

Glossary of Terms, Acronyms and Abbreviations

Hepatitis C

EATG
June 2014

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1. Glossary of Hepatitis C Terms

A

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS): The illness caused by the HIV retrovirus. It affects the immunity system by making it more susceptible to infections and to certain rare cancers. It is mostly transmitted by exposure to contaminated blood and semen.

Acute HCV: Presence of HCV within six months of acquiring infection.

Alanine transaminase (ALT): Also called serum glutamate pyruvate transaminase (SGPT). A key liver enzyme produced in liver cells. ALT is routinely monitored in HIV positive people on ART to detect liver toxicity from HIV drugs (or other medications). Elevated ALT signals liver injury, but does not indicate how serious liver damage is. Many patients with hepatitis C have raised ALT and AST levels, and many patients have normal ALT and AST levels. For those with elevations, one goal of treatment is to get the levels back to normal. Consistently high levels of ALT can be a sign of injury of the primary liver cells (hepatocytes).

Albumin (Alb): Protein made by the liver. It carries drugs, hormones and waste products through the blood and maintains fluid levels within the body. Low levels can indicate poor health and nutrition or a failing liver.

Alkaline phosphatase (AlkPhos/ALP): Is an enzyme made in the liver's bile ducts and also in bone, kidneys, and intestines. The ALP test measures the level of **ALP** in the blood. High levels of ALP can be a sign of liver or bile duct injury.

Alpha-fetoprotein (AFP): protein made in foetal liver tissue that can be elevated in liver cancer.

Anemia: Shortage of red blood cells that can cause fatigue and other symptoms. Anemia may occur in people on interferon treatment.

Antibodies: Proteins produced by the body as a response to infections. The presence in the blood of an **antibody to hepatitis C (Anti-HCV)** means that the person was previously infected with hepatitis C. Hepatitis C antibodies do not prevent hepatitis C infection or prevent hepatitis C effects on the liver.

Anti-HCV: (antibody to hepatitis C virus) The antibody directed against the hepatitis C virus (HCV). Its presence in the bloodstream indicates prior or current hepatitis C infection. This antibody has not been shown to protect people against hepatitis C.

Antioxidant: A substance that reduces oxidative damage (damage due to oxygen) such as that caused by free radicals.

Ascites: Abnormal accumulation of fluid within the abdomen, a sign of serious liver damage, often caused by cirrhosis.

Aspartate aminotransferase (AST)/Transaminase: Enzyme that is produced in many places throughout the body (heart, intestines, muscle), which is monitored (as with **ALT**) routinely in HIV-positive people on **ARVs** to detect liver toxicity from HIV drugs (or other medications). Elevated AST that is specifically made in the liver signals liver injury, but does not indicate how serious liver damage is.

Autoimmune: Autoimmune is an immune response by the body against its own tissue, cells, or molecules. In people with autoimmune disease, their immune system may attack the same cells that it is supposed to protect.

Autoimmune hepatitis: Autoimmune hepatitis is a chronic (long-term) liver disease in which the immune system attacks the liver.

B

bDNA (branched DNA) assay: A type of viral load test. One of several ways to measure the number of **HCV RNA** virus copies in the bloodstream.

Biochemical response (BR): Patient's response to hepatitis C therapy by normalization of **ALT**.

Bile: Liquid made in the liver that helps break down fats and other nutrients. It also helps the body eliminate waste that is generated after processing of many compounds in the liver into the intestine.

Bile ducts: Tubes that carries bile from the liver to the gallbladder and then to the small intestine.

Biliary atresia: Rare disease of the bile ducts that affects infants. In babies with biliary atresia, the **bile ducts** are blocked at or soon after birth.

Bilirubin: A bile pigment that is also created by the breakdown of heme pigments. Usually collected by the liver cells, its presence in blood or urine is often a sign of liver damage.

Bilirubin: Enzyme produced by the liver when it recycles red blood cells. Increased levels of bilirubin can lead to a yellowing of the skin or eyes (**jaundice**).

Blip: Small, occasional increase in viral load.

Blood-borne substances: Those substances that are present in the blood and are carried by it throughout the body. Blood-borne substances, such as viruses, can be passed on to others through blood transfusions, needle sharing, and even sharing a toothbrush if both people have bleeding gums.

Body Mass Index (BMI): A calculation using height and weight that is used to decide whether someone is over or under weight.

