

## February 2006 HepTalk Listserv

### Announcements from HepTalk

February 2006 features an [update on Hepatitis C](#). We hope these recent articles and links will help you keep up with recent information about tests and treatments for Hep C. The following resources are available in the February Listserv:

- 1. Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Management: 2000-2005 Update.** This is a good, current overview.
- 2. Doc Eye for the Hep Guy: Management of HCV Treatment-Experienced Patients** This is a free webcast which offers CME credits. **NOTE: You should be able to participate in a webcast if you have internet and audio on your computer.** See below for details.
- 3. Reference for Interpretation of HCV Test Results** A one page printable pdf quick reference to use in your office.
- 4. "If you have hepatitis C, which vaccinations do you need?"** A new reference tool from IAC—for you and your patients.

**NEWS BULLETIN:** We're close to completing our preparations for training, based on our visits to your clinics. Expect a letter soon from HepTalk Project Coordinator Carmen Retzlaff with details. Please feel free to e-mail or call Carmen with questions.

**Previous listserv postings** are archived on the Migrant Clinicians Network website at <http://www.migrantclinician.org/excellence/hepatitis/listservarchive>

**If others at your clinic would like to be on the listserv**, or if you have questions about the listserv or resources listed here, or if you would like to add something to the posts, please contact Kathryn Anderson, HepTalk listserv administrator, at [dempander@earthlink.net](mailto:dempander@earthlink.net). You can also contact the listserv administrator if you would like to unsubscribe from the list.

---

1. From *The Annals of Pharmacotherapy Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Management: 2000-2005 Update*  
Posted on Medscape 02/09/2006 Christine A. Hughes;  
Stephen D. Shafran  
<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/521823?src=mp>

### **Abstract**

**Objective:** To review recent advances that have significantly changed the management of chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection.

**Data Sources:** A MEDLINE search (2000-July 2005) was conducted using key words such as hepatitis C, interferon, pegylated interferon, and therapy.

**Study Selection and Data Extraction:** All articles pertaining to treatment of chronic HCV infection were identified. Studies evaluating HCV treatment in treatment-naive patients were considered for this review.

**Data Synthesis:** Over the past several years, response to treatment for chronic HCV infection has significantly improved with the use of pegylated interferon and ribavirin therapy. Treatment response is influenced by HCV genotype and viral load, as well as patient-related factors, including adherence.

**Conclusions:** Treatment of chronic HCV infection has improved, with overall response rates of approximately 55%. Identification and management of common adverse effects is important in maximizing adherence and response to therapy. Studies are needed to further delineate the optimum treatment of chronic HCV infection in specific patient populations.

2. **Doc Eye for the Hep Guy: Management of HCV Treatment-Experienced Patients**

**Presentation: Donald M. Jensen, MD,**

*Professor of Medicine, Director, Center for Liver Diseases, University of Chicago School of Medicine, Chicago, Illinois.*

**Interactive Case Challenges: Douglas T. Dieterich, MD**

*Professor of Medicine, Division of Liver Diseases, Director, Continuing Medical Education, Department of Medicine, The Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York, New York*

**Douglas T. Dieterich, MD, and Donald M. Jensen, MD,** leading experts in the field, guide participants through this truly unique program. Attendees will be taken through 3 educational presentations that include **treatment and lifestyle makeover case challenges**. You will not want to miss this creative approach to acquiring the latest information on managing HCV treatment-experienced patients.

Topics for discussion:

- \* HCV-infected patients who relapse after treatment
- \* HCV-infected patients who fail to respond to treatment
- \* Retreatment of nonresponders and relapsers
- \* Hematologic side effects of hepatitis C treatment

\* Strategies for managing side effects

We hope you will join us for this unique presentation-and a lively discussion with your colleagues-about the latest hepatitis C treatment options and the challenges you face in daily clinical practice.

This program is jointly sponsored by the Postgraduate Institute for Medicine and Clinical Care Options, LLC and is designed specifically for physicians, nurses, and other healthcare community members providing frontline clinical care for persons with hepatitis C virus infection.

For more information or to register for free for this Webcast, please go to:

[http://registration.clinicaloptions.com/hep/landing/webcast\\_doceye/](http://registration.clinicaloptions.com/hep/landing/webcast_doceye/)

**Thursday, March 2, 2006**

2:00 PM (EST)

4:00 PM (EST)

6:00 PM (EST)

**Friday, March 3, 2006**

2:00 PM (EST)

4:00 PM (EST)

**Tuesday, March 7, 2006**

2:00 PM (EST)

4:00 PM (EST)

6:00 PM (EST)

**Wednesday, March 8, 2006**

2:00 PM (EST)

**There are no costs/fees required to participate in this CME program.**

**3. Reference for Interpretation of HCV Test Results.**

Get to this one page printable pdf file on the CDC Viral Hepatitis Website:

**4. "If you have hepatitis C, which vaccinations do you need?"** The IAC (Immunization Action Coalition) has posted this new tool at

<http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/4042hepc.htm> **It is available in Spanish and English.**

---

HepTalk is a project of the Migrant Clinicians Network and Community Health Education Concepts. HepTalk is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The goal of HepTalk is to help clinicians serving migrants and recent immigrants engage in productive discussions about hepatitis risks with their clients and help them make prevention plans. The HepTalk listserv is a support service for clinics participating in the project. This is a post-only listserv and postings will come from HepTalk staff about once a month. If others at your clinic would like to be on the listserv, or if you have questions about the listserv or resources listed here, or if you would like to add something to the posts, please contact Kathryn Anderson, HepTalk training and education coordinator and listserv administrator, at [dempander@earthlink.net](mailto:dempander@earthlink.net). You can also contact the listserv administrator if you would like to unsubscribe from the list. The content of the November 2004 HepTalk listserv was compiled by the guest editors and the HepTalk project staff.

----- End of Forwarded Message