

# Clinical Management of Hepatitis C in Iran: A Consensus-Based National Guideline: Update

Seyed Moayed Alavian

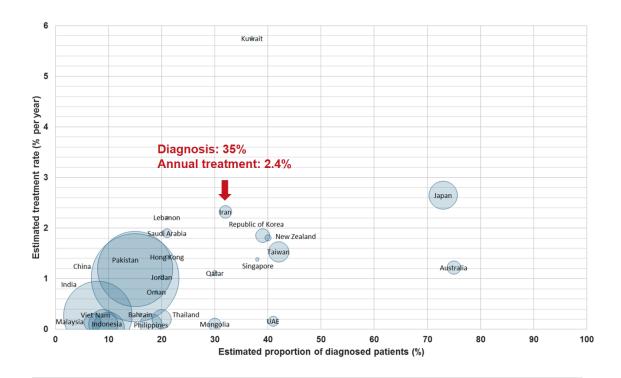
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# **Hepatitis C Virus Infection and Its Prevalence**

- Less than 0.5% of General population are HCV infected in Iran and the main risk factors are history of blood transfusion before 1996 and history of IDUs
- The special group such as Hemophilia and Thalassemia and Hemodialysis patients selected for screening and treatment during recent 10 years and now..
- IDUs cases are the main high risk group now and harm reduction and other strategies should attenuated now.
- Treatment is a part of prevention for decrease the chance of transmission

# **Diagnosis rate**



Hajarizadeh B, et al. Hepat Mon 2016; Razavi H, et al. JVH 2014; Hatzakis A, et al. JVH 2015; Sibley A, et al. JVH 2015

# Is it enough?

#### Public awareness is important and effective in Iran



جناب آقای صالح میرز ا آقایی بازیگر سینما و تلویزیوز سفیر سلامت شبکه هپانیت ایران در حال انجام نست هی بدهیم." به مناسبت روز جهانی هپانیت





پین داشتهویی اطلاع رسانی به مناسبت روزجهانی هپالیت. میفیران سلامت همراه با تیم پر تلاش شبکه ه تهران، فروشگاه شهروند بیهای در ماستای ریشه کنی هپالیت می تا سال













# We should focus on high risk groups

Public awareness is important and effective in Australia It can be more effective if it would be targeted to the right population

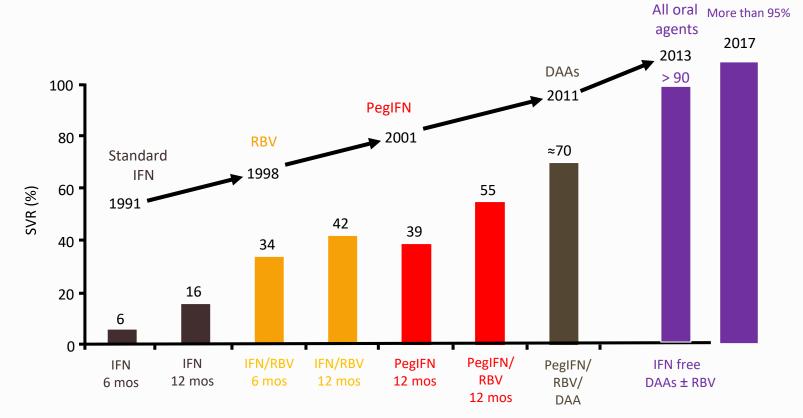


### Hepatitis C Therapy Introduction

#### Treatment (Goal, When, Whom)

The goal of treatment is to reduce all-cause mortality and liver related health adverse consequences, including end-stage liver disease and hepatocellular carcinoma, by the achievement of virologic cure as evidenced by a sustained virologic response.

- Treatment is recommended for all patients with chronic HCV infection, except those with short life expectancies that cannot be remediated by treating HCV, by transplantation, or by other directed therapy.
- Patients with short life expectancies owing to liver disease should be managed in consultation with an expert



# Side Effects of PegIFN/Ribavirin



"Interferon Man"

- Depression ranging from mild to suicidality
- Irritability, aggressive behavior
- Worsening of mania
- Fatigue
- Insomnia
- Myalgias, fever, flu-like symptoms
- Hair loss
- Cytopenias