Breakthrough response (of HCV Viral Load): A "breaking through" of the virus while on therapy. After dropping to undetectable levels, HCV RNA becomes detectable again in a person's blood during treatment.

C

Carrier: A person who has been infected with an organism and is capable of infecting and/or causing disease in others, but who is not sick.

Child-Pugh Classification System: Scoring system to determine the prognosis of some types of liver disease such as cirrhosis. Scoring is based in several clinical and biochemical measurements factors, albumin, ascites, total bilirubin, prothrombin time and encephalopathy. The three classes and their scores are: Classe A (total score of 5-6: well compensated disease); Classe B (total score of 7-9: disease with significant functional compromise) and Classe C (total score of 10-15: decompensated liver disease)

Cholesterol: Type of fat found in blood.

Chronic infection: An infection that persists indefinitely. Continued presence of HCV six months or more after acquiring infection.

Cirrhosis of the liver: The result of long-standing inflammation and damage in the liver, such as may be caused by a hepatitis C infection or alcohol. It is characterized by excess formation of scar tissue, also called **fibrosis**, and results in the loss of liver cells and increased resistance of blood flow. It is important to know that cirrhosis is the end result of many kinds of injury to the liver, such as alcohol, hepatitis C, autoimmune liver disease, and others. Therefore, any chronic liver disease that is severe and progressive can result in cirrhosis.

Clinical trial: A clinical trial is a medical research study conducted to find answers to health questions. Clinical trials often are conducted to evaluate new medications, combination of medications, or new ways to use current treatments. Also, clinical trials are conducted to evaluate new tests, equipment, and procedures for diagnosing and detecting health conditions and to find vaccines to prevent illnesses.

Computerized Tomography (CT) scan: Imaging test that uses radiation to get detailed pictures of the body.

Concomitant event: An event, such as a medical condition, that occurs at the same time as another.

Co infection: Having more than one infection, e.g. HIV and TB, or HIV and hepatitis C.

D

Delayed virological response (DVR): More than 2 log (99%) decline in HCV RNA viral load but a detectable HCV RNA level at week 12 of treatment and an undetectable HCV RNA level at week 24 of treatment.

Diabetes: Diabetes is a condition that occurs when the body cannot use glucose (a type of sugar) normally, and results in high levels of glucose in the blood.

Direct acting antivirals (DAAs): The new HCV drugs including those in development.

Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA): A component in cells of all living matter that carries hereditary genetic information which determines characteristics of an organism (such as eye color).

E

Early virological response (EVR): A 99% (2-log) drop in HCV viral load after 12 weeks of HCV treatment.

Edema: The puffiness that occurs from abnormal amounts of fluid in the spaces between cells in the body, especially just below the skin.

ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay): This is a test that provides information on the presence of antibodies in the bloodstream. This test is sometimes referred to as an "EIA."

Encephalopathy: A variety of brain function abnormalities experienced by some patients with advanced liver disease. These most commonly include confusion, disorientation, and insomnia, and may progress to coma.

End of treatment response (ETR): Refers to response to medications at the end of therapy regimen.

Enzymes: Naturally occurring chemical substances in the human body that help a chemical reaction take place. The liver enzymes are AST and ALT. Abnormal enzyme levels can indicate presence of disease.

Epidemiology: Investigation of the causes of, and ways to control, diseases.

Extended rapid virological response (eRVR): Undetectable HCV RNA 4 weeks (rapid) and 12 weeks (extended) after the start of treatment.

F

False-positive: A test result that mistakenly gives a positive reading.

Fibrosis: First stage of scar formation in the liver. Scar tissue is an attempt to contain areas of the liver that have been damaged by alcohol, hepatitis C, or other factors.

Fibrotest: A test that combines results from other different blood tests to predict liver damage. This test, or other similar combinations of blood tests, especially when used in combination with **FibroScan**, may be an alternative option to liver biopsy in some patients.

Fibroscan: Non-invasive ultrasound scan that measures the elasticity or stiffness of the liver.

Fixed dose combination (FDC): Several drugs combined in one tablet at a standard dose.

Free radical: A chemical produced after a molecular reaction, often containing oxygen that has one free unpaired electron on its outer surface. This makes it able to react and damage other cells, and perhaps increase progression of cardiovascular disease, cancers and aging.

Fulminant liver disease: Sudden, rapid disease progression related to liver failure.

