

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

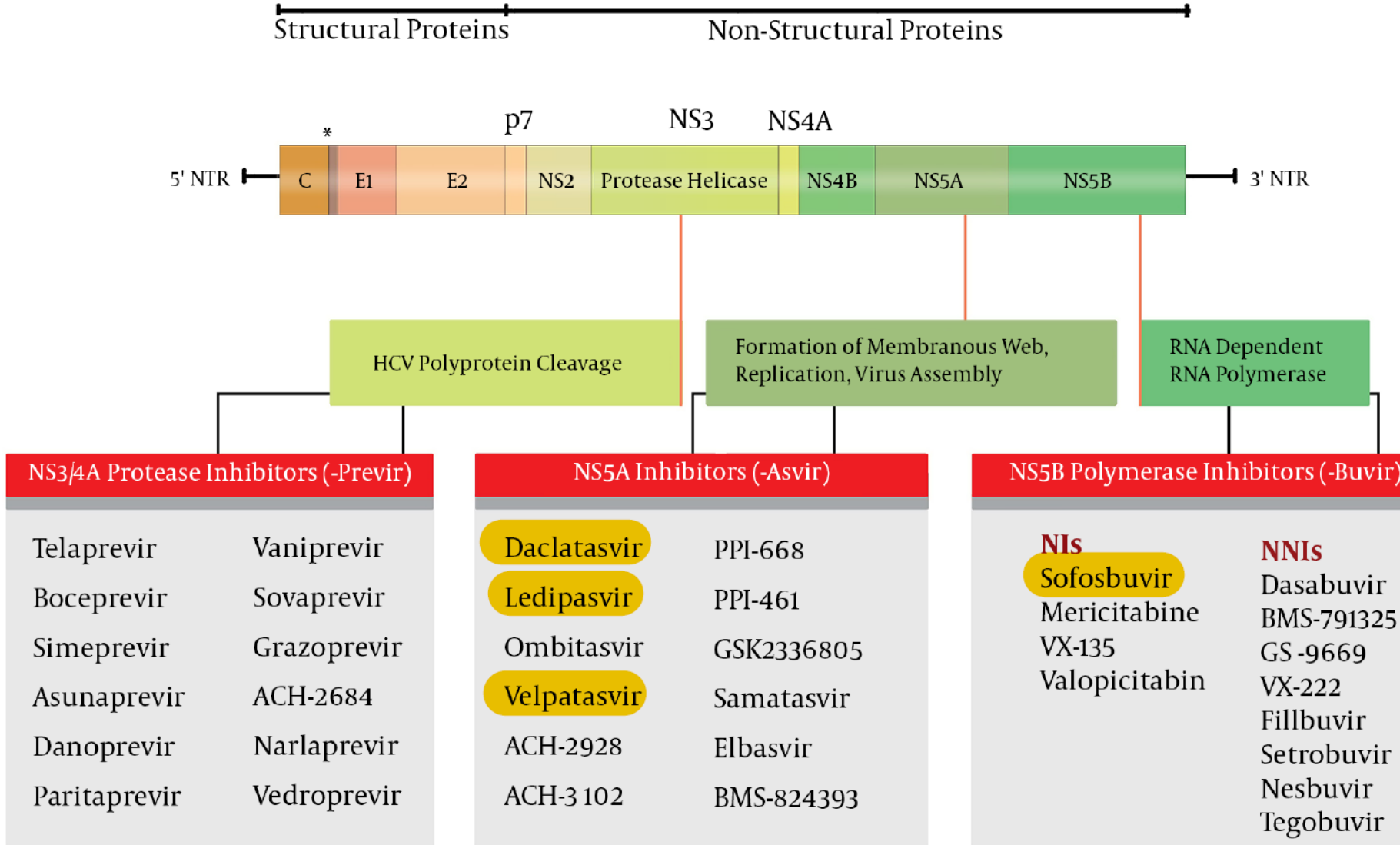
# Direct-Acting Antiviral Agents for Treatment of Hepatitis C Virus Infection

Ali Bahari, Gastroenterologist

*Emam Reza Hospital, Mashhad*

*October 2017*

# Direct-Acting Antiviral Agents for Treatment of Hepatitis C Virus Infection



- Goals of therapy
  - Sustained Virologic Response (SVR)
    - undetectable RNA level 12 weeks following the completion of therapy.

# Indications

- All patients with virologic evidence of chronic HCV infection (ie, detectable HCV viral level over a six-month period) should be considered for treatment

# EVALUATION TO GUIDE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

- HCV genotype
- History of prior treatment
- Assessment of fibrosis stage

# SPECIAL SITUATIONS

- Treatment-experienced
  - can be retreated successfully.
- Mild liver disease
  - should be considered candidates for therapy.
- Bridging fibrosis and compensated cirrhosis
  - benefit the most
- Decompensated cirrhosis
  - Hepatologists can consider antiviral therapy.

# SPECIAL SITUATIONS

- Recurrence after liver transplantation
  - All patients should be considered for treatment
- Extrahepatic manifestations of HCV infection
  - Successful eradication of the virus results in improvement in extrahepatic manifestations in most patients

# SPECIAL SITUATIONS

- HIV coinfection
  - should be prioritized for treatment.
  - The potential for drug interactions
- HBV coinfection
  - Reactivation of HBV infection has been reported in patients receiving DAA therapy.
  - Prior to DAA regimen initiation, all patients should be tested for HBV coinfection.



# SPECIAL SITUATIONS

- Older adults
  - We follow the same general principles in deciding which older patients with HCV to treat and when as we do for the general population.

# Simeprevir

- NS3 protease inhibitor
- The most common side effects
  - Fatigue, headache, pruritus, influenza-like illness, nausea, myalgia, and dyspnea
  - Photosensitivity
  - Hyperbilirubinemia
  - Not recommended in patients with moderate or severe liver impairment (ChildPugh class B and C)

# Sofosbuvir

- NS5B polymerase inhibitor
- Few adverse effects
  - fatigue, nausea, insomnia, headache, anemia, pruritus and dizziness
    - more frequently when it is used in association with ribavirin
- Not recommended in patients with GFR < 30 ml/min and patients on hemodialysis
- The main interactions : Amiodarone

# Daclatasvir

- NS5A inhibitor
- Very few side effects,
  - headache, fatigue, and nausea
- No dose adjustment is required for renal neither hepatic impairment

# Daclatasvir

- A dose reduction to 30 mg once daily,
  - with strong CYP3A inhibitors like ritonavir-boosted atazanavir, clarithromycin, ketoconazole, rifabutin, calcium channel blockers
- A dose increase to 90 mg once daily
  - with moderate CYP3A inducers such as dexamethasone, carbamazepine, phenobarbital, phenytoin

