

# HEPATITIS C VIRUS TREATMENTS (Part 1 of 2)

## Characteristics of Persons for Whom Therapy is Widely Accepted:

- Age  $\geq$ 18yrs; Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)-RNA serum positive
- Compensated liver disease (total serum bilirubin  $<$ 1.5g/dL; INR 1.5; serum albumin  $>$ 3.4; platelet count 75,000/mm<sup>3</sup>; and no evidence of hepatic decompensation (hepatic encephalopathy or ascites)
- Acceptable hematological and biochemical indices: Hemoglobin 13g/dL for men and 12g/dL for women; neutrophil count 1500/mm<sup>3</sup> and serum creatinine  $<$ 1.5mg/dL

Brand	Generic	Usual Initial Dosage
<b>DUAL THERAPY</b>		
<b>Daklinza</b> <sup>1</sup> + <b>Sovaldi</b>	daclatasvir + sofosbuvir	<b>Adults:</b> $\geq$ 18yrs: 60mg once daily + Sovaldi 400mg once daily for 12wks. <i>Concomitant CYP3A substrates:</i> Adjust Daklinza dose to 30mg once daily (strong inhibitors) or 90mg once daily (moderate inducers). <b>Children:</b> <b>&lt;18yrs: Not established.</b>
<b>Intron A</b> + <b>Rebetol</b> <sup>3</sup>	interferon alfa-2b + ribavirin	<b>Adults:</b> $\geq$ 18yrs: 3million IU SC three times weekly + Rebetol 1000mg ( $\leq$ 75kg) or 1200mg ( $>$ 75kg) in 2 divided doses for 48wks (genotype 1) or 24wks (genotype 2,3); <i>Retreatment:</i> 24wks. <b>Children:</b> $\geq$ 3yrs: 25–61kg: 3million IU/m <sup>2</sup> SC three times weekly + Rebetol 15mg/kg/day in 2 divided doses for 48wks (genotype 1) or 24wks (genotype 2,3).
<b>Pegasys</b> <sup>2</sup> + <b>Copegus</b> <sup>3</sup>	peginterferon alfa-2a + ribavirin	<b>Adults:</b> $\geq$ 18yrs: <i>Genotype 1,4:</i> 180mcg SC once weekly + Copegus 1000mg ( $<$ 75kg) or 1200mg ( $\geq$ 75kg) in 2 divided doses for 48wks. <i>Genotype 2,3:</i> 180mcg SC once weekly + Copegus 800mg in 2 divided doses for 24wks. <b>Children:</b> $\geq$ 5yrs: 180mcg/1.73m <sup>2</sup> $\times$ BSA SC once weekly + Copegus 15mg/kg/day divided in AM & PM for 48wks (genotype 1,4) or 24wks (genotype 2,3); see full labeling.
<b>PegIntron</b> <sup>2</sup> + <b>Rebetol</b> <sup>3</sup>	peginterferon alfa-2b + ribavirin	<b>Adults:</b> $\geq$ 18yrs: 1.5mcg/kg/wk SC + Rebetol 800mg ( $<$ 66kg) or 1000mg (66–80kg) or 1200mg (81–105kg) or 1400mg ( $>$ 105kg) in 2 divided doses for 48wks (genotype 1) or 24wks (genotype 2,3). <i>Retreatment:</i> 48wks. <i>Prior treatment failure:</i> Add HCV NS3/4A Protease Inhibitor (unless contraindicated); treat for 48wks. <b>Children:</b> 3–17yrs: 60mcg/m <sup>2</sup> /wk SC + Rebetol 15mg/kg/day in 2 divided doses for 48wks (genotype 1) or 24wks (genotype 2, 3).
<b>TRIPLE THERAPY</b>		
<b>Olysio</b> <sup>4,6</sup> + peginterferon alfa & ribavirin	simeprevir	<b>Adults:</b> Take with food. 150mg once daily. <i>Treatment-naive and prior relapsers, including patients with or without cirrhosis:</i> treat for 12wks (simeprevir + peginterferon + ribavirin), followed by additional 12wks of peginterferon + ribavirin (total treatment = 24wks). <i>Prior non-responders (partial and null), including patients with or without cirrhosis:</i> treat for 12wks (simeprevir + peginterferon + ribavirin), followed by additional 36wks of peginterferon + ribavirin (total treatment = 48wks). <i>Treatment-naive or treatment-experienced without cirrhosis:</i> treat for 12wks (simeprevir + sofosbuvir). <i>Treatment-naive or treatment-experienced with cirrhosis:</i> treat for 24wks (simeprevir + sofosbuvir). <b>Children:</b> <b>&lt;18yrs: Not established.</b>
<b>Sovaldi</b> + peginterferon alfa & ribavirin	sofosbuvir	<b>Adults:</b> 400mg once daily. <i>Genotype 1:</i> treat for 12wks with PegIFN alfa + RBV or 24wks with RBV if interferon-based regimen ineligible. <i>Genotype 2:</i> treat for 12wks with RBV. <i>Genotype 3:</i> treat for 24wks with RBV. <i>Genotype 4:</i> treat for 12wks with PegIFN alfa + RBV. <i>Hepatocellular carcinoma:</i> treat up to 48wks with RBV or until time of liver transplant, whichever occurs first. <b>Children:</b> <b>&lt;18yrs: Not established.</b>
<b>Victrelis</b> <sup>4</sup> + peginterferon alfa & ribavirin	boceprevir	<b>Adults:</b> Initiate peginterferon alfa + ribavirin for 4wks. Then add 800mg Victrelis three times daily to therapy. <i>Patients without cirrhosis:</i> continue treatment as indicated by HCV-RNA levels at Weeks 8, 12, and 24 (see literature). <i>With cirrhosis:</i> continue for 44wks. <b>Children:</b> <b>&lt;18yrs: Not established.</b>
<b>COMBINATION THERAPY</b>		
<b>Technivie</b> <sup>7</sup> + ribavirin	ombitasvir/paritaprevir/ritonavir + ribavirin	<b>Adults:</b> Take with food. $\geq$ 18yrs: 2 tabs once daily in the AM for 12wks with ribavirin. <i>Treatment-naive (or ribavirin intolerant):</i> may consider administering without ribavirin for 12wks. <b>Children:</b> <b>&lt;18yrs: Not established.</b>
<b>Viekira Pak</b> <sup>8</sup> +/- ribavirin	ombitasvir/paritaprevir/ritonavir + dasabuvir +/- ribavirin	<b>Adults:</b> Take with food. Give 2 ombitasvir/paritaprevir/ritonavir tabs once daily (in AM) and 1 dasabuvir tab twice daily (AM & PM). <i>Genotype 1a without cirrhosis or genotype 1b with cirrhosis:</i> treat for 12wks with ribavirin. <i>Genotype 1a with cirrhosis:</i> treat for 24wks with ribavirin (12wks may be considered for some). <i>Genotype 1b without cirrhosis:</i> treat for 12wks. <i>Liver transplant recipients (with mild fibrosis):</i> treat for 24wks with ribavirin. In combination with ribavirin: see full labeling. <b>Children:</b> <b>&lt;18yrs: Not established.</b>