G

Gastroenterologist: A gastroenterologist is a doctor who specializes in the study of digestive organs including the liver.

Genetic: Genetic refers to something that is related, caused by or affected by genes.

Genotype: A pattern of genetic information that is unique to a group of organisms or viruses. There are six or more genotypes of hepatitis C. The HCV genotype is a strong predictor of response to peginterferon and ribavirin, and can determine both type and length of treatment used.

Grade: Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation. The grade of hepatitis infection refers to the amount of inflammation in liver tissue, found by a biopsy. It is usually measured on the Metavir scale (from 0 to 4) or the Ishak scale (from 1-18) where 0 is none and 18 is the maximum.

H

Hepatic: Related to the liver.

Hepatic encephalopathy: Brain disease that occurs when serious liver damage prevents toxic substances from being filtered out of the blood, and they enter the brain.

Hepatitis: Inflammation (swelling) of the liver.

HCV Antibody (Anti-HCV): The antibody specific to HCV. Its presence in the blood tells that a person was infected with HCV; however, it does not tell whether the infection is new (acute), long-term (chronic), or no longer present.

HCV RNA (hepatitis C virus ribonucleic acid): Genetic Fragments of the replicating hepatitis C virus (HCV) found in people with hepatitis C. HCV RNA in the blood indicates that a patient is currently infected with the hepatitis C virus and the viral load.

Hemochromatosis: Hemochromatosis is a genetic condition in which the body stores too much iron. The iron can build up in the liver and in other organs as well.

Hepatic Encephalopathy (HE): Hepatic encephalopathy (HE) is a brain disorder that is caused by liver damage. It can be an acute (short-term) or chronic (long-term) condition. HE occurs when the liver is damaged and cannot remove toxic chemicals, such as ammonia, from the blood. These chemicals then enter the brain and cause it to not function well.

Hepatitis: Hepatitis means “inflammation of the liver”.

Hepatitis A: Hepatitis A is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis A virus (HAV). HAV causes the liver to swell and prevents it from working well. HAV is passed from person to person through fecal matter. Most often it is transmitted because of poor hand washing after using the bathroom or changing a diaper, or before preparing and eating food. Unlike hepatitis B and hepatitis C, it does not become chronic (long-term).

Hepatitis B: Hepatitis B is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis B virus (HBV). HBV causes the liver to swell and prevents it from working well. HBV is passed from person to person through bodily fluids such as blood, semen, or vaginal secretions. Most often it is transmitted through sexual contact or from an infected mother to her infant during birth.

Hepatitis C: Hepatitis C is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV). HCV causes the liver to swell and prevents it from working well. HCV is passed from person to person by blood. It is most often transmitted when a person's blood comes into direct contact with infected blood.

Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC): Cancer stemming from the liver cells. Also called hepatoma. See liver cancer.

Hepatologist: A hepatologist is a doctor who specializes in the study of the liver.

Hepatotoxicity: The medical term for liver related side effects.

I

IL28B gene: Gene involved in the immune response to certain viruses, including hepatitis C. There are three IL28B subtypes (called genotypes): CC, CT and TT. People with CC genotype have a stronger immune response to HCV infection than people with the CT or TT genotypes (non – CC genotypes). This immune response makes people who have a CC genotype more likely to clear HCV without treatment within months of becoming infected (spontaneous viral clearance). People with a CC genotype are also more likely to be cured by PEG-INF and RBV, regardless of race or HIV status. The IL28B genotype can be learned through a blood test called the IL28 genotype test.

Interferons (IFNs): Group of proteins made by the body that have antiviral, antitumor, and immune system activity. They are also produced synthetically as a treatment of medical conditions, including hepatitis C and multiple sclerosis. It is prescribed as an injected medication for people with hepatitis B or hepatitis C in order to boost the ability of the immune system to fight these viruses.

Intravenous drug use (IDU or IVDU): Injecting drugs, usually illicit drugs such as heroin, into veins for recreational purposes. IDU is an abuse of drugs and commonly leads to addiction. IDU is the most common cause of hepatitis C infection.

J

Jaundice: A yellowish pigmentation of the skin, tissues, and certain bodily fluids. A common symptom of hepatitis and other liver disorders where increased levels of bilirubin lead to a yellowing of the skin or eyes.

L

Limit of Detection: The level at which a test cannot detect any trace of virus in the blood.

