Updated Hepatitis C Treatment Listing

February 19, 2020 By Connie M. Welch

There are a variety of hepatitis C treatments offered for all genotypes, with various stages of liver damage.

Improvements in hepatitis C treatment have introduced pan-genotypic treatments, which treat all HCV genotypes (virus strains) with one treatment, shorter treatment time averaging from 8 to 12 weeks for the majority of liver conditions with high cure rates of 95% to 100%.

Over the past several years we've seen the landscape of treatment for hepatitis C change. The majority of treatments can be used without ribavirin. Common treatment side effects are headache and fatigue, allowing more patients to work full time while taking treatment.

FDA-approved generic treatments are now available in the U.S. as well as less expensive treatments that have driven higher-cost treatments out of the market.

Determining Which Hepatitis C Treatment to Use

Deciding which hepatitis C treatment is best for each patient will be determined by several factors:

- Genotype (virus strain)
- Viral load
- Liver Condition
- Other medical conditions
- Medications the patient takes
- Any co-infections (Hep B, HIV, or co-infection with more than one genotype at the same time)
- Associated liver conditions or liver transplant
- Treatment-naïve or treatment experienced

FDA-approved treatment for Hepatitis C as of 2020

Epclusa: fixed dose of sofosbuvir/velpatasvir

- For Genotypes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Liver Condition: For patients without cirrhosis or with compensated cirrhosis. For patients with decompensated cirrhosis, ribavirin is used with Epclusa.
- Dosage: 1 pill per day
- Treatment Length: 12 weeks
- Cure Rate: 98%
- Common Side Effects: headache and fatigue
- Note: Can be used with or without ribavirin. FDA-approved generic available.

Mavyret: fixed dose of gelcaprevir/pibrentasvir

- For Genotypes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Liver Condition: For patients without treatment experience without cirrhosis or with compensated cirrhosis. Can be used for genotype 1 previously treated with NS5A inhibitor or NS3/4A protease inhibitor but not both.
- Dosage: 3 pills, once per day at a set time. Take with food.
- Treatment Length: 8, 12, or 16 weeks.
- Cure Rate: 95%-100%
- Common Side Effects: headache, fatigue
- Note: Mavyret can also be used for children 12 years or older weighing at least 99 pounds.
- Caution for hep B reactivation.

Vosevi: fixed dose of sofosbuvir/velpatasvir/voxilaprevi

- For Genotypes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Liver Condition: For those without cirrhosis, or with compensated cirrhosis. Also used for patients previously treated with advanced hep C regimens
- Dosage: 1 pill daily with food.
- Treatment Length: 12 weeks
- Cure Rates: 91%-100%

- Common Treatment Side Effects: headache, fatigue, diarrhea, nausea
- Note: Caution for hep B reactivation

Harvoni: fixed dose of ledipasvir/sovaldi

- For Genotypes: 1, 4, 5, and 6
- Liver Condition: For patients with or without compensated cirrhosis. Harvoni is used with ribavirin for genotype 1 with decompensated cirrhosis. Or for genotype 1 or 4 with or without compensated cirrhosis who have had a liver transplant.
- Dosage: 1 pill per day
- Treatment Length: 12 weeks
- Cure Rate: 96%-99%
- Common Treatment Side Effects: headache and fatigue
- Note: Harvoni can be used for children. FDA-approved generic available. Harvoni and be used with or without ribavirin.
- Caution for hepatitis B reactivation.

Zepatier: fixed dose of elbasvir/grazoprevir

- For Genotypes: 1, 4
- Liver Condition: For genotype 1 with mutations resistant to treatment or genotype 4 previously treated
- Dosage: 1 pill per day at a set time with or without food.
- Treatment Length: 12 or 16 weeks
- Cure rate: 94%-100%
- Note: Zepatier can be used with or without ribavirin

Talk to your doctor about which treatment is best suited for you.

*See each medication for full treatment and caution information.

*All treatment options and medications have been reviewed and updated as of January 2020.

References:

HCV Guidelines: AASLD (American Association for the Study of Liver Disease)/IDSA (Infectious Disease Society of America)

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http://beta.docker.hepmag.com/blog/updated-hepatitis-c-treatment-listing