



## **Caring Ambassadors Hepatitis C Program Newsletter**

February 2008

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### **IN THE NEWS**

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#### **British soldiers, civilian contractors undergo HIV, hepatitis C screenings after receiving blood that was not properly screened [United Kingdom]**

[http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily\\_reports/rep\\_index.cfm?DR\\_ID=49823](http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=49823)

“Eighteen British soldiers and six civilian contractors who received donated blood from the U.S. Department of Defense following injuries in either Iraq or Afghanistan are being tested for HIV, hepatitis and other infections because the blood had not been properly screened, London's Guardian reports.”

#### **Hepatitis C cases alarm Bosnian doctors [Bosnia]**

<http://www.balkaninsight.com/en/main/analysis/7374/>

“January 2008 More than a decade after the end of the Bosnian war, there are increasing concerns about a rise in Hepatitis C cases, many of them caused by medical treatment of those injured in the conflict. More than 50,000 people are estimated to be infected with the Hepatitis C virus in Bosnia and Herzegovina but doctors fear that number could be much higher. They say many patients may have been subjected to unsafe practices when they received blood transfusions or other medical treatment during the 1992-95 Bosnian war.”

#### **Three Rivers Pharmaceuticals(R), LLC acquires hepatitis C Drug Infergen(R) from Valeant Pharmaceuticals**

[http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/three-rivers-pharmaceuticals-llc-acquires-hepatitis-c-drug-infergenr-from\\_255802.shtml](http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/three-rivers-pharmaceuticals-llc-acquires-hepatitis-c-drug-infergenr-from_255802.shtml)

“Three Rivers Pharmaceuticals, LLC finalized acquisition of the hepatitis C drug Infergen from Valeant Pharmaceuticals International. Valeant is receiving \$91 million from Three Rivers for the procurement. "Adding Infergen to our growing portfolio is very exciting," said Donald J. Kerrish, RPh, Three River's president and chief executive officer. "This purchase is only a beginning for Three Rivers' continuous strategy to increase its product offerings through product acquisition and internal product development of pharmaceutical therapies.””

#### **Britain's transplant crisis: Poor lifestyle fuels big rise in waiting lists [United Kingdom]**

<http://news.independent.co.uk/health/article3333859.ece>

“Binge drinking is blamed for a 76 per cent increase in 10 years in those needing a new liver, while the demand for kidney replacements is up 55 per cent. This week, a 14-point plan will try to tackle the donor shortage. The UK is in the grip of a chronic organ donation crisis which is set to get worse as Britain's culture of excess drives a burgeoning obesity epidemic. The gap between the numbers of suitable donor organs and patients desperately needing them is getting wider every year.”

#### **Palisades expert warns about liver disease**

[http://www.palisadespost.com/content/index.cfm?Story\\_ID=3530](http://www.palisadespost.com/content/index.cfm?Story_ID=3530)

“The liver is not the most glamorous of organs and is rarely mentioned in song or prose. Yet liver disease is on the rise among 40- to 60-year-olds in the United States, which means this overlooked body part deserves a spotlight. The Centers for Disease Control estimate that one in every 55 people in Los Angeles County have hepatitis C, the most common blood-borne illness in America. Alarmingly, two-thirds of these people are not aware they have the disease.”

#### **EHE International supports the American Liver Foundation's efforts at raising awareness for hepatitis**

<http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/01-09-2008/0004733925&EDATE=>

“The American Liver Foundation (ALF), the nation's only not-for-profit dedicated to advocating on behalf of Americans with liver disease, is proud announce that it has united with EHE International (EHE), to raise the public's awareness of liver disease, including hepatitis C. To help spread the word about ALF's work, EHE has donated its 115 square foot display window at 10 Rockefeller Plaza to ALF for the month of January.”

### **Social workers urged to improve hepatitis C awareness [United Kingdom]**

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2008/01/09/106892/scottish-government-targets-social-workers-in-hepatitis-c.html>

“The Scottish government is urging social workers to improve their knowledge of hepatitis C as part of a national awareness campaign. It is estimated that around 50,000 people carry the liver disease, which is commonly contracted by drug users, but two-thirds are undiagnosed. Hazel Robertson, who is a member of the Association of Directors of Social Work and sits on the hepatitis C national action plan coordinating group, said it was likely that many of those infected would come into contact with social services.