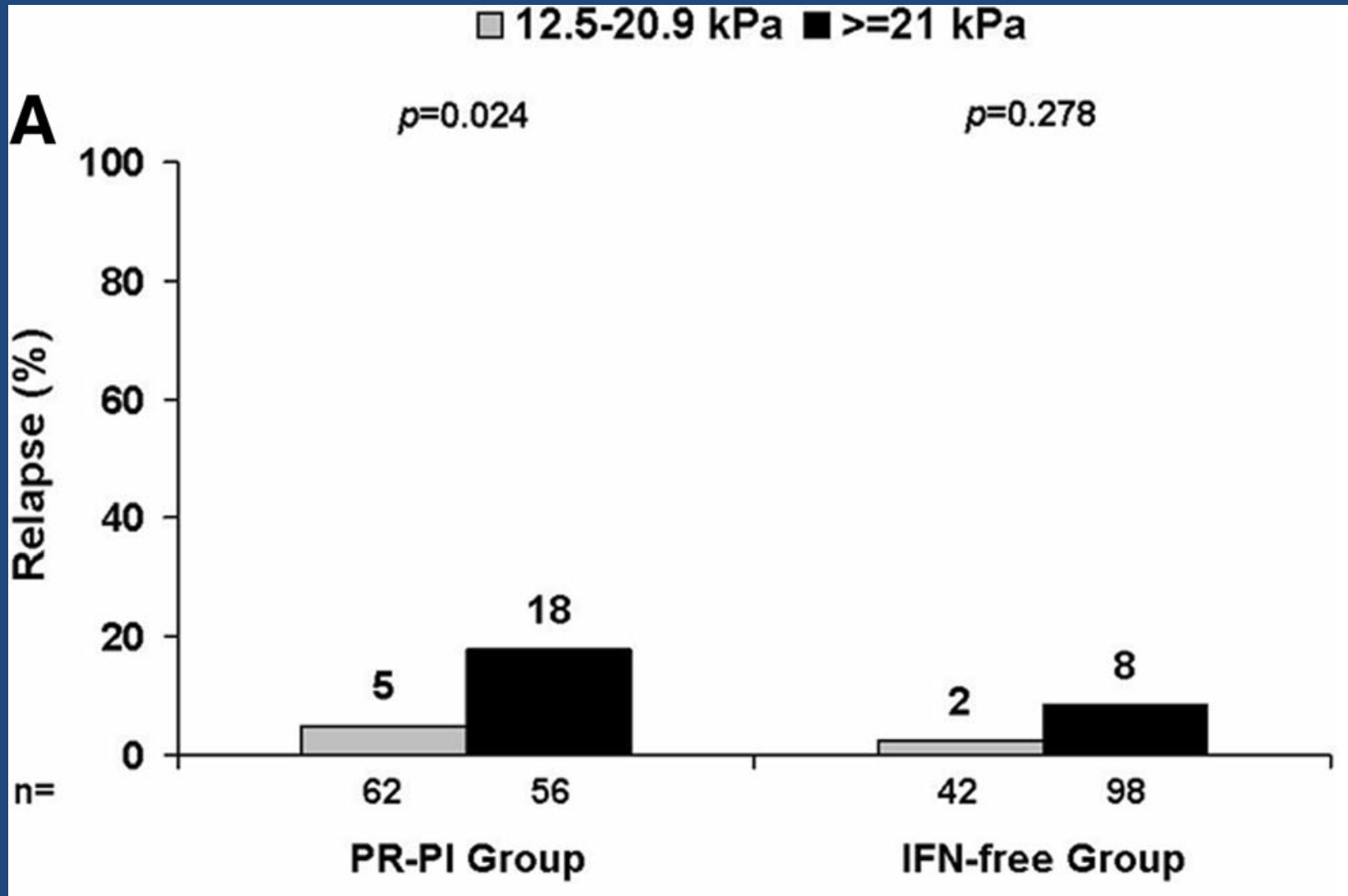
# Ledipasvir

- NS5A polymerase inhibitor
- very few side effects
  - fatigue, headache, nausea, insomnia, and diarrhea
  - increased incidence of hyperbilirubinemia was reported in patients receiving LDV/SOF with RBV
- No dose adjustment is required for renal impairment

# Velpatasvir

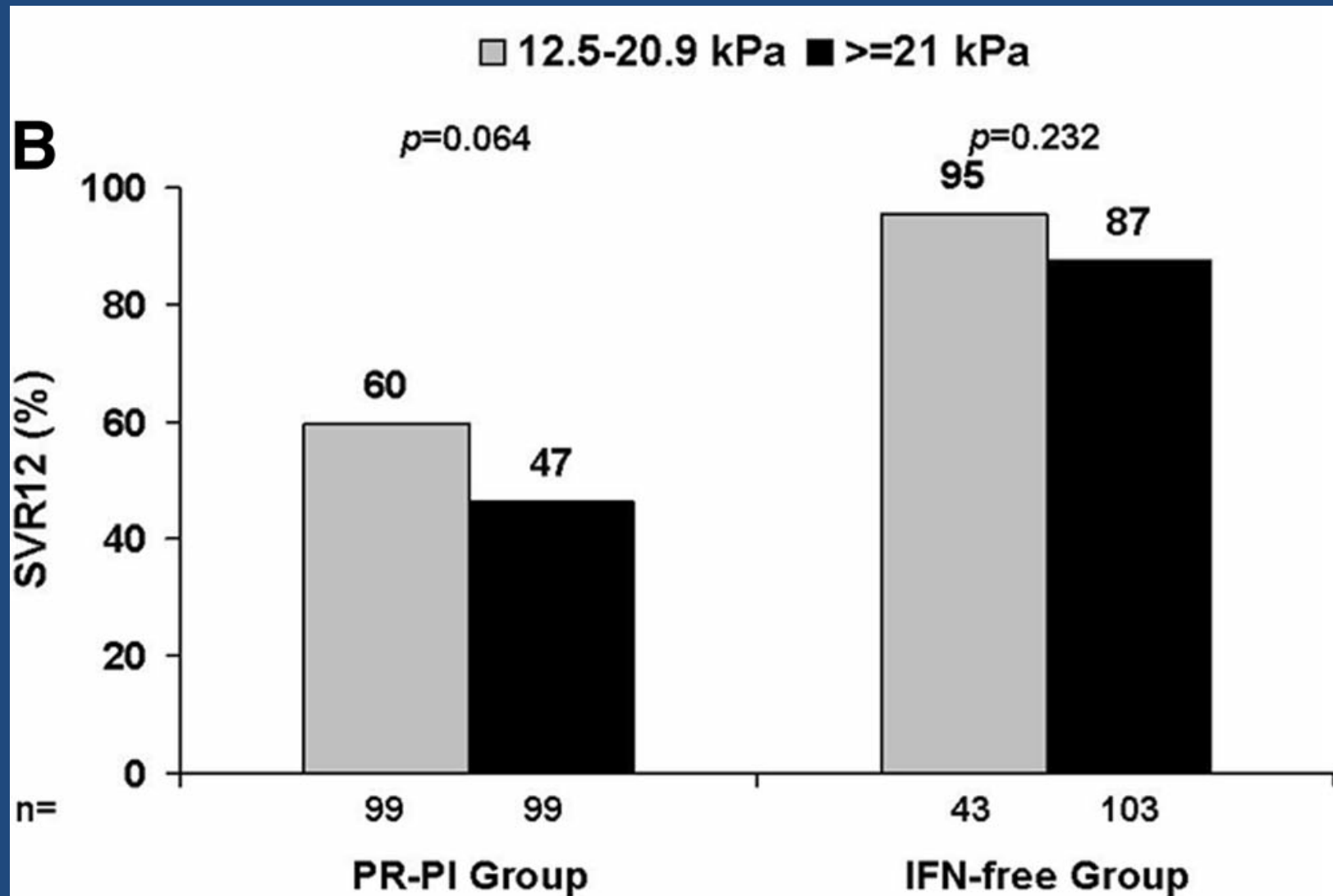
- NS5A inhibitor,
- low rates of side effects
  - headache, fatigue, nausea, nasopharyngitis and insomnia
- contraindicated with rifampin, phenytoin, phenobarbital, carbamazepine

# Liver stiffness predicts the response to direct-acting antiviral-based therapy against chronic hepatitis C in cirrhotic patients





# Liver stiffness predicts the response to direct-acting antiviral-based therapy against chronic hepatitis C in cirrhotic patients



# Superiority of Interferon-Free Regimens for Chronic Hepatitis C

The Effect on Health-Related Quality of Life and Work Productivity

## Treatment-related adverse events.

	IFN + SOF + RBV for 12 wk	IFN-free SOF + RBV for 12 or 24 wk	<i>P</i>
Blood or lymphatic system disorders	26 (11.9%)	24 (7.6%)	0.10
Fatigue or asthenia	114 (52.0%)	95 (30.2%)	<0.0001
Flu-like symptoms	80 (36.5%)	10 (3.2%)	<0.0001
Gastrointestinal system disorders	83 (37.9%)	75 (23.9%)	0.0005
Musculo-skeletal system disorders	86 (39.3%)	41 (13.1%)	<0.0001
Nervous system disorders	99 (45.2%)	69 (22.0%)	<0.0001
Psychiatric disorders	99 (45.2%)	96 (30.6%)	0.0006
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	79 (36.1%)	75 (23.9%)	0.0023
Other disorders	131 (59.8%)	87 (27.7%)	<0.0001
No treatment-related adverse events	24 (11.0%)	95 (30.2%)	<0.0001