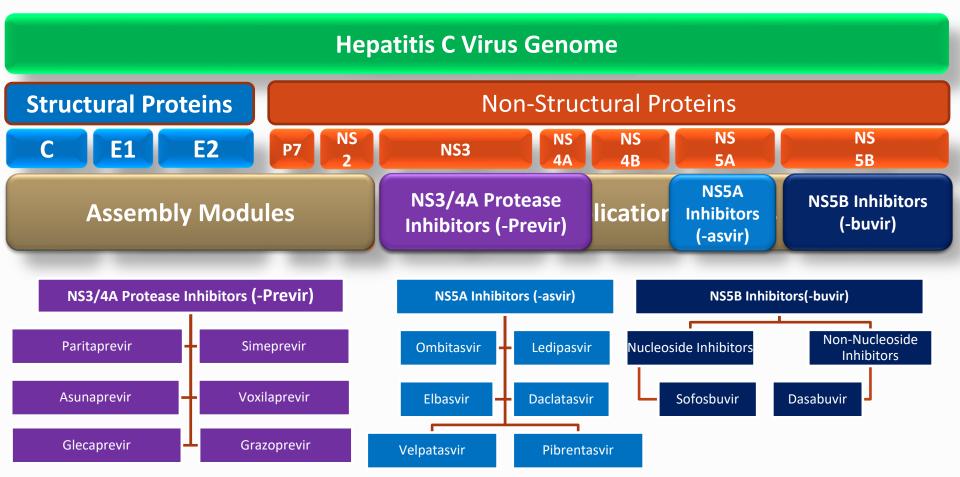


After 2014 IFN free All Oral Regimens

- Long duration: 24-48 weeks
- Poor compliance:
- 35-45% dose reduction
- 14-19% treatment discontinuation
- SVR rate clinical trial : <50%
- SVR real world : 16-59%

- Short duration: 8 12 weeks , 24 weeks in special population
- Minimal adverse effects
- Improved compliance: >95%
- SVR Rate clinical trial : >95%
- SVR rate real world: ?

#### HCV Genome and Available Approved Direct Acting Antivirals



#### Milestones in HCV Management

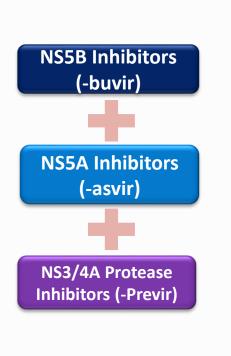


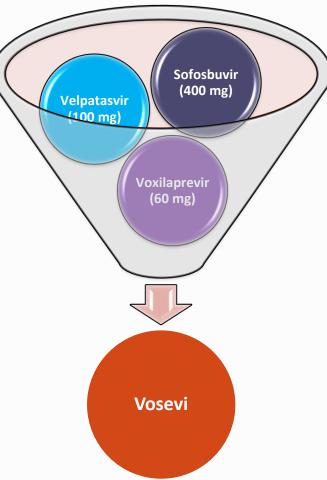
#### Combination of NS5B and NS5A Inhibitors



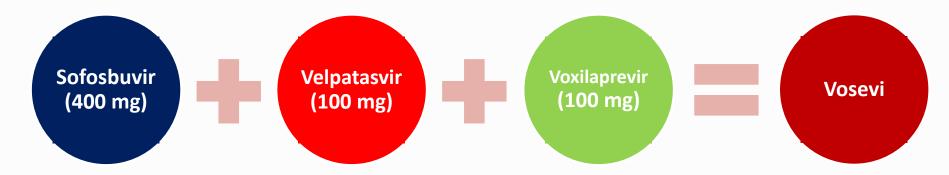


#### Combination of NS5B and NS5A Inhibitors



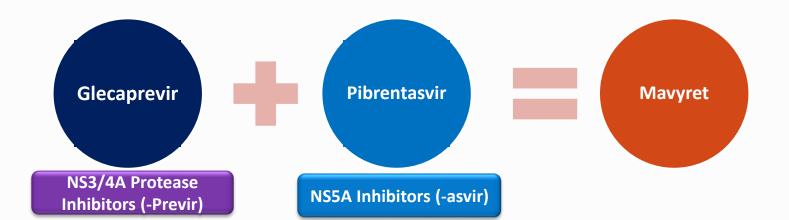


#### Combination of NS5B and NS5A and NS3/4A Protease Inhibitors



- > For treatment of HCV genotypes 1-6 without cirrhosis (liver disease) or with mild cirrhosis
- The first treatment approved for patients who have been previously treated with the DAA sofosbuvir or NS5A Inhibitors
- > The most common adverse reactions : headache, fatigue, diarrhea and nausea
- > It is contraindicated in patients taking the drug rifampin.

