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Hepatitis C Virus: A Global View

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Abstract

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) is a global challenge; 130–175 million are chronically infected. Over 350,000 die each year from HCV. Chronic HCV is the primary cause of cirrhosis, hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), and end-stage liver disease. Management of chronic HCV is aimed at preventing cirrhosis, reducing the risk of HCC, and treating extra hepatic complications. New treatments for chronic HCV has been devoted based on direct-acting antivirals (DAAs), as Peginterferon is responsible for many side effects and limits treatment access. Sofosbuvir is the first compound to enter the market with Peginterferon-free combination regimens.

Key words: Hepatitis C; Peginterferon; Sofosbuvir; Direct-acting antivirals

Core tip: Hepatitis C is a global challenge. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 3–4 million people are newly infected with HCV every year and 130–175 million people are chronically infected. It is estimated that over 350,000 people die each year from hepatitis C-related liver diseases. Chronic HCV is the primary cause of

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