Liver: The liver is the second largest organ of the body. It's responsible for detoxification, metabolism, synthesis and storage of various substances. The liver's main role is in the processing of the products of digestion into substances useful to the body. It also neutralizes harmful substances in the blood, secretes bile for the digestion of fats, synthesizes plasma proteins, and stores glycogen and some minerals and vitamins.

Liver Biopsy: A procedure used to monitor the progression of certain forms of liver disease, including hepatitis C, after diagnosis. During a liver biopsy, a small sample of liver tissue is collected and then examined under a microscope to evaluate suspected or known liver disease. A liver biopsy can reveal inflammation, scar tissue formation (cirrhosis), or cancer.

Liver cancer: Liver cancer is the growth and spread of unhealthy cells in the liver.

Liver cysts: Liver cysts are abnormal sacs filled with fluid in the liver.

Liver failure: Liver failure is the inability of the liver to function and perform its functions.

Liver function tests: Liver function tests help check the liver's health and detect liver damage. These blood tests measure the levels of certain proteins and enzymes in the blood.

Liver transplant: A liver transplant is the process of replacing a sick liver with a donated, healthy liver.

Living-related liver transplantation: A living-related liver transplantation is the transplantation of a portion of a healthy person's liver to a person with advanced liver damage.

Log value: A number expressed as a factor of 10 – i.e. 2 logs = $10 \times 10=100$; 3 logs = $10 \times 10 \times 10=1000$. This measurement is used when needing to include very large and very small numbers on the same scale. A reduction by one log is a 90% reduction. A reduction by two logs is a 99% reduction etc.

Lost to Follow-up (in clinical care): patients who do not attend medical appointments and who cannot be contacted.

M

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scan: A MRI scan uses magnetic waves to obtain images of the liver or other organs

Monoinfection: Infection with one virus (HVC)

N

Negative predictive value: The probability that when a person's test result is negative, they truly do not have the infection/disease.

Neutropenia: Means a decreased number of **neutrophils** and can increase risk of infections. Interferon treatment and chemotherapy can cause neutropenia

Neutrophils: Type of white blood cells that fights infections in the body.

Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD): Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) is the build up of extra fat in liver cells that is not caused by alcohol.

Nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH): Nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH) is a severe form of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease that causes the liver to swell and become damaged.

Non-response: Detectable HCV RNA throughout treatment.

Null response: Less than 2 log (99%) drop in HCV RNA level by week 12 of treatment.

P

Partial response: 2 log drop (99%) in HCV RNA by week 12 of treatment but HCV RNA remains detectable at week 24 or end of treatment.

Pegylated interferon (PEG-IFN): The main current treatment for HCV when used in combination with ribavirin. Given as a once-weekly injection.

Platelet: A blood cell that helps with blood clotting.

Polymerase chain reaction (PCR): Test used to determine the number of virus particles in the blood. It is one method to determine the "viral load."

Portal hypertension: High blood pressure in and around the liver. It is often caused by cirrhosis, and it can result in **variceal bleeding** and **ascites**.

Positive predictive value: The probability that when a person's test result is positive, they truly have the infection/disease. Predictive values are influenced by the prevalence of the disease in the population.

Primary Biliary Cirrhosis (PBC): Primary Biliary Cirrhosis (PBC) is a long-term autoimmune liver disease that can slowly destroy bile ducts in the liver.

Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis (PSC): Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis (PSC) is a long-term autoimmune liver disease that can slowly damage the bile ducts in the liver.

Protease Inhibitors: Protease inhibitors are a class of drugs that stop the production of certain proteins in the body. Protease inhibitors are used in combination with other drugs to treat hepatitis C and HIV.

Protein: Proteins are large molecules that are involved in many functions throughout the body. They make sure the body's organs function properly.

Prothrombin time (PT): Test that measures how long your blood takes to clot. Prothrombin helps the blood to clot, so PT increases if the liver is not making enough of it.

Q

Quasispecies: One or more sub-populations of a virus occurring within a single genotype in an individual.

R

Rapid virological response (RVR): Undetectable HCV RNA 4 weeks after the start of treatment.

Recombinant DNA: Genetic material that has been altered and recombined through insertion of new DNA sequences using bioengineering. Many drugs are now produced using recombinant DNA methods.

Recreational drugs: Illegal drugs, such as marijuana, cocaine, and heroin that are used by people for non-medical purposes.