#### Combination of NS3/4A Protease and NS5A Inhibitors





- To treat HCV genotypes 1-6 without cirrhosis (liver disease) or with mild cirrhosis, including patients with moderate to severe kidney disease
- To treat HCV genotype 1 infection, previously treated with a regimen containing an NS5A inhibitor or an NS3/4A protease inhibitor but not both.
- It is the first treatment of eight weeks duration approved for non-cirrhotic and naïve HCV-Infected Patients with all genotypes
- > The most common adverse : headache, fatigue and nausea.

 $\geq$ 

It is not recommended in patients with moderate cirrhosis and contraindicated in patients with severe cirrhosis of those taking the drugs Atazanavir and rifampin.

#### Daclatasvir Has Been Used in Different Regimens



# None of them had been effective as combination of Sofosbuvir/Daclatasvir



Alavian SM, Rezaee-Zavareh MS. Daclatasvir-based Treatment Regimens for Hepatitis C Virus Infection: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. Hepatitis Monthly. 2016;16(9):e41077. doi:10.5812/hepatmon.41077

## Grouping the HCV Patients

**Non-Cirrhotics** 

Genotypes 1a/1b/2/3/4/5/6



Compensated Cirrhosis Child A

Previous treatment failure with DDAs

Decompensated Cirrhosis Child B and C up to 12, MELD up to 20

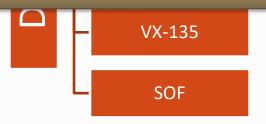
Status of GFR and renal failure

Very decompensated Cirrhosis Child > 12, MELD>20

#### Daclatasvir Has Been Used in Different Regimens



# None of them had been effective as combination of Sofosbuvir/Daclatasvir



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Sofosbuvir/Ledipasvir for Treatment of genotype-1 HCV Infection

Only in treatment regimen of 12 weeks of SOF/LDV, cirrhosis had a significant effect on the SVR12

Treatment-experience with PEG-IFN had no significant effect on these regimens

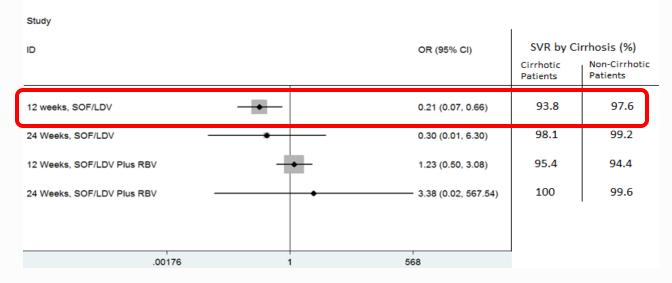
КБУ

NS5A resistance-associated variants at baseline were associated with decrease in the rate of SVR

Rezaee-Zavareh MS, Sharafi H, Hesamizadeh KH, Behnava B, Gholami-Fesharaki, Alavian SM. Combination of Ledipasvir and Sofosbuvir for Treatment of Hepatitis C Virus Genotype 1 Infection: Systematic Review and Meta-analysis. Annals of Hepatology. In press

#### Sofosbuvir/Ledipasvir (HARVONI) Effect of cirrhosis

# Only in treatment regimen SOF/LDV, cirrhosis had a significant effect on SVR12



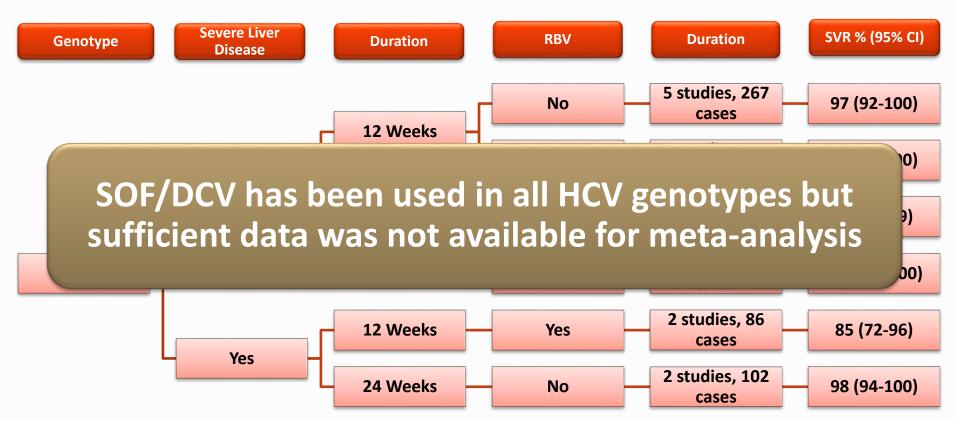
#### Effect of Cirrhosis on the Sustained Virologic Response for Regimen Sofosbuvir Plus Ledipasvir With or Without Ribavirin for 12 or 24 Weeks Our Unpublished Meta-Analysis