**Cochrane**  
**Library**

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

## Direct-acting antivirals for chronic hepatitis C (Review)

- 138 trials randomising / 25,232 participants
- 51 different DAAs



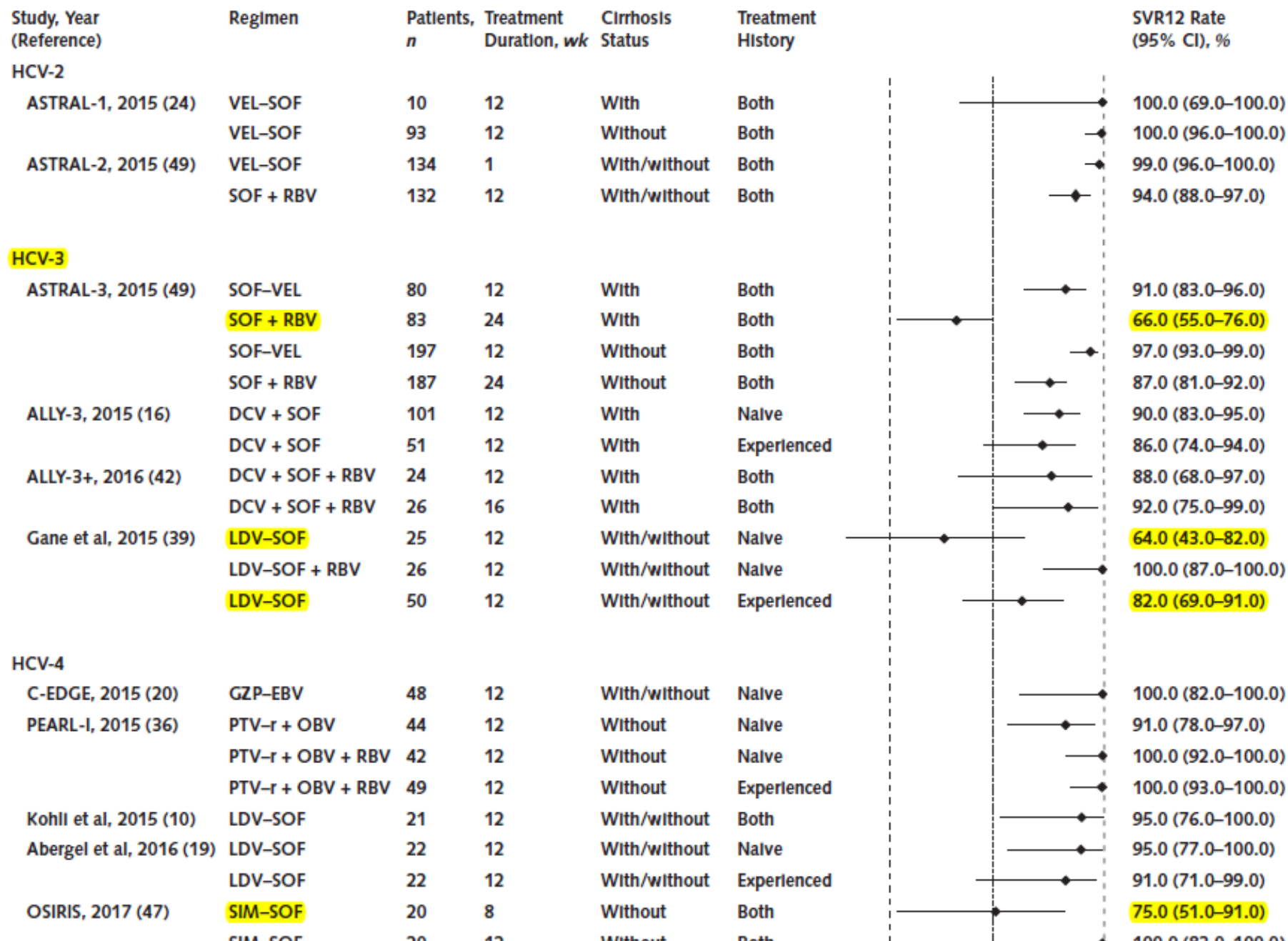
- Meta-analysis of the effects of all DAAs showed
  - no evidence of a difference when assessing hepatitis C-related morbidity or all-cause mortality (OR 3.72, 95% CI 0.53 to 26.18, P = 0.19)
  - no evidence of a difference when assessing serious adverse events (OR 0.93, 95% CI 0.75 to 1.15, P = 0.52,
  - reduce the risk of no SVR (RR 0.44, 95% CI 0.37 to 0.52, P < 0.00001,
  - withdrawn DAAs seemed to increase the risk of serious adverse events (OR 1.45, 95% CI 1.22 to 1.73, P = 0.001,

# Oral Direct-Acting Agent Therapy for Hepatitis C Virus Infection

## A Systematic Review

- 42 English-language studies
- At least 8 weeks of an FDA approved interferon-free HCV regimen that included at least 2 DAA
- Six DAA regimens showed
  - SVR rates >95% in HCV genotype 1 infection without cirrhosis
  - SVR rates (78% to 87%) in hepatic decompensation

Figure 3. HCV genotype 2 to 6 SVR12 rates and 95% CIs, by oral DAA regimen and clinical trial.



# Oral Direct-Acting Agent Therapy for Hepatitis C Virus Infection

## A Systematic Review

- The most effective DAA regimens for patients who have **genotype 3** infection
  - without cirrhosis
    - sofosbuvir + velpatasvir or daclatasvir for 12 weeks
  - with cirrhosis
    - Velpatasvir + sofosbuvir

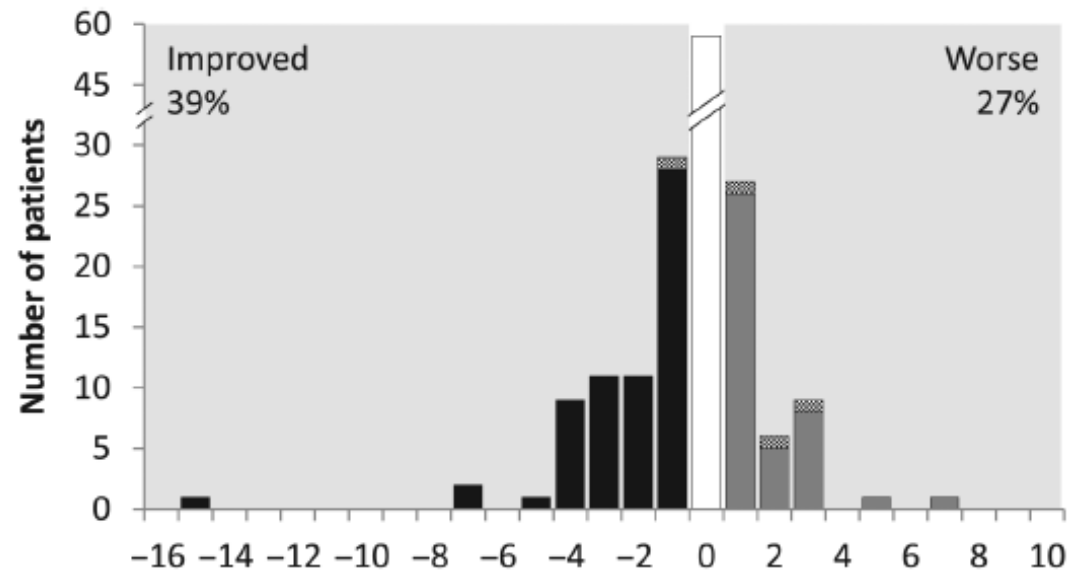
Daclatasvir plus sofosbuvir, with or without ribavirin, achieved high sustained virological response rates in patients with HCV infection and advanced liver disease in a real-world cohort

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>n/N</b>	<b>% with SVR12 (95% CI)</b>
<b>Treatment group</b>		
DCV+SOF	313/323	97 (94.4–98.5)
DCV+SOF+RBV	106/110	96 (91.0–99.0)
<b>HCV genotype</b>		
1	312/319	98 (95.5–99.1)
1a	149/151	99 (95.3–99.8)
1b	150/155	97 (92.6–98.9)
1 other/unknown subtype	13/13	100 (75.3–100)
3	82/89	92 (84.5–96.8)
4	19/19	100 (82.4–100)
<b>Baseline HCV RNA, IU/mL</b>		
≥2,000,000	113/116	97 (92.6–99.5)
<2,000,000	297/307	97 (94.1–98.4)
<b>Cirrhosis status</b>		
Absent	56/57	98 (90.6–100)
Present	331/343	97 (94.0–98.2)
Indeterminate	20/20	100 (83.2–100)

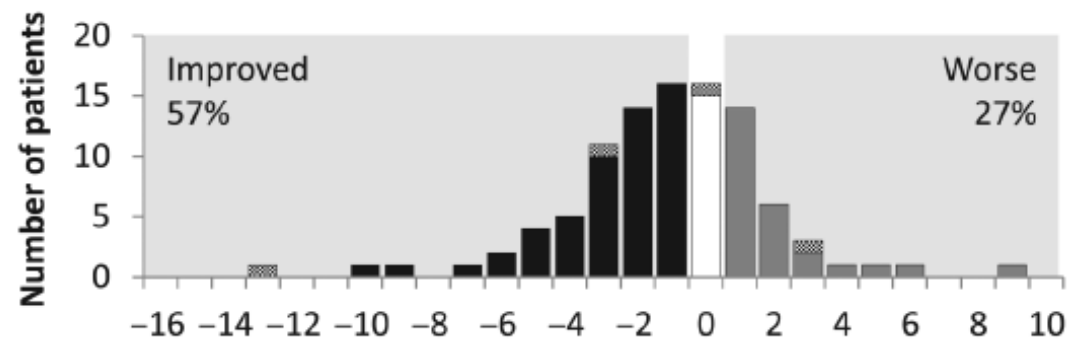


Child–Pugh class		
A	200/206	97 (93.8–98.9)
B	115/121	95 (89.5–98.2)
C	16/16	100 (79.4–100)
MELD score category		
<10	147/152	97 (92.5–98.9)
10–15	167/172	97 (93.3–99.0)
16–20	14/16	88 (61.7–98.4)
Platelets $\times 10^9/L$		
<50	56/60	93 (83.8–98.2)
<100	225/233	97 (93.3–98.5)
$\geq 100$	182/187	97 (93.9–99.1)
Albumin, g/L		
<35	129/136	95 (89.7–97.0)
$\geq 35$	231/237	97 (94.6–99.1)
Prior HCV therapy		
No	125/127	98 (94.4–99.8)
Yes	294/306	96 (93.3–98.0)
Protease inhibitor	53/54	98 (90.1–100)
Liver transplant recipient		
No	339/353	96 (93.4–97.8)
Yes	80/80	100 (95.5–100)
HIV/HCV coinfection		
No	346/359	96 (93.9–98.1)
Yes	48/49	98 (89.1–99.9)
Renal insufficiency (CrCl, mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> )		
Severe (<30)	5/5	100 (47.8–100)
Moderate (30–59)	51/52	98 (89.7–100)
Mild (60–89)	103/105	98 (93.3–99.8)