(continued)

# HEPATITIS C VIRUS TREATMENTS (Part 2 of 2)

Brand	Generic	Usual Initial Dosage
<b>MONOTHERAPY</b>		
<b>Intron A</b>	interferon alfa-2b	<b>Adults:</b> 3million IU SC or IM three times weekly for 16wks; if tolerated with normalization of ALT: continue 18–24mos (72–96wks). <b>Children: Monotherapy not recommended.</b>
<b>Harvoni</b>	ledipasvir/sofosbuvir	<b>Adults:</b> 1 tab once daily. <i>Treatment-naïve without cirrhosis with pre-treatment HCV RNA &lt;6 million IU/mL:</i> treat for 8wks. <i>Treatment-naïve with or without cirrhosis, or treatment-experienced without cirrhosis:</i> treat for 12wks. <i>Treatment-experienced with cirrhosis:</i> treat for 24wks. <b>Children: &lt;18yrs: Not established.</b>
<b>Pegasys</b> <sup>2,5</sup>	peginterferon alfa-2a	<b>Adults:</b> 180mcg SC once weekly for 48wks. <b>Children: Not recommended.</b>
<b>PegIntron</b> <sup>2,5</sup>	peginterferon alfa-2b	<b>Adults:</b> 1mcg/kg/wk SC for 1yr administered on same day of the week. <b>Children: Not recommended.</b>

## NOTES

**Key:** SVR = sustained virologic response

<sup>1</sup>Indicated for the treatment of chronic hepatitis C genotype 3 infection in combination with sofosbuvir only.

<sup>2</sup>Patients who fail to achieve a 2 log<sub>10</sub> drop at 12 weeks or undetectable HCV-RNA at Week 24 are highly unlikely to achieve SVR and discontinuation of therapy should be considered.

<sup>3</sup>Ribavirin should be taken orally with food. Do not use with creatinine clearance <50mL/min. Take in 2 divided doses (AM & PM); see literature.

<sup>4</sup>Indicated for the treatment of chronic hepatitis C genotype 1 infection for combination therapy only.

<sup>5</sup>Drug is not recommended as monotherapy unless patient cannot take ribavirin as combination treatment.

<sup>6</sup>Screen for HCV genotype 1a infection for NS3Q80K polymorphism prior to treatment initiation; consider alternative if Q80K polymorphism present.

<sup>7</sup>Indicated for the treatment of chronic hepatitis C genotype 4 infection without cirrhosis. Contraindicated in severe hepatic impairment and avoid in moderate hepatic impairment.

<sup>8</sup>Indicated for the treatment of chronic hepatitis C genotype 1 infection including those with compensated cirrhosis, with or without ribavirin. Contraindicated in severe hepatic impairment and avoid in decompensated liver disease.

**Dose modifications:** Not an inclusive list of medications, official indications and/or dosing details. For dose adjustments or reductions, please see drug monograph at [www.eMPR.com](http://www.eMPR.com) and/or contact company for full drug labeling.

## REFERENCES

Ghany MG, Strader DB, Thomas DL, Seeff LB. Diagnosis, Management, and Treatment of Hepatitis C: An Update. *Hepatology*. 2009; 49(4).

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