Rezaee-Zavareh MS, Sharafi H, Hesamizadeh KH, Behnava B, Gholami-Fesharaki, Alavian SM. Combination of Ledipasvir and Sofosbuvir for Treatment of Hepatitis C Virus Genotype 1 Infection: Systematic Review and Meta-analysis. Annals of Hepatology. In press

# **DAAs Contraindications**

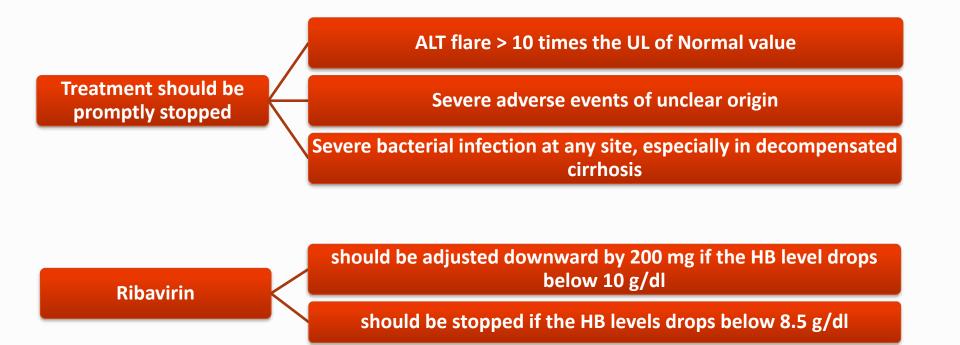
Drug	Contraindication/Warning					
Daclatasvir	Drug Influencing CYP3A, Co-administration with Amiodarone					
Sofosbuvir	Co-administration with Amiodarone, patients with estimated GFR of less than 30 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> . Caution is needed for co-administration with beta blockers					
Ledipasvir/Sofosbuvir	Co-administration with Amiodarone, inducers of p-glycoprotein, patients with estimated GFR of less than 30 mL/min/1.73 $m^2$					
Velpatasvir/Sofosbuvir	Inducers of p-glycoprotein, patients with estimated GFR of less than 30 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> , Co-administration with Amiodarone					
Simeprevir	Cirrhotic patients with Child Pugh class B and C					

#### Sofosbuvir/Daclatasvir for Treatment of genotype-1 HCV Infection



Alavian SM, Rezaee-Zavareh MS. Daclatasvir-based Treatment Regimens for Hepatitis C Virus Infection: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. Hepatitis Monthly. 2016;16(9):e41077. doi:10.5812/hepatmon.41077

#### **Treatment Dose Reduction and Discontinuation**



# **Post Treatment Follow-up**

#### Post-treatment follow-up of patients who achieve an SVR

### Non-cirrhotic patients

 Check the ALT and HCV RNA (or HCV core antigen) at 48 weeks post-treatment and Discharge the patients if ALT is normal and HCV RNA is negative

### Advanced fibrosis (F3) or Cirrhotic patients

• Surveillance for HCC every 6 months by means of ultrasound

PWID or men who have sex with men

Annual HCV RNA assessment

### **Iranian Experiences**

## **Treatment (A Brief History)**

LIVER INTERNATIONAL

Liver International ISSN 1478-3223

#### CLINICAL STUDIES

#### Peginterferon $\alpha$ -2a and ribavirin treatment of patients with haemophilia and hepatitis C virus infection: a single-centre study of 367 cases

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#### Keyvvords

congenital bleeding disorder – HCV – haemophilia – peginterferon α-2a – ribavirin

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#### Abstract

Background/aims: Chronic hepatitis C virus infection (HCV) is a major comorbidity in patients with haemophilia. Peginterferon alpha and ribavirin is current standard anti-HCV thrapy but there is little information about safety and efficacy of peginterferon  $\alpha$ -2a and ribavirin combination therapy in these patients. Material and methods: In an open-label single-treatment arm cohort study, 367 haemophilia patients seronegative for hepatitis B and human immunodeficiency virus markers and chronically infected with HCV (HCV RNA > 50 IU/ml for at least 6 months) received 180 µg of Pegasys<sup>36</sup>

Two hundred and twenty-five subjects **61%** achieved SVR, 66 patients relapsed and 30 subjects did not respond and nine patients developed breakthrough during treatment. Peg interferon alpha-2a in combination with weight-based ribavirin has SVR rate of **51%** for genotype 1 and **71%** for genotype non-1 infections in hemophilia patients.