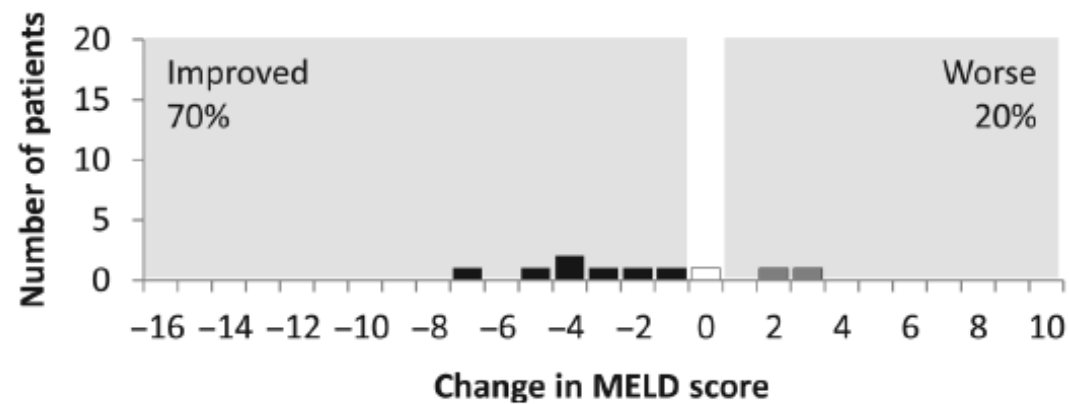
**Child-Pugh  
Class A**  
n = 163



**Child-Pugh  
Class B**  
n = 99



**Child-Pugh  
Class C**  
n = 10



# The effectiveness of daclatasvir based therapy in European patients with chronic hepatitis C and advanced liver disease

- The 249 patients
  - treatment experienced (65%)
  - decompensated cirrhosis (59%)
  - liver transplant before receiving daclatasvir (40%)

**Table 2** Observed sustained virological response rates at 4 weeks (SVR4) and at 12 weeks (SVR12) after completing therapy with daclatasvir and sofosbuvir, with or without ribavirin

Observed	SVR12			
	As-treated	Intent-to-treat		
Country	%	Fraction	%	Fraction
Austria	100	13/13	93	13/14
Denmark	100	17/17	89	17/19
Spain	99	138/140	92	138/150
Sweden	100	15/15	94	15/16
Switzerland	85	22/26	85	22/26
UK	100	14/14	82	14/17
Overall	97	219/225	90	219/242

**Table 3** Observed sustained virological response rates in subgroups at 12 weeks (SVR12) after completing therapy with daclatasvir and sofosbuvir, with or without ribavirin

Subgroups		SVR12			
		As-treated		Intent-to-treat	
		%	Fraction	%	Fraction
Genotype <sup>a</sup>	1	98	171/174	92	171/186
	3	94	33/35	85	33/39
	Other	94	15/16	88	15/17
Cirrhosis	None or compensated	100	93/93	99	93/94
	Decompensated	95	126/132	85	126/148
Prior treatment	Naive	99	75/76	88	75/85
	Experienced	99	144/149	92	144/157
Ribavirin	Without	96	157/163	88	157/178
	With	100	62/62	97	62/64
Overall		97	219/225	90	219/242

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

Shahin Merat,<sup>1</sup> Amir Houshang Sharifi,<sup>1</sup> Arghavan Haj-Sheykholeslami,<sup>1</sup> Hossein Poustchi,<sup>1</sup> Babak Fattahi,<sup>1</sup> Alireza Nateghi-Baygi,<sup>1</sup> Seyed Moayed Alavian,<sup>2</sup> and Reza Malekzadeh<sup>1,\*</sup>

**Table 2.** Treatment Outcome in 100 Patients with HCV and Cirrhosis<sup>a</sup>

Variable	Value
Total number of patients	100
Treatment discontinued	1
Passed	1
Lost to follow-up	4
Completed study	94
SVR12	92
Genotype 1	52/53
Genotype 3	40/41
Per-protocol SVR	97.9%
Intention-to-treat SVR	92.0%

# Efficacy and Safety of Generic Sofosbuvir/Ledipasvir Fixed-Dose Combination in Iranian Patients with Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection

Heidar Sharafi,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Mehri Nikbin,<sup>2,3</sup> Seyed Hoda Alavian,<sup>2,3</sup> Bita Behnava,<sup>2,3</sup> and Seyed Moayed Alavian<sup>1,2,3,\*</sup>

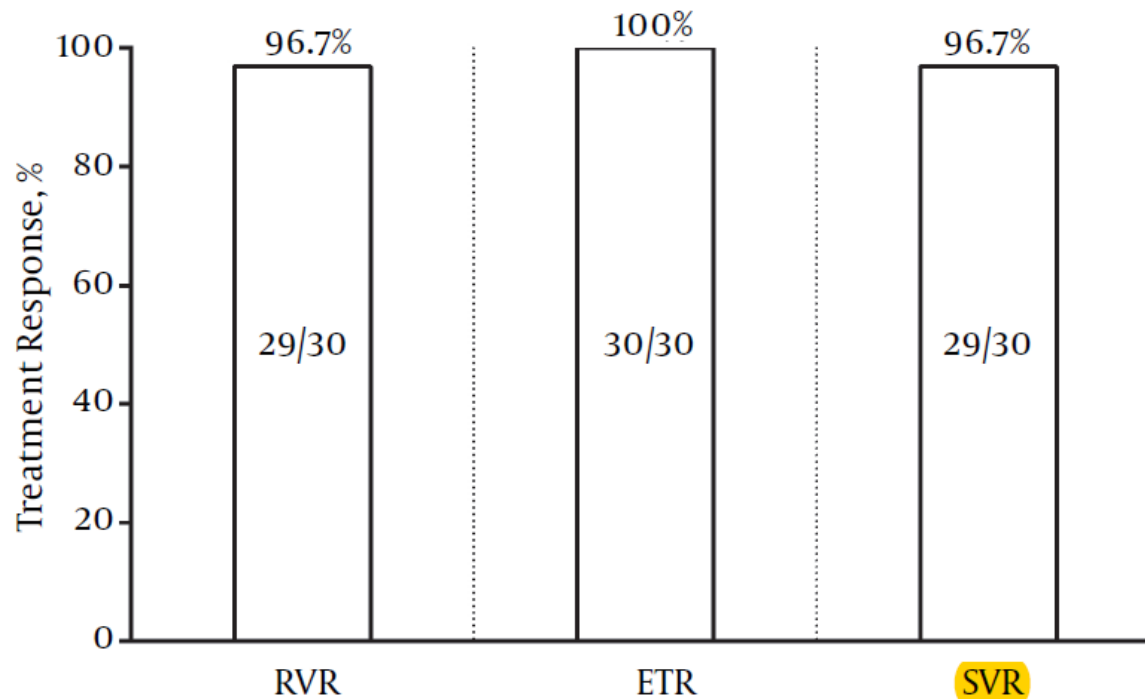
**Table 1.** Baseline Characteristics of the Study Population

		All Patients (N = 30)
Gender	Male	22 (73.3%)
	Female	8 (26.7%)
Age <sup>a</sup> , y	Mean ± SD	52.9 ± 15.6
	Range (min - max)	25 - 76
BMI <sup>a</sup> , Kg/m <sup>2</sup>	Mean ± SD	26.8 ± 4.8
	Range (min - max)	20.3 - 39.2
Serum ALT <sup>a</sup> , IU/L	Median (IQR)	52.0 (40.5)
	Range (min-max)	17 - 252
Serum AST <sup>a</sup> , IU/L	Median (IQR)	43.0 (29.5)
	Range (min - max)	13 - 214
Cirrhosis condition	Non-cirrhotic	14 (46.7%)
	Cirrhotic	16 (53.3%)
HCV RNA <sup>a</sup> , Log IU/mL	Median (IQR)	6.5 (7.1)
	Range (min - max)	3.7 - 7.7
HCV genotype	HCV-1a	14 (46.7%)
	HCV-1b	8 (26.7%)
	Unsubtyped HCV-1	7 (23.3%)
	HCV-4	1 (3.3%)
Previous history of treatment <sup>a</sup>	Treatment-naïve	11 (37.9%)
	Relapse	12 (41.4%)
	Non-responder	6 (20.7%)

