

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

# **Treatment of viral hepatitis**

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# REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING ABOUT ANTIHEPATITIS DRUGS

- They are **not curative**
- They suppress **Viral replication**, put patient in remission, prevent complications.
- **Have to be taken for long duration**
- **Disease can flare up when drugs stopped**

*reactivation*

- Most drugs are **nucleoside/nucleotide analogues**
- Most are **prodrugs**
- Most are **converted to phosphate form**
- Most inhibit **DNA polymerase/RNA polymerase**

*All these drugs same mechanism of action.*

*حسب نوع إعادة الوراثة الفيروسية.*

*no eradication of hepat.....  
but cure yes.*

*so :- cure : فيروس موجود دائم جيني  
لكن ما يتكاثر*

*# فمجيء ما نزلت مناعة الشفاء لا يتسبب الخلل في  
بيئات الفيروسات.*

*Hepatitis B : DNA virus  
= C : RNA virus*

# Drugs treating HBV infection

## 1- Lamivudine and Telbivudine

not first line Tx due to rapid resistance  
oral

➤ Cytidine Nucleoside analogue

### MOA

Phosphorylated intracellularly.

صبي الاربعة بست تدخل جوا  
الجميع يكون الالفنفة يعني  
تتحول من  
mono into tri phosphate



Inhibits HBV DNA polymerase. Causes viral DNA chain termination by getting incorporated into viral DNA. not RNA

### Use

#### 1. Chronic HBV infection - 100mg OD

- ✓ Brings about clinical, biochemical, histological improvements but effects not sustained over the years. → moderate not severe so not first line
- ✓ Development of resistance within 1-5yrs → **NOT THE FIRST LINE DRUG**

#### 2. HIV - 150-300mg OD (in combination with other anti HIV drugs)

### Pharmacokinetics

- Good oral bioavailability
- Plasma T1/2 = 6 to 8hrs (t1/2 = 12hrs in HBV infected cells) → بعينه مرتين باليوم
- Excreted unchanged in urine → so no Drug-Drug interaction

### ADR

(Well tolerated)

- Headache, fatigue
- Nausea, anorexia, abdominal pain
- Rashes
- Pancreatitis, neuropathy (rarely)

- Genetic mutations of HBV DNA polymerase causes resistance to lamivudine.
- Telbivudine is superior to lamivudine in treating HBV.

same MOA Lamivudine

## 2- Entecavir

→ first line Tx  
→ oral  
→ علاج فيروس B مزمن exam  
↓ A ← food

Guanosine nucleoside analogue with same MOA as Lamivudine

### Differences from Lamivudine

• Food decreases oral absorption (administered in empty stomach)

• **T1/2 : 128-148hrs** → Lamivudine is shorter

• Sleep disturbances & lactic acidosis can be additional <sup>same A.D of Lamivudine</sup>

### # ADRs

• **1<sup>st</sup> line drug for HBV**?

- ① Rapid clinical, biochemical, histological improvement than Lamivudine

- ② Effect sustained

- ③ Development of resistance rare

② in high dose  
Dangerous Adverse effect

## 3- Adefovir dipivoxil

→ oral  
→ prodrug  
→ علاج فيروس B مزمن  
Lamivudine

AMP nucleotide analogue.  
Adenosin mono phosphate

Prodrug. Gets activated to Adefovir (by esterases in intestine & liver). MOA same as Lamivudine.

### Uses

1. **Chronic hepatitis B**

- Not a 1<sup>st</sup> line drug as virological response is slow. <sup>moderate not severe</sup> so not 1<sup>st</sup> line
- Used mainly in lamivudine resistant cases

## 4- Tenofovir Disoproxil fumarate

→ prodrug  
→ First line  
→ oral  
HIV علاج Entecavir انوسيلين

Nucleotide analogue Prodrug converted to Tenofovir.

Similar to Adefovir but it is first line drug for HBV due to its High efficacy, good tolerability & low risk of development of resistance,

Has activity against HIV also (reverse transcriptase inhibitor)

# Drugs for HCV

→ RNA polymerase  
not  
DNA polymerase

## 1- Ribavirin

→ Broad

مركب باليوم

• Guanosine nucleoside analogue

• Broad spectrum antiviral drug

HCV

Influenza A & B

Respiratory Syncytial virus (RSV)

### MOA

Phosphorylated inside cells → like others

Inhibits RNA polymerase & stops viral RNA replication.