Alavian SM, et al. Peginterferon alpha-2a and ribavirin treatment of patients with haemophilia and hepatitis C virus infection: a single-centre study of 367 cases. Liver Int. 2010

# **Treatment (A Brief History)**

 
 Table 2. Multivariate analysis of sustained virological response after antiviral therapy including the entire study population

Determinant	OR (95% CI)
Age <24 (median)	1.9 (1.1–3.1)
BMI <25	2.1 (1.3–3.4)
Viral load < 600 000 IU/ml	1.8 (1.1–2.9)
Genotype non-1	1.9 (1.1–3.2)

CI, confidence interval; OR, odds ratio.

Alavian SM, et al. Peginterferon alpha-2a and ribavirin treatment of patients with haemophilia and hepatitis C virus infection: a single-centre study of 367 cases. Liver Int. 2010

## **Generic DAA is available in Iran**



The preliminary data showed the **SVR** more than **95%** in Iranian HCV-G1 with all Iranian generic drugs The Efficacy of 12 Weeks of Sofosbuvir-Daclatasvir (Sovodak), and Ribavirin in Treating Hepatitis C Patients with Cirrhosis, Genotypes 1 and 3

 The combination of Sofosbuvir-daclatasvir (Sovodak) can be used to treat all genotypes of hepatitis C.

Current guidelines for treating hepatitis C cirrhosis do not clarify weather 12 weeks or 24 weeks of treatment is appropriate.

Merat S, Sharifi AH, Haj-Sheykholeslami A, Poustchi H, Fattahi B, Nateghi-Baygi A, Alavian, SM, Malekzadeh R. The Efficacy of 12 Weeks of Sofosbuvir, Daclatasvir, and Ribavirin in Treating Hepatitis C Patients with Cirrhosis, Genotypes 1 and 3. Hepat Mon. 2016

# The Efficacy of 12 Weeks of Sofosbuvir-Daclatasvir (Sovodak), and Ribavirin in Treating Hepatitis C Patients with Cirrhosis, Genotypes 1 and 3, Continue

- One hundred patients with hepatitis C and cirrhosis infected with Genotypes 1 and 3 were included in the present study. They were treated with 1 tablet of a combination pill of 400 mg sofosbuvir and 60 mg daclatasvir daily **(Sovodak)** and weight-based **ribavirin** for 12 weeks
- Response to treatment was assessed 12 weeks after the end of the treatment with a sensitive assay (SVR12).
- Among the 94 patients who finished the study, 92 achieved SVR12 (98%, per-protocol, 92%) intention-to-treat). None of the patients reported any side effects.
- **Conclusions:** The fixed-dose combination drug of **Sovodak** with weight-base ribavirin for 12 weeks is **extremely effective** and **safe** in treating HCV patients with **Genotypes 1 and 3 and cirrhosis.**

Merat S, Sharifi AH, Haj-Sheykholeslami A, Poustchi H, Fattahi B, Nateghi-Baygi A, Alavian, SM, Malekzadeh R. The Efficacy of 12 Weeks of Sofosbuvir, Daclatasvir, and Ribavirin in Treating Hepatitis C Patients with Cirrhosis, Genotypes 1 and 3. Hepat Mon. 2016

Efficacy and Safety of Generic Sofosbuvir/Ledipasvir (Sobopasvir) Fixed-dose Combination in Iranian Patients with Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection

100-

80-

60-

40-

20-

ixed-dose Combination

29/30

RVR

30/30

ETR

Figure 1, Responses to Treatment with Sofosbuvir/Ledipasvir

29/**30** 

SVR

Seyed Moayed Alavian, MD, Hepatologist Iran Hepatitis Network, Co-authored by: Heidar Sharafi, Mehri <u>Nikbin</u>, Seyed Hoda Alavian. Bita Behnava.