“Social work can play a key role in helping to tackle this issue through offering a wide range of support to people with hepatitis C. It is important to help identify those with hepatitis C from an early stage and encourage individuals to seek treatment, particularly as many will lead chaotic lifestyles,” she added.”

### **Biotech firm chooses chief medical officer**

<http://www.bizjournals.com/tampabay/stories/2008/01/07/daily20.html>

“Romark Laboratories LC has enlisted a new chief medical officer who brings experience in hepatology and gastroenterology. The biotechnology company is conducting research and clinical development programs for drugs to treat viral hepatitis and other digestive diseases. Dr. Emmet B. Keeffe joined Romark as vice president and chief medical officer. Keeffe most recently was professor of medicine, chief of hepatology and co-director of the Liver Transplant Program at Stanford University Medical Center. He has also been a lifelong active clinical investigator whose research includes novel treatment of chronic viral hepatitis, a release said.”

### **Pharmasset jumps on promising hepatitis C trial data**

<http://www.reuters.com/article/health-SP/idUSBNG17991120080108>

“Shares of Pharmasset Inc. rose 38 percent on Tuesday, a day after the pharmaceutical company said preliminary results from an early stage trial of its hepatitis C treatment showed promise. Tuesday's jump marks the second straight day the stock has risen significantly. On Monday, it had closed up more than 44 percent. Pharmasset said on Monday its treatment, R7128, showed strong short-term antiviral activity and was generally safe and well-tolerated in 50 patients chronically infected with hepatitis C virus. R7128 is a chemically modified form of a drug called PSI-6130. It is designed to enhance the absorption, distribution and metabolic properties of PSI-6130, which inhibits the hepatitis C virus from replicating. In the trial, R7128 was given along with Pegasys and Copegus, the current standard of care for hepatitis C made by Swiss drug company Roche. Pharmasset is developing R7128 in collaboration with Roche.”

### **Roche partner InterMune says first trails on hepatitis C drug successful**

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/newstex/AFX-0013-22094964.htm>

“Biotech group InterMune Inc. said that phase 1b studies on potential hepatitis C drug ITMN-191, which it is developing in cooperation with Roche Holdings AG, has shown positive results. The multiple ascending dose (MAD) study tested the drug's efficiency safety and tolerability at a 300 mg daily dosage as monotherapy. The group will launch fresh testes with a higher dosage this month and plans to submit an EU application for clinical trial authorisation for a 14-day triple combination study of ITMN-191 with Pegasys and ribavirin in the second quarter.”

### **Tacere Therapeutics enters collaboration and license agreement with Pfizer to develop and commercialize RNAi hepatitis C drug**

[http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/industries/health-care/article/tacere-therapeutics-enters-collaboration-license-agreement-pfizer-develop\\_426157\\_10.html](http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/industries/health-care/article/tacere-therapeutics-enters-collaboration-license-agreement-pfizer-develop_426157_10.html)

“Tacere Therapeutics, Inc., an RNA interference (RNAi)-based therapeutics developer, announced today that it has entered into a collaboration and license agreement with Pfizer Inc. to develop and commercialize its Hepatitis C virus (HCV) compound, TT-033. The collaboration will focus on completing all necessary studies for submission of an investigational new drug, as well as clinical development and commercialization of TT-033.”

### **Anadys Pharmaceuticals announces positive results for ANA598 in animal model of chronic hepatitis C virus infection**

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/prnewswire/LATH11603012008-1.htm>

“Anadys Pharmaceuticals, Inc. announced preliminary data today from two studies of ANA598, a non-nucleoside inhibitor of the hepatitis C virus (HCV) NS5B polymerase, in a primate model of chronic HCV infection. Two animals chronically infected with HCV genotype 1b each received once-daily oral doses of ANA598 at 30 mg/kg for four days. A rapid viral load decline was seen in both animals. At 48 hours (24 hours after the second dose), viral load declines were 2.2 and 2.6 log<sub>10</sub> in the individual animals. In one animal the viral load reduction was sustained throughout the remaining dosing period, while in the second animal a modest rise in viral load was seen over days 3 and 4, although the rise observed (0.6 log<sub>10</sub>) was within the baseline variability seen in this animal prior to dosing.”