Relapse: Undetectable HCV RNA at the end of treatment but detectable HCV RNA within 24 weeks of completing treatment.

Remission: Partial or complete disappearance--or a lessening of the severity--of symptoms of a disease. Remission may happen on its own or occur as a result of a medical treatment.

RIBA (recombinant immunoblot assay): A test that confirms the presence of hepatitis C antibodies in the bloodstream if the ELISA test result is in doubt.

Ribavirin: Ribavirin is an oral antiviral medication that is prescribed together with interferon for people with hepatitis C, and it increases the chances of successfully fighting the infection.

Risk factors: Certain behaviors (such as intravenous drug use or transfusions) linked to the development of an infection such as hepatitis.

RNA (ribonucleic acid): Molecules, found in all cells that translate DNA genetic information into proteins.

S

Sensitivity of a test: The ability of a test to correctly identify those with the infection/disease. (True positives / true positives + false negatives).

Serology: A branch of medical testing that focuses on serum, particularly immune factors in serum.

Seronegative: When the suspected substance being searched for, such as the antibody to hepatitis C virus does not show up in a blood test.

Seropositive: When the suspected substance being searched for, such as the antibody to hepatitis C virus does show up in a blood test.

Seroprevalence: The frequency of a seropositive substance in a group of people.

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs): Infections that are spread primarily through person-to-person sexual contact. There are more than 30 different sexually transmissible bacteria, viruses and parasites. The most common conditions they cause are gonorrhoea, chlamydial infection, syphilis, trichomoniasis, chancroid, genital herpes, genital warts, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection and hepatitis B infection.

Specificity of a test: The ability of a test to correctly identify those without the infection/disease. (True negatives / true negatives+ false positives).

Stage/Staging: The stage of hepatitis infection refers to the amount of scarring (fibrosis), from results from a biopsy. It is usually measured on the Metavir scale of 0 to 4, where 0 represents no scarring and 4 cirrhosis, or on the Knodell scale of 0 to 6, where 0 is no scarring and 6 cirrhosis.

Steroids: Steroids are medications prescribed to treat inflammatory diseases caused by over activity of the immune system such as autoimmune liver disease.

Sustained response (SR): A response to therapy that continues over a long time period.

Sustained viral response (SVR): Having a negative HCV viral load test 12 or 24 weeks after stopping HCV treatment. SVR is the the goal of hepatitis C treatment, it represents a cure from the infection.

Symptom – A sign of illness.

Symptomatic: Showing signs of illness.

T

Thalassaemia: blood related genetic disorder which involves the absence of or errors in genes responsible for production of haemoglobin, a protein present in the red blood cells. Each red blood cell can contain between 240 and 300 million molecules of haemoglobin. The severity of the disease depends on the mutations involved in the genes, and their interplay.

Thrombocytopenia: Low level of platelets in the blood caused by cirrhosis and an enlarged spleen and can also be caused by interferon treatment.

Toxicity: The harm related to a side effect of treatment.

Transaminase: A term for alanine aminotransferase (ALT) and aminotransferases (AST), the two transaminases.

Transmission: Passing an infection or disease from one person to another.

Treatment Experienced: A person who has previously taken treatment for a condition.

Treatment Naïve: A person who has never taken treatment for a condition.

Triglycerides: Triglycerides are a type of fat found in blood.

Triple Therapy: Triple Therapy is a term used to describe a drug treatment using three different medications. In the setting of hepatitis C treatment, it describes the combination of Interferon, Ribavirin, and a Protease Inhibitor drug into a treatment regimen.

True-positive: A test result that accurately gives a positive reading.

Tumor: A tumor is an abnormal growth of cells that form a lump.

U

Undetectable: an amount smaller than a test can measure. For viral load tests, this means below 400 or, more commonly, below 50 copies/mL, depending on the make of test. In research laboratories, some very sensitive tests can measure down to 1 copy/mL.

Ultrasound: An ultrasound is an imaging technique that uses waves to see inside views of the body.

V

Vaccine: A vaccine is a medication that stimulates the production of antibodies to protect against a specific disease.

Variceal bleeding: Bleeding from enlarged veins in the esophagus (called varices). Varices form as a result of high blood pressure in the liver.

Viral breakthrough: Undetectable HCV RNA during treatment followed by detectable HCV RNA during treatment.

Viral load: A viral load is the amount of a virus, such as hepatitis B or hepatitis C virus, in the blood.