Introduction: Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection as a global health concern has infected around 2% of world population. Introduction of direct-acting antiviral regimens such as Sofosbuvir/Ledipasvir (SOF/LDV) made the treatment of HCV infection superior to previous HCV antiviral therapies in term of efficacy and safety of generic SOF/LDV in Iranian patients with HCV infection.

Method and Materials: This prospective cohort study was conducted on HCV-infected patients referred Middle East Liver Diseases Center in 2016. Non-cirrhotic patients were treated with daily fixed-dose combination of SOF/LDV (Sobopasvir) for 12 weeks. In cases with compensated cirrhosis, patients were treated with SOF/LDV plus daily weight adjusted RBV for 12 weeks. If the patient with cirrhosis was RBV intolerant, he/she was treated with daily fixed-dose combination of SOF/LDV for 24 weeks.

Results: In this study, 30 patients with mean age 52.9

30 patients were enrolled and most of them were cirrhotic (53.3%), infected with HCV-1a (46.7%) and had previous history of HCV antiviral therapy (62.1%). RVR was observed in 29 (96.7%, 95%CI=83.3%-99.4%) SVR 29 and in (96.7%. 95%CI=83.3%-99.4%). The only case ot treatment failure was a relapse. No serious treatment adverse-event was observed during the treatment course.

# Conclusions: The generic SOF/LDV was efficacious and safe for treatment of Iranian patients with chronic HCV infection.

Sharafi H, Nikbin M, Alavian SH, Behnava B, Alavian SM. Efficacy and Safety of Generic Sofosbuvir/Ledipasvir Fixed-Dose Combination in Iranian Patients with Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection. Hepatitis monthly. 2017;17(6):e12216.





Recommendations for the Clinical Management of Hepatitis C in Iran: A Consensus-Based National Guideline. By Iran Hepatitis Network

Alavian SM, et al. Recommendations for the Clinical Management of Hepatitis C in Iran: A Consensus-Based National Guideline. Hepat Mon. 2016

- Assessment of liver disease severity is recommended prior to therapy.
- Identifying patients with cirrhosis or advanced (bridging) fibrosis is of particular importance, as the choice of the treatment regimen and the post-treatment prognosis depend on the stage of fibrosis.

# **Treatment of HCV-Genotype 1 Infection**

	Non-Cirrhotic and Naive to SOF-Based Regimens	Non-Cirrhotic with History of SOF-Based Therapy	Compensated Cirrhosis <sup>a</sup> (Child A) and Naive to SOF-Based Regimens	Compensated Cirrhosis <sup>a</sup> (Child A) with History of SOF-Based Therapy	Decompensated Cirrhosis (Child B or C)			
	A. Daily DCV (60 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) for 12 weeks <sup>b</sup>	A. Daily DCV (60 mg) + Daily SOF ( mg) with by RBV (P mg ks <sup>b</sup>	A. Daily DCV (60 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) for 24 weeks or plus Daily weight adjusted RBV (1000 - 1200 mg) for 12 weeks <sup>b</sup>	A. Daily DCV (60 mg)+ Daily SOF ng) ply W 1200	A. Daily DCV (60 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) with Daily RBV (1000 - 1200 mg) for 24 weeks or without RBV <sup>b,c</sup>			
	B. Daily LDV (90 mg)+ Daily SOF (400mg) for 12 weeks <sup>b</sup>	B. P	B. Daily LDV (90 mg)+ Daily SOF (400mg) for 24 weeks or plus Daily weight adjusted RBV (1000 - 1200 mg) for 12 weeks <sup>b</sup>	B SOL g) plu weight adjusted RBV (1000- 1200 mg) for 24 weeks <sup>b</sup>	B. Daily LDV (90 mg)+ Daily SOF (400mg) with Daily RBV (1000 - 1200 mg) for 24 weeks or without RBV <sup>b,c</sup>			
SOF/VEL	C. As already stive: Proc SOF (4000) N $\alpha$ -2a (18) (L5) $\mu$ g/Kg) adjust (18) (R) mg) for 12 we as							
	Abbreviations: DCV, Daclatasvir; LDV, Ledipasvir; SOF, Sofosbuvir; RBV, Ribavirin. <sup>a</sup> Including patients with pre-cirrhosis (F3-F4). <sup>b</sup> There is not any priority between suggested regimens above. Both regimens are available now. <sup>c</sup> 24 weeks without RBV in cases with RBV intolerance or contraindication.							