### **A Tampa drugmaker may hold the key to treating hepatitis C**

[http://www.sptimes.com/2008/01/04/Business/Drug\\_s\\_promise\\_revita.shtml](http://www.sptimes.com/2008/01/04/Business/Drug_s_promise_revita.shtml)

“Alinia, a drug that treats gastrointestinal illnesses in children and adults, could prove effective against hepatitis C, the leading cause of liver transplants in the United States. For the past 15 years, a little-known Tampa company has been barely breaking even with a drug that treats gastrointestinal illnesses in children and adults. Now Romark Laboratories hopes to prove that the same medication is effective against hepatitis C, the leading cause of liver transplants in the United States. If ongoing clinical trials are successful, it could transform Romark's drug, Alinia, into a billion-dollar blockbuster. And it would be a breakthrough for the more than 4-million Americans with hepatitis C, which can lead to cirrhosis, liver failure and liver cancer.”

### **Free crack mouthpieces on the way - B.C. government will fund distribution to addicts as early as April [Canada]**

<http://www.canada.com/theprovince/news/story.html?id=0141ded8-0dd3-43a2-9312-70e7abb2d0d9>

“Crack-pipe mouthpieces are soon to join syringes, alcohol swabs and water vials on the list of free supplies distributed by the B.C. government to drug users. Starting as early as April, the Ministry of Health will set aside funding for pieces of sterile surgical tubing that can be attached to the end of a crack pipe. The two-to-five-centimetre mouthpieces will be available upon request to B.C.'s five health authorities, the goal being to prevent the spread of communicable diseases such as hepatitis C.”

### **Genetic variation doubles risk of liver cancer - Testing could determine which cirrhosis patients should be screened for tumor development**

<http://health.usnews.com/usnews/health/healthday/080102/genetic-variation-doubles-risk-of-liver-cancer.htm>

“A single change in the epidermal growth factor (EGF) gene may double the risk of developing liver tumors, especially among people with cirrhosis, new research suggests. Hepatocellular carcinoma is a liver tumor that is the third leading cause of cancer death and may result from this genetic variation, said the researchers. It is also the sixth most common solid tumor worldwide and often develops in people who have cirrhosis. Cirrhosis is a liver disease that can result from long-term alcohol abuse or infection with the hepatitis C or B viruses. According to the U.S. National Cancer Institute, about five percent of people with cirrhosis will develop liver cancer. The research, published in the Jan. 2 edition of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, suggested that people who have one or two guanine nucleotides at the EGF gene site, instead of two adenine nucleotides, are at significantly greater risk of cancer.”

### **Task force recommends state collect more hepatitis data**

[http://www.kptm.com/Global/story.asp?S=7753220&nav=menu606\\_2\\_4](http://www.kptm.com/Global/story.asp?S=7753220&nav=menu606_2_4)

“A task force aimed at curbing the spread of hepatitis C is recommending the state collect more information on patients diagnosed in Nebraska. The report released last month by the Hepatitis C Education and Prevention Task Force says state law requires all cases of hepatitis to be reported to the Health and Human Services Department, but some information about the patients is not being recorded. The task force recommends a new system that includes a patient's age, gender, race and zip code, among other things. The task force was created by the Legislature in response to an outbreak of hepatitis C in Fremont. Between March 2000 and December 2001, 99 patients of the Fremont Cancer Center contracted the disease due to unsanitary conditions at the facility.”

### **First large head-to-head comparison of Schering and Roche HCV therapies: similar virologic responses; fewer relapses with PegIntron**

<http://www.aidsmap.com/en/news/53C00EC3-5E10-424D-80C3-C1CC28A0807E.asp>

“Top-line results of the first large-scale comparison of the two leading combination treatments for hepatitis C virus (HCV) were released on January 14th by drug company Schering-Plough. In previously untreated patients with HCV genotype 1, similar rates of sustained virologic response (SVR) were reported after up to 48 weeks of combination therapy with either Schering's PegIntron (peginterferon alfa-2b) and Rebetol (ribavirin), or with Roche's Pegasys (peginterferon alfa-2a) and Copegus (ribavirin).”