Viral rebound – When your viral load has been undetectable (under 50 copies/mL) and then becomes detectable. Sometimes viral rebound can be a lab error, sometimes a small temporary blip, and sometimes a real rebound that shows your virus may have developed resistance to one or more of the drugs in a combination treatment

Virion – Name for a virus when it is not inside a cell, for example when new viral material leaves a CD4 cell and is floating in blood or plasma.

Virological failure: Term for when viral load levels never reach undetectable, or if they rebound to higher levels after previously being undetectable.

Virology - The study of viruses.

Virus - An infectious organism that can only reproduce inside the cell of another plant or animal.

W

White blood cell count (WBC), hematocrit (HCT), and platelets (PLT): are all components of the blood. A low WBC count is called leukopenia. A low HCT count is called anemia and represents a lack of red blood cells. A low platelet count is called thrombocytopenia. These abnormalities can develop as complications of liver disease or as side effects of hepatitis C treatments. A complete blood count (CBC) tests all of these types of blood cells.

Wilson disease: Wilson disease is a genetic condition in which the body stores too much copper and the copper builds up in the liver.

1.1 List of Hepatitis C Acronyms and Abbreviations

AASLD	American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
Alb	Albumin
AlkPhos/ALP	Alkaline Phosphatase
AFP	Alpha-fetoprotein
ALT	Alanine Aminotransferase
Anti-HCV	Antibody to Hepatitis c Virus
AST	Aspartate Aminotransferase
APRI	Aminotransferase/Platelet Ratio Index
ART	Antiretroviral Therapy
ASSIST	Alcohol, Smoking and Substance Involvement Screening Test

AUDIT	Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test
bDNA	Branched DNA
BHIVA	British HIV Association
BR	Biochemical Response
BMI	Body Mass Index
CD4	Cluster of Differentiation 4
CT (scan)	Computerized Tomography (scan)
CUPIC	Compassionate Use of Protease Inhibitors in Viral C Cirrhosis (study)
DAA	Direct Acting Antiviral
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic Acid
DVR	Delayed Virological Response
EASL	European Association for the Study of the Liver
EIA	Enzyme Immunoassay
ELISA	Enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay
EOT	End of Treatment
eRVR	Extended Rapid Virological Response
ETR	End of Treatment Response
EVR	Early Virological Response
FBC	Full Blood Count
FDA	(US) Food and Drug Administration
FDC	Fixed Dose Combination
gGT	Gamma Glutamyl Transpeptidase
GRADE	Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation
HAV	Hepatitis A virus
HBV	Hepatitis B virus
HCV	Hepatitis C virus
HCV RNA	Hepatitis C virus Ribonucleic Acid
HE	Hepatic Encephalopathy
HCC	Hepatocellular Carcinoma
IDU (or IVDU)	Intravenous Drug Use

LTFU	(patient) Lost to Follow-up
MRI (scan)	Magnetic Resonance Imaging (scan)
INR	International Normalized Ratio
MSM	Men Who Have Sex With Men
NAFLD	Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease
NASH	Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis
NAT	Nucleic Acid Testing
NNRTI	Non-nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor
NRTI n	Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor
NS5B (of HCV)	Non-structural Protein 5B (of HCV)
OR	Odds Ratio
OST	Opioid Substitution Therapy
PBC	Primary Billiary Cirrhosis
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
PI	Protease Inhibitor
PICO	Population, Intervention, Comparison, Outcomes
PSC	Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis
PT	Prothrombin Time
PWID	People Who Inject Drugs
RBV	Ribavirin
RIBA	Recombinant Immunoblot Assay
RNA	Ribonucleic Acid
RTV or r	Ritonavir
RVR	Rapid Virological Response
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
SVR	Sustained Viral Response
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
WHO	World Health Organization
WHO GHP	WHO Global Hepatitis Programme

1.2 Sources and Useful Links

Sources:

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC): HIV I Base; Nam – Aidsmap;
World Health Organization (WHO); Treatment Action Group (TAG).

Useful Links:

European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL): [EASL Recommendations on Treatment of Hepatitis C 2014](#)

HIV I-Base – [Guide to hepatitis C for people living with HIV \(November 2013\)](#)

World Health Organization (WHO) Guidelines - [Guidelines for the screening, care and treatment of persons with hepatitis c infection \(April 2014\)](#)