### Uses

1. **Chronic Hepatitis C** (in combination with interferons or other drugs) (6-12 months) فترة علاج  
سنة تقريباً

2. **RSV** Bronchiolitis in children (nebulisation)

↳ Route: inhalation exam



### ADR

exam

• Hemolytic anemia (dose dependent)

• Bone marrow suppression

• CNS/GIT effects stimulation

• Teratogenic (**Females to practice contraception during & till 3 months after Ribavirin treatment**) توقف أخذ هذا الدواء  
شهوراً  
تم بعربي ← can pregnant



لعمرو جڙا ۽ ۲ ڀيرا ←  
s.c weekly ←

## 2-Interferon (IFN) $\alpha$

### WHAT ARE INTERFERONS ?

Low molecular weight glycoprotein cytokines produced by host cells in response to viral infections, IL-1 & other inducers.

They have antiviral effects & effects on immunity & cell proliferation

3 types of IFN produced by humans – IFN $\alpha$  (Clinically used)  
IFN $\beta$   
IFN $\gamma$

PEG-IFN resulted in a sustained loss of hepatitis B e antigen (Hbe Ag) in 30% of patients.

# بداية كان كورس أسنة هم كل يوم  
بس بعدنا صبرنا نصف عددهم  
مادة عشان تقلل من انتقاله  
مفرنا نعطيه مرة واحدة كل أسبوع.

## Pharmacokinetics of interferone:

- INF is ineffective orally and given by **I.M.** or **S.C.** route.
- They are inactivated in the body fluids and different tissues including kidney.
- Only small amount is excreted by the kidney.

exam

- **Pegylated interferon**: attachment of **IFN** proteins to **large**, inert **polyethylene glycol molecules** (pegylation) slows the absorption, decreases the clearance, and provides higher and more prolonged serum concentrations that enable once-weekly dosing.
- Two pegylated interferons are available commercially: **peg-interferon alpha-2a** and **peg-interferon alpha-2b**.

## Uses of pegylated interferon alpha:

- 1-Its role in treating **hepatitis B and C** is limited now (mainly for **HBV e positive Ag**).
- 2- As adjunctive treatment in certain tumors as **non-Hodgkin's lymphoma**, **hairy cell leukemia**, , multiple **myeloma**, and AIDS-related **Kaposi sarcoma**.
- 3-It is used in treating Genital warts (**condyloma acuminata**) caused by Human papilloma virus; and in severe **cytomegaloviral** and **herpes zoster** infections..

# Mechanism of Anti cancer is: Immune active

## Adverse effects:

- a) **Influenza-like illness** (fever, chills, headache, myalgia, nausea and vomiting).
- b) **Bone marrow depression**.
- c) CNS: confusion, **seizures** and behavioral changes. → CNS stimulation
- d) **Renal toxicity** and **cardiac toxicity**.
- e) With chronic use: **anorexia**, fatigue, **weight loss**, development of antibodies that decrease the antiviral activity.

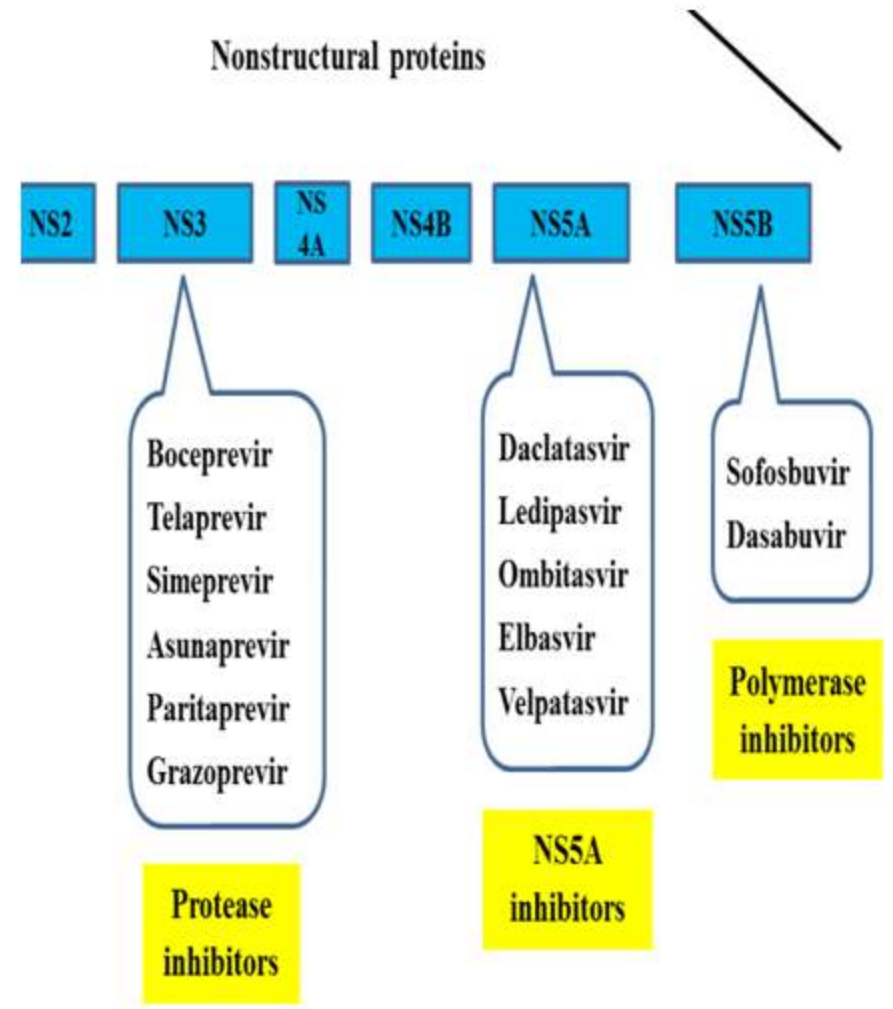
**It is contraindicated in cardiac patients and during pregnancy**