Alavian SM, et al. Recommendations for the Clinical Management of Hepatitis C in Iran: A Consensus-Based National Guideline. Hepat Mon. 2016

# **Update on Treatment of HCV-Genotype 1 Infection**

Т	reatment Naïve Patients without Cirrhosis		AA-naïve Patients with Compensated Sirrhosis <sup>b</sup> (Child A) and/or History of PegIFN/RBV Therapy		AA-naïve Patients with ecompensated Cirrhosis (Child B or C)	DA	AA-experienced Patients
A.	Daily DCV (60 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) for 12 weeks	A.	Daily DCV (60 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) with Daily RBV (1000-1200 mg) for 12 weeks <sup>c</sup>	А.	Daily DCV (60 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) with Daily RBV (1000-1200 mg) for 24 weeks <sup>c</sup>	Α.	Daily VEL (100 mg) + Daily SOF (400mg) with Daily RBV (1000- 1200 mg) for 24 weeks <sup>c</sup>
А.	Daily LDV (90 mg) + Daily SOF (400mg) for 12 weeks	А.	Daily LDV (90 mg) + Daily SOF (400mg) with Daily RBV (1000-1200 mg) for 12 weeks <sup>c</sup>	А.	Daily LDV (90 mg) + Daily SOF (400mg) with Daily RBV (1000-1200 mg) for 24 weeks <sup>c</sup>		
A.	Daily VEL (100 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) for 12 weeks	А.	Daily VEL (100 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) for 12 weeks	А.	Daily VEL (100 mg) + Daily SOF (400mg) with Daily RBV (1000-1200 mg) for 24 weeks <sup>c</sup>	-	

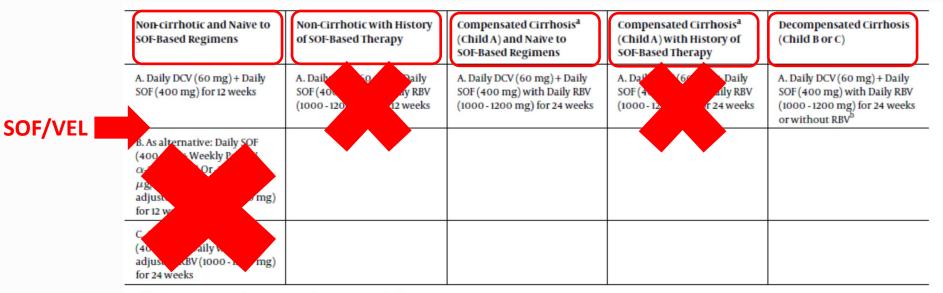
<sup>a</sup>Abbreviation: DCV, Daclatasvir; SOF, Sofosbuvir; LDV, Ledipasvir; VEL, Velpatasvir; RBV, Ribavirin.

<sup>b</sup>Including patients with pre-cirrhosis (F3-F4)

°24 weeks without RBV in cases with RBV intolerance or contraindication

Alavian SM, Sharafi H. Update on Recommendations for the Clinical Management of Hepatitis C in Iran 2017. Hepat Mon 2017. In press

## **Treatment of Hepatitis C Virus Genotype 3 Infection**



Abbreviation: DCV, Daclatasvir; RBV, Ribavirin; SOF, Sofosbuvir.

<sup>a</sup>Including patients with pre-cirrhosis (F3-F4).

<sup>b</sup>24 weeks without RBV in cases with RBV intolerance or contraindication.