### **Hep C awareness campaign launched [United Kingdom]**

<http://www.nursinginpractice.com/default.asp?title=HepCawarenesscampaignlaunched&page=article.display&article.id=7585>

“Nurses are being encouraged to offer their support to raise awareness of hepatitis C and promote increased testing and diagnosis. The Department of Health and the Royal College of Nursing have launched an advertising campaign inviting the public to self-assess their risk of having hepatitis C and to seek medical advice if they believe themselves to be at risk of infection. Adverts will appear in national newspapers, regional radio stations and on public transport buses. Dr Peter Carter, general secretary of the Royal College of Nursing (RCN), said: "Following the call at our congress last year for the government to do more to raise awareness about hepatitis C, we are delighted to see the launch of a new advertising campaign to encourage people to think if they have put themselves at risk. "We are concerned by the many gaps in people's knowledge of hepatitis C, for example, the fact that there isn't a vaccine to protect against hepatitis C, as there is for hepatitis A and hepatitis B. "We encourage all nurses to ensure they are fully aware of the transmission routes, diagnostic process, prognosis and treatment of the virus, and to be mindful of it when interacting with patients." The advertising campaign began in November last year and will run until the end of March 2008.”

### **Needed to death - Texas needs to join the 49 states that offer drug addicts clean syringes to stop the spread of disease**

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/editorial/5489994.html>

“This month, three Christian activists were arrested in San Antonio as they handed out clean syringes to, according to police, a group of "known prostitutes and drug addicts" in exchange for their used drug needles. Now, for their efforts to stop the spread of AIDS and hepatitis, the activists, including an elderly man and woman, are facing a year in prison. The incident makes a mockery of clear thinking in this state when it comes to containing infectious disease among intravenous drug users, the people who love them and even their babies: Texas is the one state in the union in which it is illegal to run a needle exchange program of any kind, even though such programs have been shown to reduce the spread of HIV infection and hepatitis.”

### **Human rights violations tied to Egypt's hepatitis C pandemic**

<http://www.globalvoicesonline.org/2007/05/23/egypt-human-rights-council/>

“Human rights violations charges were filed with the New York State Division of Human Rights against the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). At issue are charges that the NYSDOH impeded – and

eventually blocked – the progress of clinical studies designed to find treatment options for the hepatitis C pandemic currently afflicting the Egyptian population.”

### **Hepatology ward at SZH soon [Pakistan]**

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2008%5C01%5C28%5Cstory\\_28-1-2008\\_pg7\\_26](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2008%5C01%5C28%5Cstory_28-1-2008_pg7_26)

“A hepatology ward would be set up at Sheikh Zayed Hospital (SZH) to provide liver transplant facility to patients, said Punjab Governor Khalid Maqbool on Sunday. Addressing the eighth annual congress of the Pakistan Society of Hepatology, he said liver diseases were posing a great challenge to the health sector. “At least 15 million people in the country are suffering from hepatitis-B,” he said. The governor said the federal government had allocated Rs 3.20 billion to provide free treatment to low-income hepatitis patients at district headquarters hospitals. He said a campaign would be launched to create awareness about this fatal disease among the masses. He said the government had made the free vaccination of hepatitis-B a regular part of the extensive program of immunization (EPI) for children. He said now the treatment was available to hepatitis-C patients for Rs 25,000–30,000 instead of Rs 300,000– 400,000 for interferon therapy.”

### **A shot at curbing the AIDS epidemic**

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/01/25/AR2008012502584.html>

“Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.) and Rep. Jose E. Serrano (D-N.Y.) should be congratulated for accomplishing last year what many said was impossible: repealing the federal ban prohibiting the District from spending its own money on syringe exchange programs to reduce the spread of HIV-AIDS, hepatitis C and other infectious diseases. Because of their leadership, thousands of lives will be saved. If Congress takes the next step and repeals the national syringe ban, hundreds of thousands of lives could be saved.”

### **Body art draft ordinance draws public comments - hepatitis C, unsterile equipment top list of concerns**

[http://www.insidebayarea.com/dailyreview/localnews/ci\\_8074611](http://www.insidebayarea.com/dailyreview/localnews/ci_8074611)

SAN LORENZO, CA — “Proper sterilization and hepatitis C were among residents' top concerns about a draft ordinance on body art establishments at Wednesday's unincorporated services meeting.

The ordinance lays out physical, hygiene and health standards for tattooing and piercing businesses, said William Pitcher, Alameda County's environmental protection chief. It also specifies that clients of the businesses be required to give written consent. The draft ordinance is modeled after Santa Clara County's because the state has lagged in setting regulations for the businesses. “There's basically no oversight,” Pitcher said. “We're bringing these businesses under county scrutiny and starting from scratch.” Practitioners now must prove they have tested negative for the blood-borne disease hepatitis B.”