# Efficacy and Safety of Generic Sofosbuvir/Ledipasvir Fixed-Dose Combination in Iranian Patients with Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection

Heidar Sharafi,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Mehri Nikbin,<sup>2,3</sup> Seyed Hoda Alavian,<sup>2,3</sup> Bita Behnava,<sup>2,3</sup> and Seyed Moayed Alavian<sup>1,2,3,\*</sup>

**Figure 1.** Responses to Treatment with Sofosbuvir/Ledipasvir Fixed-dose Combination





# Efficacy of Ledipasvir Plus Sofosbuvir for 8 or 12 Weeks in Patients With Hepatitis C Virus Genotype 2 Infection

**Table 2.** Treatment Response

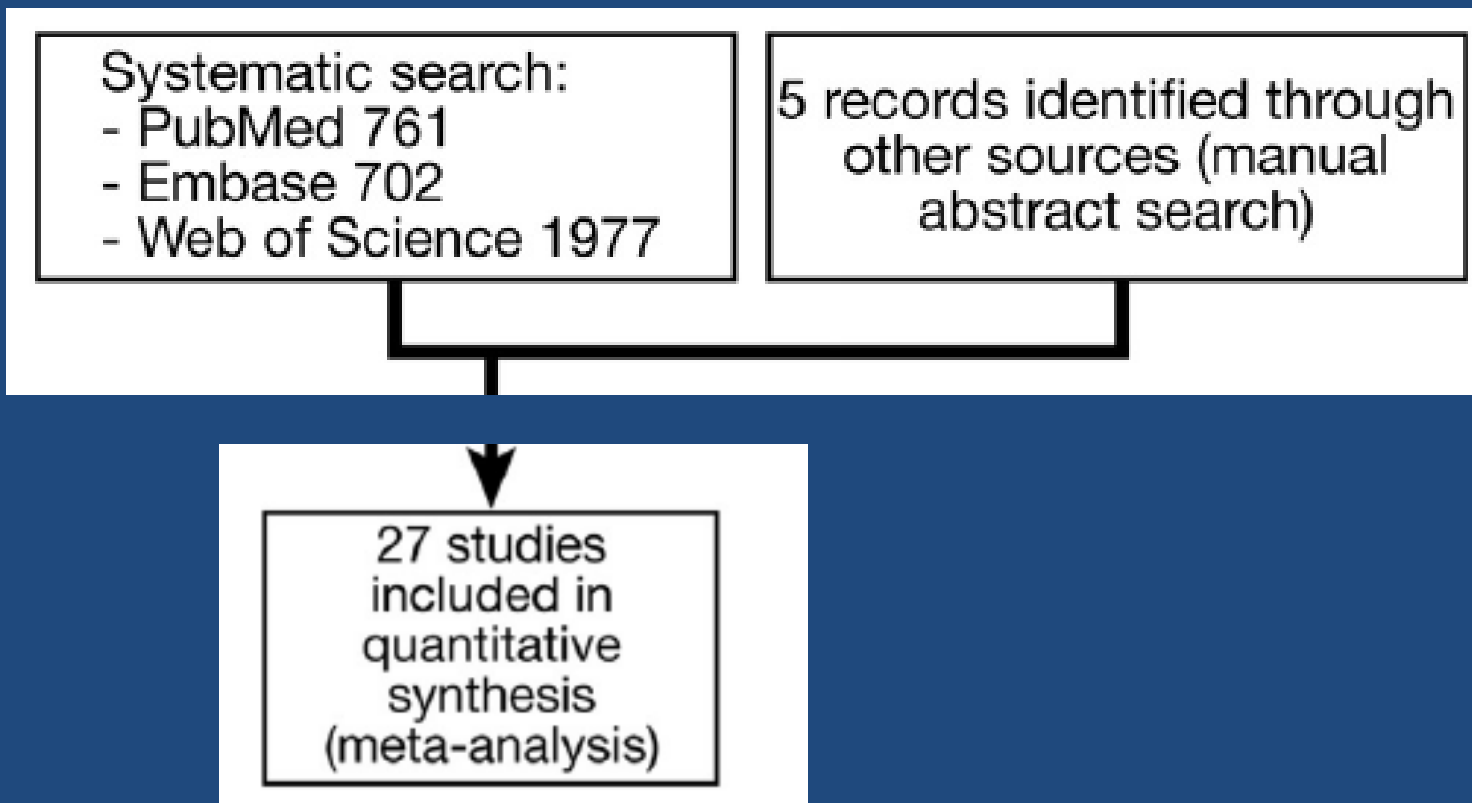
	LDV-SOF 8 Weeks (n = 27)	LDV-SOF 12 Weeks (n = 26)
HCV RNA <15 IU/mL, n/n (%)		
On treatment		
Week 4	25/27 (93)	23/25 (92) <sup>a</sup>
Week 8	26/27 (96)	25/25 (100)
Week 12	-	25/25 (100)
After treatment		
Week 2	26/27 (96)	25/26 (96)
Week 4	22/27 (82)	25/26 (96)
Week 8	20/27 (74)	25/26 (96)
Week 12 (SVR)	20/27 (74) <sup>b</sup>	25/26 (96)
95% CI	54%–89%	80%–100%
Virologic failure, n		
On treatment	0	0
Relapse	6	0

For treatment-naïve and -experienced patients, ledipasvir–sofosbuvir for 12 weeks is highly effective for the treatment of HCV genotype 2

# SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS AND META-ANALYSES

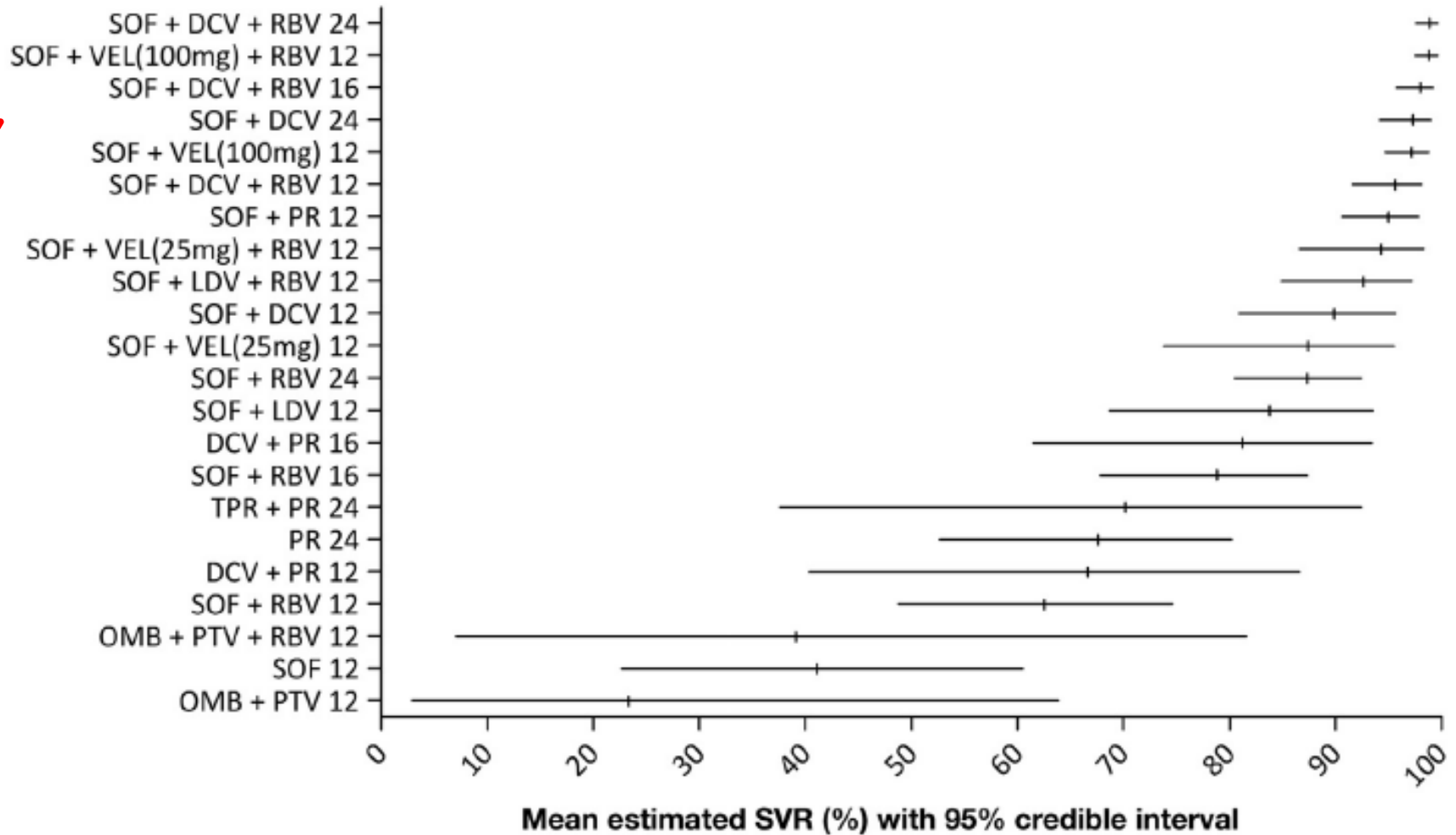
Fasiha Kanwal, Section Editor

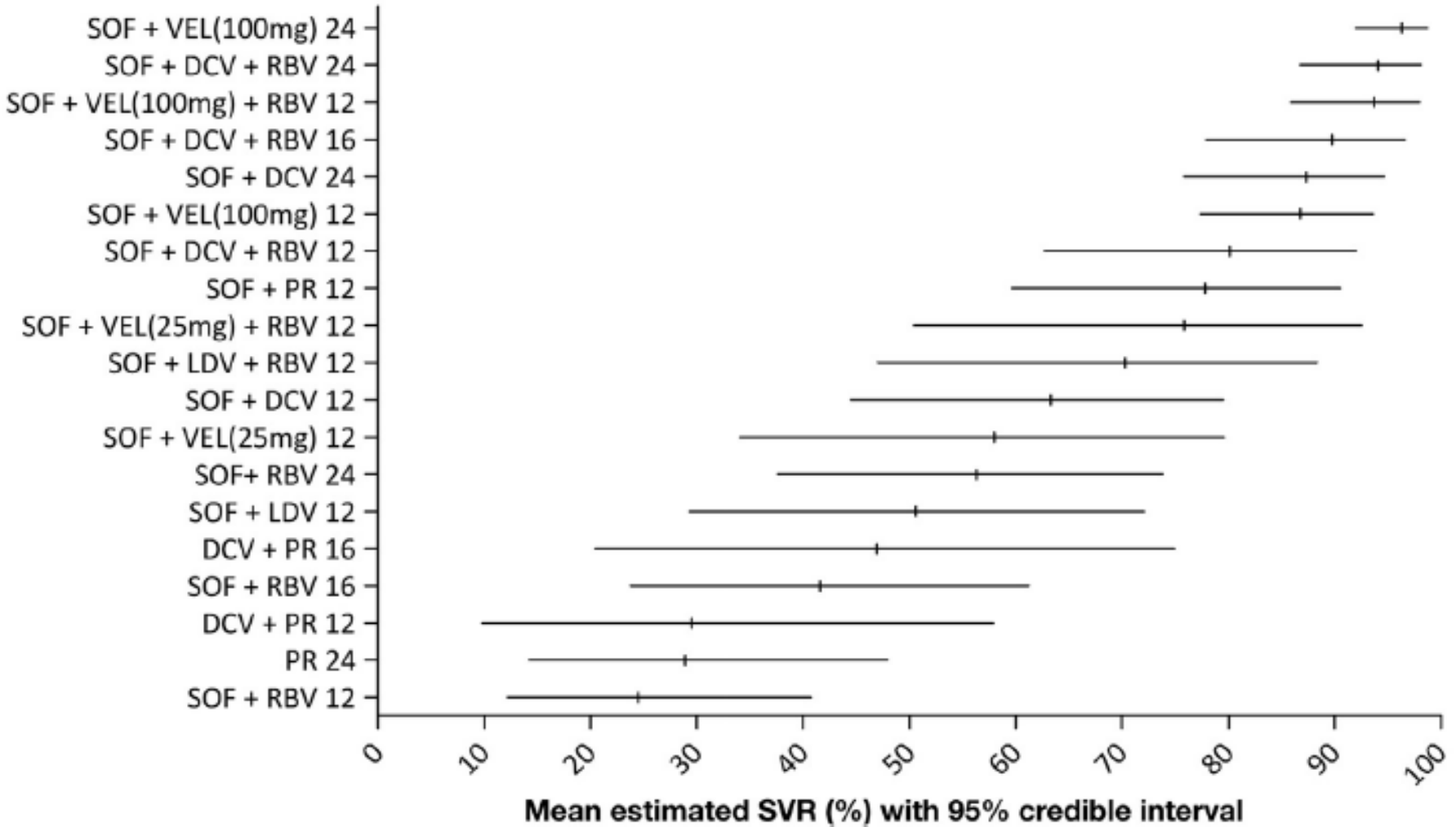
## Identification of the Best Direct-Acting Antiviral Regimen for Patients With Hepatitis C Virus Genotype 3 Infection: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-analysis



- Patients **without cirrhosis**, the greatest SVR
  - sofosbuvir + velpatasvir + ribavirin (99%; 95% CrI, 98%–100%)
  - sofosbuvir + velpatasvir without ribavirin (97%; 95% CrI, 95%–99%),
  - sofosbuvir + daclatasvir + ribavirin (96%; 95% CrI, 92%–98%),
  - sofosbuvir + peginterferon + ribavirin (95%; 95% CrI, 91%–98%),
  - all for 12 weeks.

- Patients **with cirrhosis**, the highest SVR
  - Sofosbuvir + velpatasvir for 24 weeks (96%; 95% CrI, 92%–99%),
  - sofosbuvir + daclatasvir + ribavirin for 24 weeks (94%; 95% CrI, 87%–98%),
  - Sofosbuvir + velpatasvir + ribavirin for 12 weeks (94%; 95% CrI, 86%–98%).
  - Ribavirin increases efficacy in patients with and without cirrhosis (odds ratio, 2.6–4.5).

**A****Estimated SVR rates per regimen for non-cirrhotic patients**

**B****Estimated SVR rates per regimen for cirrhotic patients**

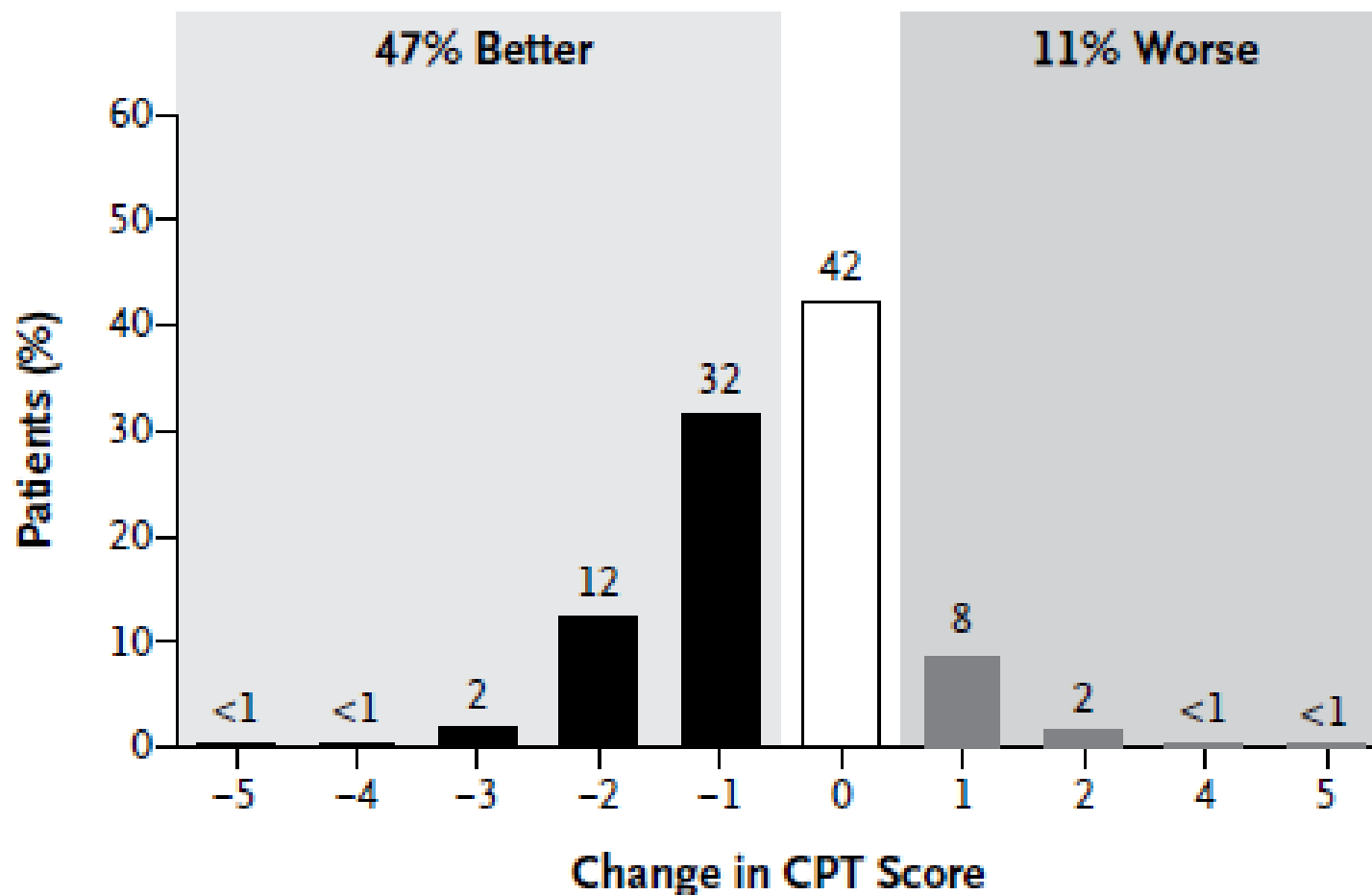
# Antiviral selection for HCV decompensated cirrhosis

