Eight Weeks of Viekira Pak Cures Almost All With Genotype 1b of Hepatitis C

The standard treatment duration is 12 or 24 weeks.

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Nearly all people with genotype 1b of hepatitis C virus (HCV) in a recent trial were cured after just eight weeks of Viekira Pak (ombitasvir/paritaprevir/ritonavir; dasabuvir), rather than the standard 12 or 24 weeks, HIVandHepatitis.com reports.

Researchers presented findings from the Phase III GARNET trial at the EASL special conference New Perspectives in Hepatitis C Virus Infection—The Roadmap for Cure in Paris. The trial enrolled 166 people with hep C who had not been treated for the virus before and who did not have HIV, hepatitis B virus (HBV) or cirrhosis.

Ninety-eight percent of the participants had genotype 1b of hep C.

The participants were treated with Viekira Pak for eight weeks. Ninety-eight percent of those who took at least one dose of treatment achieved a sustained virologic response 12 weeks after completing therapy (SVR12, considered a cure). In an analysis that excluded those without genotype 1b and one person who stopped treatment early, 99 percent were cured.

Those who started the study with a hep C viral load greater than 6 million had a cure rate of 92 percent. For those with absent to moderate fibrosis, the cure rate was 99 percent. Just 87 percent of those with advanced fibrosis were cured.

To read the HIVandHepatitis article, click here.

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