### **Human Genome Sciences modifies dosing in ACHIEVE trials of Albuferon(R)**

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/prnewswire/NEW05423012008-1.htm>

“Human Genome Sciences Inc. announced today that it will modify the dosing in one arm of each of its ACHIEVE clinical trials of Albuferon(R) (albinterferon alfa-2b) for chronic hepatitis C. Patients in the Phase 3 trials who have been receiving the 1200-mcg dose will now receive a 900-mcg dose. The change is based on recommendations made by the studies' independent Data Monitoring Committee (DMC). HGS continues to expect to have all Phase 3 data available by spring 2009 to support the filing of global marketing authorization applications by fall 2009.”

### **Hepatitis C top illness to sicken county**

[http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19221663&BRD=1409&PAG=461&dept\\_id=33071&rfti=6](http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19221663&BRD=1409&PAG=461&dept_id=33071&rfti=6)

“Missouri - Hepatitis C showed the biggest increase of all the diseases included in the Franklin County Health Department's 2007 report of confirmed communicable diseases in the county. The health department reports that a total of 77 people had contracted the deadly liver disease during 2007, up from 52 confirmed cases in 2006. “That number is way high,” said County Epidemiologist David Noe. “The CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) would say it's going down, but we're seeing it go up here in Franklin County due to the intravenous drug use.””

### **Rise in number of hepatitis [United Kingdom]**

<http://www.thisisuncouthorpe.co.uk/displayNode.jsp?nodeId=153005&command=displayContent&sourceNode=152831&contentPK=19710717&folderPk=86735&pNodeid=152562>

“The number of people with hepatitis C has risen sharply in the past year. In North Lincolnshire the number of people registered with the disease rose from 24 in 2006 to 41 in 2007. Hepatitis is swelling or inflammation of the liver. Contracted through contact with infected blood, and less commonly through other bodily fluids, it can cause long-lasting infection and lead to liver disease.”

### **Ex-addict warns over virus [United Kingdom]**

<http://www.eveningstar.co.uk/content/eveningstar/news/story.aspx?brand=ESTOnline&category=News&Brand=ESTOnline&Category=News&itemid=IPED30%20Jan%202008%2008%3A16%3A34%3A940>

“Tom Spark, a former drug addict who turned around his life only to discover he had caught a life-threatening disease is today urging people in Suffolk to get tested for the virus. Tom Spark, of Chillesford, near Woodbridge, discovered he was infected with hepatitis C in 2001. Since then his life has been plagued by tiredness as well as grueling and painful treatments which tried, and failed, to combat the disease which damages the liver. Now Mr. Spark is adding his voice to a Department of Health campaign to encourage people in Suffolk to get tested for hepatitis C as many people who have it are unaware as it can take years for any symptoms to show.”

### **Vertex’s lead drug telaprevir for the treatment of hepatitis C will have to be monitored for the potential emergence of drug resistance, physicians say**

[http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/56e293a8-d009-11dc-9309-0000779fd2ac\\_dwp\\_uuid=e8477cc4-c820-11db-b0dc-000b5df10621.html](http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/56e293a8-d009-11dc-9309-0000779fd2ac_dwp_uuid=e8477cc4-c820-11db-b0dc-000b5df10621.html)

“Vertex’s lead drug telaprevir, for the treatment of Hepatitis C (HCV) will have to be monitored for the emergence of drug resistance, physicians told Pharmawire, due to the drug’s potency. When asked whether drug resistance will be an issue with telaprevir, and a class effect of protease inhibitors, Dr John Alam, Vertex’s chief medical officer, said finding ways of minimizing resistance will be true for every company developing a polymerase and protease inhibitor. Vertex remains focused on identifying a dose and duration of telaprevir-based treatment that will minimize the likelihood of drug resistance. “We did see resistance very early, when the drug was given by itself, in lower doses,” he said.”