# Sofosbuvir and Velpatasvir for HCV in Patients with Decompensated Cirrhosis

Outcome	Sofosbuvir–Velpatasvir for 12 Wk (N=90)		Sofosbuvir–Velpatasvir plus Ribavirin for 12 Wk (N=87)		Sofosbuvir–Velpatasvir for 24 Wk (N=90)	
	no./total no. (%)	95% CI	no./total no. (%)	95% CI	no./total no. (%)	95% CI
<b>Sustained virologic response</b>						
All genotypes	75/90 (83)	74–90	82/87 (94)	87–98	77/90 (86)	77–92
Genotype 1a	44/50 (88)	76–96	51/54 (94)	85–99	51/55 (93)	82–98
Genotype 1b	16/18 (89)	65–99	14/14 (100)	77–100	14/16 (88)	62–98
Genotype 2	4/4 (100)	40–100	4/4 (100)	40–100	3/4 (75)	19–99
<b>Genotype 3</b>	<b>7/14 (50)</b>	<b>23–77</b>	<b>11/13 (85)</b>	<b>55–98</b>	<b>6/12 (50)</b>	<b>21–79</b>
Genotype 4	4/4 (100)	40–100	2/2 (100)	16–100	2/2 (100)	16–100
Genotype 6	0	NA	0	NA	1/1 (100)	3–100
<b>Virologic failure</b>						
All genotypes	11/90 (12)		3/87 (3)		8/90 (9)	
Genotype 1a	3/50 (6)		1/54 (2)		2/55 (4)	
Genotype 1b	2/18 (11)		0		1/16 (6)	
<b>Genotype 3</b>	<b>6/14 (43)</b>		<b>2/13 (15)</b>		<b>5/12 (42)</b>	
<b>Other outcome</b>						
Death	3/90 (3)		2/87 (2)		2/90 (2)	
Loss to follow-up	1/90 (1)		0		3/90 (3)	

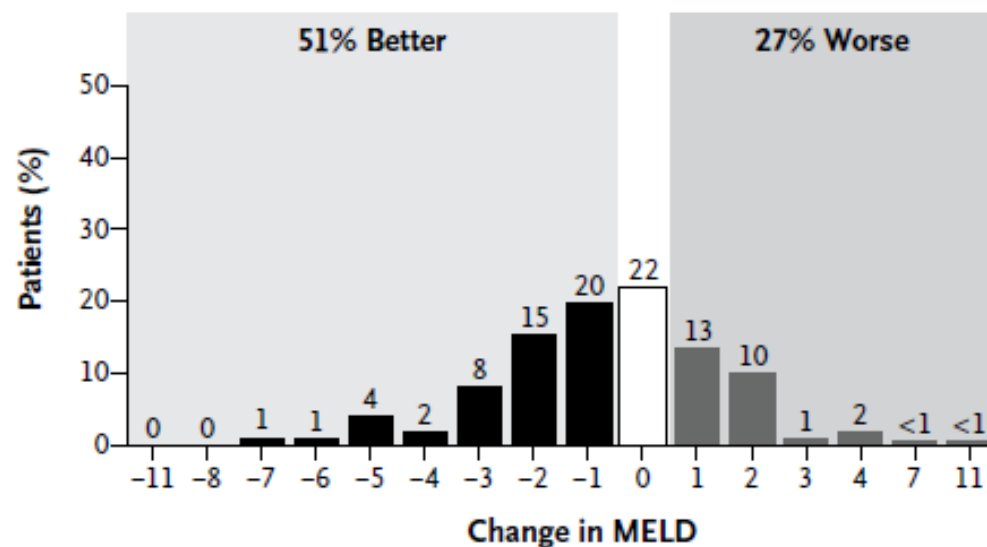


# A CPT Score

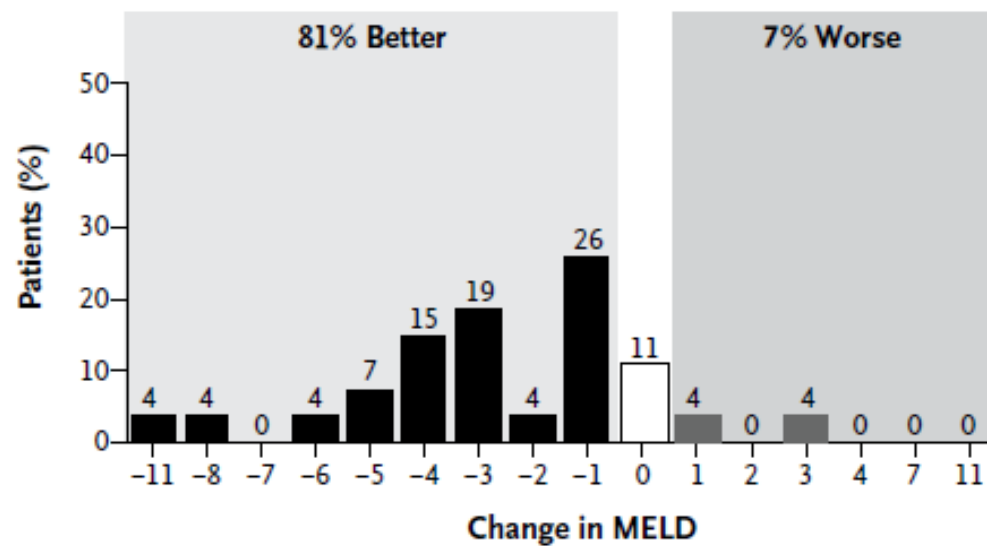


No. of Patients

1 1 5 31 79 106 21 4 1 1

**B Baseline MELD <15**

No. of Patients 0 0 3 2 9 4 18 34 44 49 30 22 2 4 1 1

**C Baseline MELD ≥15**

No. of Patients 1 1 0 1 2 4 5 1 7 3 1 0 1 0 0 0

## **PANCREAS, BILIARY TRACT, AND LIVER**

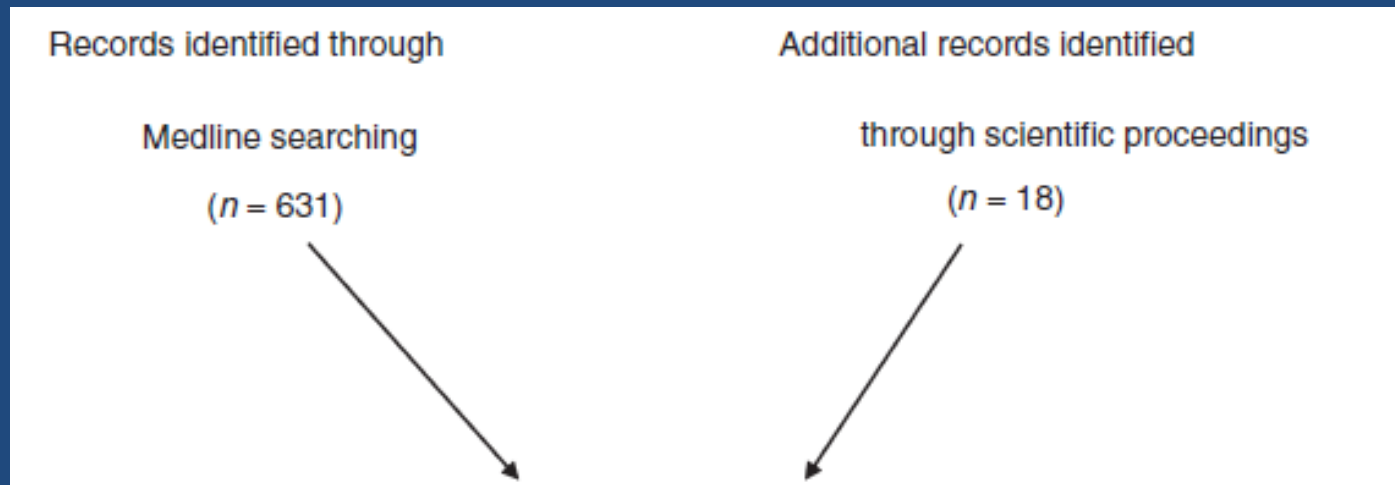
---

### **Sofosbuvir and Velpatasvir Combination Improves Patient-reported Outcomes for Patients With HCV Infection, Without or With Compensated or Decompensated Cirrhosis**



any time point (all 1-sided  $P$  values  $> .05$ ). In multivariate analysis, compensated cirrhosis was associated with a 2.3% to 5.0% greater increase in PRO scores following treatment with sofosbuvir and velpatasvir ( $P < .05$ ); decompensated cirrhosis was associated with a 5.5%–9.1% greater increase ( $P < .002$ ). [Clinicaltrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov) number, NCT02201940, NCT02220998, NCT02201953, NCT02201901.