### 3- Direct acting anti-HCV drugs (DAA) *first line treatment of hepatitis C.*

- Target specific nonstructural (NS) viral proteins that play role in replication of HCV inside hepatocytes.
- Less efficacy & development of resistance on using as monotherapy
- Used in combination therapy against HCV
  - Shortens duration of therapy
  - Improves clinical response.
- **Minimal ADRs**
- Significant drug interactions *due to metabolism for these drugs by CYP3A4*

*1st line*



*Metabolism and excretion*

*due to metabolism for these drugs by CYP3A4*

# Sofosbuvir (Sovaldi)

## Mechanism of action:

- Sofosbuvir is a **pro-drug** & converted to **triphosphate** active form, which inhibits HCV RNA polymerase, resulting in inhibition of RNA synthesis.

✓ **Little resistance develop to sofosbuvir.** ☆

## Pharmacokinetics

- Sofosbuvir is used only orally.

- T<sub>1/2</sub> of sofosbuvir is 0.4 hour, but its metabolite has t<sub>1/2</sub> = 27 hours (once daily dose).

## Therapeutic uses

☐ Sofosbuvir is used in combination with other oral direct acting antiviral drugs as **first-line treatments for HCV**.

☆ Sofosbuvir in combination with velpatasvir is recommended for **all genotypes** with a cure rate greater than 90%. The duration of treatment is typically 12 weeks.  
→ not eradication  
→ virus

D 2, 3  
L 1, 4, 5, 6  
V 5

- for HCV genotypes 1, 4, 5, and 6 (sofosbuvir with ledipasvir).
- For HCV genotype 2 and 3 (sofosbuvir with daclatasvir).
- For HCV with cirrhosis or liver transplant patients, ribavirin is sometimes added.
- Peg-interferon with or without sofosbuvir is **no longer recommended** in an initial HCV treatment.
- Compared to previous treatments; sofosbuvir-based regimens provide a **higher cure rate**, **fewer side effects**, and a **two- to four-fold reduced duration of therapy**.

←  
Hepatic-C  
في التهاب

←  
معدل الشفاء  
معدل 2-4  
شهور

## Side effects

*exam severe*

☐ **Fatigue**, **headache**, **nausea**, **rash**, irritability, **dizziness**, **back pain**, and **anaemia**

are the common side effects .

*no bone marrow  
but maybe happen*

*exam*

☐ -Sofosbuvir may **reactivate hepatitis B** in previously infected patients. →

*يعني حوزة أنتا حركه التو اعرفين  
عازضا باقتل د  
HBV*

☐ **Safety during pregnancy is unclear**; some of the medications used in combination  
*but not contraindication*  
may result in harm to the baby.

☐ Sofosbuvir **increases the toxicity of amiodarone** with **unknown mechanism**.

*anti arrhythmic  
drug*

# Drug interactions of DAA drugs

- All are metabolised by CYP3A4
- All are substrates of P-gp efflux transporter



CYP3A inducers/ inhibitors decrease their effect/increase their toxicity

Inducers of P-gp (Phenytoin/rifampicin) decrease their blood levels

نیسٹرویل  
ہیڈروکلورائیڈ  
HCl

Ledipasvir, Velpatasvir need gastric acid for absorption.  
Their efficacy decreased by H2 blockers