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## **CLINICAL TRIALS, COHORT STUDIES, PILOT STUDIES**

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### **Individualised treatment duration for HCV genotype 1 with peginterferon-alpha 2a plus ribavirin.**

Tang KH, et al. Aliment Pharmacol Ther. 2008 Jan 25 [Epub ahead of print]

[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18221408?ordinalpos=6&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed\\_ResultsPanel.Pubmed\\_RVDocSum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18221408?ordinalpos=6&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum)

### **Second hepatic resection for recurrent hepatocellular carcinoma in patients with chronic hepatitis C.**

Kubo S, et al. World J Surg. 2008 Jan 22 [Epub ahead of print]

[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18210185?ordinalpos=44&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed\\_ResultsPanel.Pubmed\\_RVDocSum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18210185?ordinalpos=44&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum)

### **Histologic benefits of virologic response to peginterferon alfa-2a monotherapy in patients with hepatitis C and advanced fibrosis or compensated cirrhosis.**

Everson GT, et al. Aliment Pharmacol Ther. 2008 Jan 17 [Epub ahead of print]

[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18208570?ordinalpos=51&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed\\_ResultsPanel.Pubmed\\_RVDocSum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18208570?ordinalpos=51&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum)

**Treatment of hepatitis C in patients with haemophilia - the Israeli National Hemophilia Center experience.** Maor Y, et.al. Haemophilia. 2008 Jan 16 [Epub ahead of print]  
[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18205802?ordinalpos=59&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed\\_ResultsPanel.Pubmed\\_RVDocSum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18205802?ordinalpos=59&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum)

**A phase II dose finding study of darbepoetin alpha and filgrastim for the management of anaemia and neutropenia in chronic hepatitis C treatment.** Younossi ZM, et.al. J Viral Hepat. 2008 Jan 10 [Epub ahead of print]  
[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18194172?ordinalpos=78&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed\\_ResultsPanel.Pubmed\\_RVDocSum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18194172?ordinalpos=78&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum)

**Efficacy and safety of pegylated-interferon alpha-2a in hemodialysis patients with chronic hepatitis C.** Ayaz C, et.al. World J Gastroenterol. 2008 Jan 14;14(2):255-9.  
[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18186564?ordinalpos=91&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed\\_ResultsPanel.Pubmed\\_RVDocSum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18186564?ordinalpos=91&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum)

**Occult hepatitis B virus infection as a risk factor for hepatocellular carcinoma in patients with chronic hepatitis C in whom viral eradication fails.** Miura Y, et.al. Hepatol Res. 2008 Jan 2 [Epub ahead of print]  
[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18179561?ordinalpos=99&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed\\_ResultsPanel.Pubmed\\_RVDocSum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18179561?ordinalpos=99&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum)

**Efficacy and safety of Peginterferon-alpha2b and Ribavirin combination therapy in children with chronic hepatitis C infection.** Jara P, et.al. Pediatr Infect Dis J. 2008 Jan 2 [Epub ahead of print]  
[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18174875?ordinalpos=109&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed\\_ResultsPanel.Pubmed\\_RVDocSum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18174875?ordinalpos=109&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum)

**Influence of cannabis use on severity of hepatitis C disease.** Ishida JH, et.al. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2008 Jan;6(1):69-75.  
[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18166478?ordinalpos=119&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed\\_ResultsPanel.Pubmed\\_RVDocSum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18166478?ordinalpos=119&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum)

**High frequency of unrecognized mental disorders in HCV-infected patients.** Batista-Neves SC, et.al. Gen Hosp Psychiatry. 2008 Jan-Feb;30(1):80-2.  
[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18164946?ordinalpos=122&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed\\_ResultsPanel.Pubmed\\_RVDocSum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18164946?ordinalpos=122&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum)

**Exploring differences in response to treatment with peginterferon alpha 2a (40kD) and ribavirin in chronic hepatitis C between genotypes 2 and 3.** Powis J, et.al. J Viral Hepat. 2008 Jan;15(1):52-7.  
[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18088245?ordinalpos=157&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed\\_ResultsPanel.Pubmed\\_RVDocSum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18088245?ordinalpos=157&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum)

**Virological response in patients with hepatitis C virus genotype 1b and a high viral load : Impact of Peginterferon-alpha-2a plus Ribavirin dose reductions and host-related factors.** Yamada G, et.al. Clin Drug Investig. 2008;28(1):9-16.  
[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18081356?ordinalpos=165&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed\\_ResultsPanel.Pubmed\\_RVDocSum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18081356?ordinalpos=165&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum)

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