# Systematic review: interferon-free regimens for patients with HCV-related Child C cirrhosis

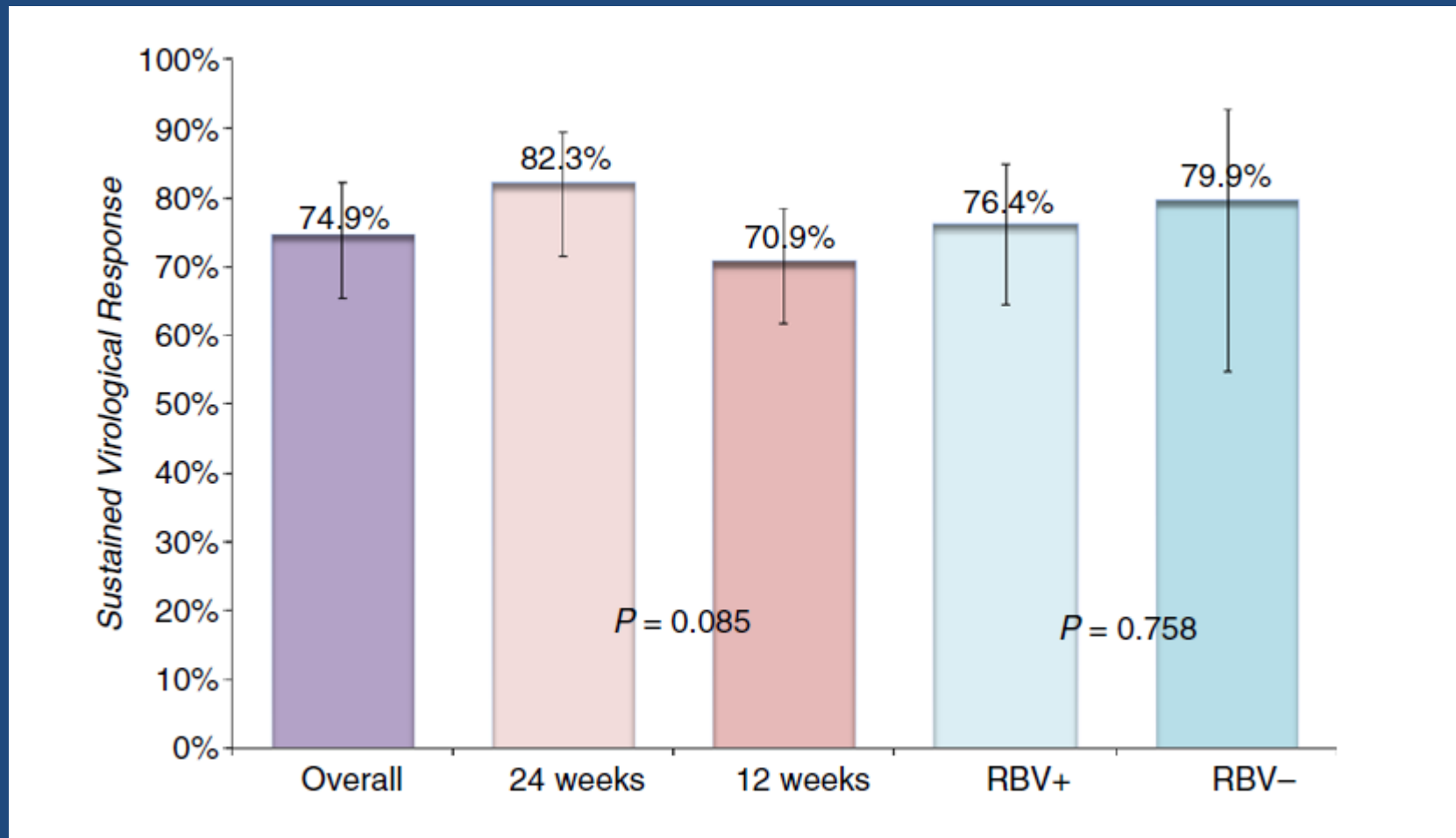


Studies included in synthesis

( $n = 7$  full-text articles)

( $n = 2$  abstracts)

# Systematic review: interferon-free regimens for patients with HCV-related Child C cirrhosis



SVR rates according to the different therapeutic regimens with new direct acting antivirals by treatment duration (24 vs. 12 weeks) or the inclusion or not of ribavirin in the regimens.

# Systematic review: interferon-free regimens for patients with HCV-related Child C cirrhosis

Table 2 | Characteristics of Child C cirrhotic patients, enrolled in the studies selected for the meta-analysis

Study	Regimen	Ribavirin	Duration of therapy (weeks)	Total no. of patients	No. of patients with SVR12	No. of patients with Child C cirrhosis	SVR12 in Child C cirrhotic patients
Charlton, 2015	SOF/LDV	Yes	12	22	12	12	100%
		Yes	24				
Manns, 2016	SOF/LDV	Yes	24	20	15	15	75%
Shiffmann, 2015	SOF/SMV	Yes	24	6	5	1	83%
Foster, 2016	SOF/SMV	Yes	24	5	5	5	100%
Modesto, 2016	SOF/SMV	No	24	7	7	7	100%
Petermann, 2016	SOF/SMV	Yes	24	3	3	3	100%
Lipman, 2016	SOF/SMV	No	24	2	2	2	100%
Salazar, 2016	SOF/SMV	No	24	2	2	2	100%
Leroy, 2016	SOF/SMV	No	24	8	8	8	100%
Petermann, 2016	SOF/SMV	No	24	20	15	15	75%
Lipman, 2016	SOF/SMV	No	24	6	5	1	83%
Salazar, 2016	SOF/SMV	No	24	5	5	5	100%
Leroy, 2016	SOF/SMV	No	24	3	3	3	100%
Petermann, 2016	SOF/SMV	No	24	7	7	7	100%
Lipman, 2016	SOF/SMV	Yes	12	2	2	2	100%
Salazar, 2016	SOF/SMV	No	12	2	2	2	100%

WILEY AP&T Alimentary Pharmacology & Therapeutics

**LETTERS TO THE EDITORS**  
**Letter: the efficacy of interferon-free regimens in HCV-related Child C cirrhosis needs careful interpretation**

**Treatment regimens for  
chronic hepatitis C virus  
genotype 1 infection in naïve  
adults**

# Assess Liver fibrosis / Virus subtype

## Decompensated Cirrhosis

Subtype 1a

NO

Subtype 1b

No Cirrhosis  
(F 0-3)

Cirrhosis  
(F4)

No Cirrhosis  
(F 0-3)

Cirrhosis  
(F4)

*Sofosbuvir +  
Ledipasvir*  
12 w

*Sofosbuvir +  
Ledipasvir*  
12 w

*Sofosbuvir +  
Ledipasvir*  
12 w

*Sofosbuvir +  
Ledipasvir*  
12 w

*Sofosbuvir +  
Velpatasvir*  
12 wk

*Sofosbuvir +  
Velpatasvir*  
12 wk

*Sofosbuvir +  
Velpatasvir*  
12 wk

*Sofosbuvir +  
Velpatasvir*  
12 wk

*Sofosbuvir +  
Daclatasvir*  
12 wk

*Sofosbuvir +  
Daclatasvir +/-  
Ribavirin*  
24 wk

*Sofosbuvir +  
Daclatasvir*  
12 wk

*Sofosbuvir +  
Daclatasvir +/-  
Ribavirin*  
24 wk



# Antiviral selection for HCV genotype 2 infection in adults

# Assess Liver fibrosis

Decompensated Cirrhosis

NO

No Cirrhosis (F 0-3)

Cirrhosis(F4)

*Sofosbuvir +Velpatasvir*  
12 wk

*Sofosbuvir +Velpatasvir*  
12 wk

*Sofosbuvir +Daclatasvir*  
12 wk

*Sofosbuvir +Daclatasvir*  
16-24 wk

# Antiviral selection for HCV genotype 3 infection in adults

# Assess Liver fibrosis

## Decompensated Cirrhosis

NO

No Cirrhosis (F 0-3)

Cirrhosis (F4)

Test for NS5A for RAS

*Sofosbuvir +  
Velpatasvir  
12 wk*

*Sofosbuvir +  
Daclatasvir  
12 wk*

Y93H absent

*Sofosbuvir +  
Velpatasvir  
12 wk*

*Sofosbuvir +  
Daclatasvir +  
Ribavirin  
24 wk*

Y93H present

*Sofosbuvir +  
Velpatasvir +  
Ribavirin  
12 wk*

*Sofosbuvir +  
Daclatasvir +  
Ribavirin  
24 wk*

