

What To Expect Before Your Treatment for Hepatitis C Virus

Before starting treatment

Your liver disease and overall health will be evaluated by the liver team, including:

- ▶ Your HCV genotype
- ▶ The severity of scarring in your liver (Fibrosis score)
- ▶ Any other medical problems you have – for example, kidney problems, depression, etc.
- ▶ Your current medications, to look for any possible drug interactions
- ▶ The stability of your housing and transportation to appointments
- ▶ Your usual compliance with taking your medications, completing tests, and coming to visits

Prescription for treatment

- ▶ The liver team will determine exactly which medication(s) are right for your hepatitis C genotype and your liver, and how many weeks you will be treated for.

During treatment

Follow your provider's instructions, including:

- ▶ Come to all medical appointments, which are usually scheduled every 4 weeks
- ▶ Take your medication(s) every day, exactly as prescribed by your provider
- ▶ Pick up medications, usually every 2 or 4 weeks
- ▶ Have blood drawn exactly when instructed by your provider, usually every 2-4 weeks
- ▶ Have a reliable method of contact
- ▶ Participate in support group or phone clinic if recommended by a mental health provider
- ▶ Contact your provider if your health changes, your medicines change, or if you are considering any over the counter medications or products.
- ▶ Avoid alcohol and street drugs

After treatment

- ▶ A test for hepatitis C virus will be done at 12 weeks after treatment completion to determine whether you have been cured of hepatitis C. It is **IMPORTANT** that you get this blood test.



**U.S. Department
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