appointment, treatment and side effects will be discussed in detail.

If you are coming to Anchorage and want a Fibroscan, call the Liver Clinic ahead of your visit to schedule. Fibroscan is a test using ultrasound waves to check liver stiffness or scarring/fibrosis in your liver. Fibroscan testing is done in the Internal Medicine Clinic. Do not eat or drink for 3 hours before the test.

Congratulations on completing all the pre-treatment requirements!