# **Update on Treatment of HCV-Genotype 3 Infection**

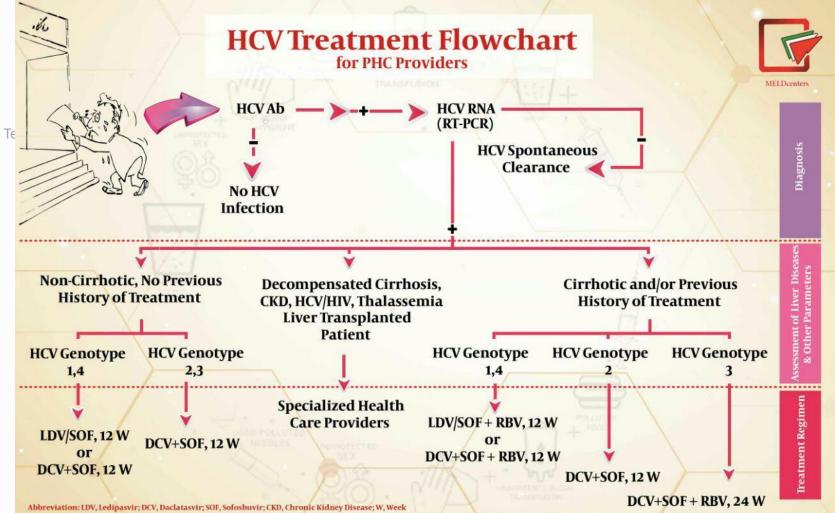
	eatment Naïve atients without Cirrhosis		DAA-naïve, PegIFN/RBV- xperienced Patients without Cirrhosis		DAA-naïve Patients with Cirrhosis (Child A) ± History of PegIFN/RBV Therapy	DAA-naïve Patients with Decompensated Cirrhosis (Child B or C)		DAA-experienced Patients
A.	Daily DCV (60 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) for 12 weeks	А.	Daily DCV (60 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) with Daily RBV (1000- 1200 mg) for 12 weeks <sup>c</sup>	Α.	Daily DCV (60 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) with Daily RBV (1000-1200 mg) for 24 weeks <sup>c</sup>	. Daily DCV (60 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) with Daily RBV (1000- 1200 mg) for 24 weeks <sup>c</sup>	Α.	Daily VEL (100 mg) + Daily SOF (400mg) with Daily RBV (1000-1200 mg) for 24 weeks <sup>c</sup>
А.	Daily VEL (100 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) for 12 weeks	А.	Daily VEL (100 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) with Daily RBV (1000- 1200 mg) for 12 weeks <sup>c</sup>	В.	Daily VEL (100 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) with Daily RBV (1000-1200 mg) for 12 weeks <sup>c</sup>	Daily VEL (100 mg) + Daily SOF (400 mg) with Daily RBV (1000- 1200 mg) for 24 weeks <sup>c</sup>		

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Alavian SM, et al. Recommendations for the Clinical Management of Hepatitis C in Iran: A Consensus Based National Guideline. Hepatitis Monthly. 2016;16(8):e40959

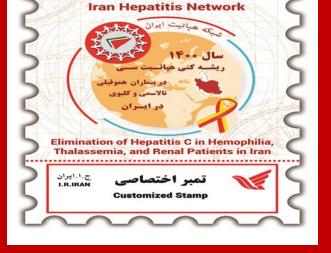
Sharafi H, et al. Efficacy and Safety of Generic Sofosbuvir/Ledipasvir Fixed-Dose Combination in Iranian Patients with Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection. Hepatitis Monthly. 2017;17(6):e12216.

Thalassemia

# Elimination of HCV infection in Iran will be in 2030 but in thalassemia and hemophilia is possible in 2020!



Solution



More support for therapy More attention to blood safety

More education the nurses in thalassemia centers Increase the thalassemia patients awareness regarding the issue.

#### Treatment with Sofosbuvir/Daclatasvir and Sofosbuvir/Ledipasvir, EASL 2016

SOF/DCV for 12 weeks can be used in all HCV genotypes and SOF/LDV for 12 weeks can be used in genotypes 1, 4, 5 or 6 HCV infection. Rules for adding RBV to treatment protocol or increasing its duration are as follow:

12 weeks with RBV	<ul> <li>All treatment experienced patients infected with genotypes 1a, 3, 4, 5 or 6 HCV.</li> <li>All decompensated cirrhotic or Post liver transplanted cases except for genotype 3 infected patients.</li> </ul>				
24 weeks with RBV	<ul> <li>Cirrhotic or Post liver transplanted cases infected with genotype 3 HCV.</li> </ul>				
24 weeks without RBV	<ul> <li>When we need RBV for therapy and there is a contraindication for or intolerance to it</li> </ul>				

Abbreviation: SOF, sofosbuvir; LDV, ledipasvir; DCV, daclatasvir; RBV, ribavirin; HCV, hepatitis C virus Non-HCC cases, awaiting LT with MELD score < 18-20 should be treated for HCV and then transplanted. These cases with MELD  $\geq$  18-20 should be first transplanted and then treated. HCC cases, Non-cirrhotic or compensated cirrhotic awaiting LT should receive therapy and LT simultaneously Co administration with amiodarone or inducers of p-glycoprotein and eGFR <30 ml/min/1.73, are contraindications for using SOF/DCV and SOF/LDV. For drug-drug interaction visit http://www.hep-druginteractions.org/.