

Information & Resources For Hepatitis C

Información y Recursos Para La Hepatitis C

Infection with the hepatitis C virus (HCV) is the most common coinfection in people with HIV and is categorized as an HIV-related opportunistic illness.

HIV/HCV coinfection has been associated with a faster rate of hepatitis C disease progression, higher HCV viral loads and a greater risk of developing severe liver damage. Hepatitis C can affect HIV treatment by increasing the frequency of liver toxicity related to HIV drugs. There is also the potential for interactions between HIV drugs and drugs used to treat Hep C. However, with careful medical monitoring, many coinfecting people can be successfully treated for both.

(Excerpt from the Hepatitis C Support Project's hcsfFACT-sheet "HIV/HCV Coinfection", Version 4.1, dated January 2007)

La infección del virus de la hepatitis C (VHC) es la que más comúnmente acompaña a la infección del VIH en las personas y dicha infección es clasificada como una enfermedad oportunista relacionada al VIH.

Esta coinfección (VIH/VHC) ha sido asociada con la aceleración de la enfermedad del VHC, el aumento de la carga viral del VHC, y el alto riesgo de desarrollar un serio daño al hígado. La hepatitis C puede afectar el tratamiento del VIH aumentando la frecuencia de toxicidad del hígado debido a los medicamentos VIH. Además, existe el riesgo de una interacción entre los medicamentos del VIH y del VHC. Sin embargo, con un control médico cuidadoso, muchas personas con esta coinfección pueden ser tratadas con éxito.

(Excerpta de: the Hepatitis C Support Project's hcsfFACT-sheet "HIV/HCV Coinfection", Version 4.1, 1/07)

HEPATITIS C TREATMENT RESOURCES IN HARRIS COUNTY

RECURSOS PARA EL TRATAMIENTO DE LA HEPATITIS C EN EL CONDADO DE HARRIS

For uninsured patients with no available funds:

Harris County Hospital District has patient eligibility centers that you can go to and apply for a gold card. Once you have a gold card, you can go to one of their clinics and tell them you have Hep C and you will be referred to one of the two Hep C treatment centers in Harris County at Ben Taub or LBJ. If you call voicemail they will return message within 24 hours.

(713) 526-4243 (Appointments)

(713) 566-6064 (Voicemail)

HCHD Financial Assistance Program
c/o Patient Eligibility Services Administration
PO Box 300488
Houston, TX 77230

St. Luke's Center for Liver Disease has ongoing clinical trials available. Often these trials provide free treatment. Please call (832) 355-8966 to get on the list.

St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital
6720 Bertner Ave.
Houston, TX 77030
www.sleh.com.

Other resources for clinical trials:
www.clinicaltrials.gov.

CenterWatch
22 Thomson Place, 47F1
Boston, MA 02210-1212
www.centerwatch.com

Texas Health Pool is an insurance program that can get you insured on the spot without problems if you had pre-existing conditions.

Para pacientes sin seguro médico y fondos propios

El Distrito de Hospitales del Condado de Harris tiene centros de elegibilidad donde puede ir a solicitar una tarjeta dorada. Una vez obtenida la tarjeta, puede ir a una de sus clínicas para informarles que usted tiene la infección del VHC y así será referido a uno de dos centros especializados en el tratamiento del VHC que son Ben Taub o LBJ en el Condado de Harris. Llame al (713) 526-4243, o si llama al contestador automático (713-566-6064) se le devolverá la llamada dentro de un periodo de 24 horas.

HCHD Financial Assistance Program
c/o Patient Eligibility Services Administration
PO Box 300488
Houston, TX 77230

El Centro para la Enfermedad del Hígado de St. Luke actualmente tiene disponible ensayos clínicos. Frecuentemente estos ensayos proveen tratamiento gratuito. Por favor llame al (832) 355-8966 para inscribirse.

St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital
6720 Bertner Ave.
Houston, TX 77030
www.sleh.com.

Otros recursos sobre ensayos clínicos:
www.clinicaltrials.gov.

Centro de vigilancia:
22 Thomson Place, 47F1
Boston, MA 02210-1212
www.centerwatch.com

Texas Health Pool es un programa de seguro médico que puede darle cobertura de inmediato sin causar problemas por el hecho que uno tenga condiciones médicas preexistentes. La dirección en el Internet es: www.txhealthpool.org y el número telefónico es 888-398-3927, el fax es 325-793-4134.

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HEPATITIS C TREATMENT RESOURCES IN HARRIS COUNTY RECURSOS PARA EL TRATAMIENTO DE LA HEPATITIS C EN EL CONDADO DE HARRIS

Mailing Address:
P. O. Box 6089
Abilene, TX 79608

(888) 398-3927 phone
(325) 793-4134 fax

www.txhealthpool.org

For uninsured patients who have some funds available:

If you have some funds available you can see a physician and get the medications for free through each of the pharmaceutical company's assistance programs. The cost to you would be a monthly physician and lab fee (approximately \$300.00 per month). The medications you take will depend on what your physician prescribes. The assistance programs can be reached as follows:

PEG-Intron	800-521-7157
Pegasys	877-PEG-ASSIST

Dirección postal
P. O. Box 6089
Abilene, TX 79608

Para pacientes sin seguro médico pero con dinero disponible: Si usted tiene algún dinero disponible puede ir a ver a un médico y recibir medicamentos gratis a través del programa de asistencia que tiene cada compañía farmacéutica. El costo mensual a usted sería aproximadamente \$300.00 por el médico y gastos de laboratorio. El medicamento que usted tome dependerá de lo que su médico recete. Los programas de asistencia pueden ser contactados al:

PEG-Intron	800-521-7157
Pegasys	877-PEG-ASSIST

VACCINES FOR HEPATITIS A & B / VACUNAS PARA LA HEPATITIS A Y B

Most people can stay healthy when they have HIV and Hep C together. The most important thing to do is to work with your doctor and nurse to find out how to stay healthy and if you should be treated. Everyone with HIV and Hep C should get vaccinated against Hep A and Hep B – if they have not already been exposed.

While there are vaccines available for Hep A and B, there is currently no vaccine to prevent Hep C. It is important that everyone who does not have immunity to Hep A and B get the vaccines. Below is a list of potential resources for getting these vaccines in Harris County, please contact them for more information.

La mayoría de las personas pueden mantenerse saludables aún teniendo la coinfección VIH/VHC. El paso más importante a tomar es el de trabajar con su médico y enfermera para mantenerse en buena salud y decidir si debe empezar un tratamiento. Todas las personas con VIH/VHC deben ser vacunadas en contra de la hepatitis A y B—por si no hayan sido ya expuestos a ellos.

Aunque haya vacunas para la A y B, actualmente no la hay para la hepatitis C. Si usted no es inmune, debe recibir las vacunas para la hepatitis A y B. La lista a continuación incluye los que ofrecen en el Condado de Harris. Por favor llame para mayor información.

Baylor Travel Medicine
3701 Kirby Drive
Houston, TX
(713) 798-7700

City of Houston
Immunization and Travel Clinic
Third Ward Multi-Service Center
3611 Ennis
Houston, TX 77004
(713) 527-4040

Harris County Hospital District
(713) 526-4243
www.hchdonline.com

Hepatitis A: Adult \$90/shot, 2 required
Hepatitis B: Adult \$70/shot, 3 required
Twinrix (Hep A & B combined): \$130/shot, 3 required

Hepatitis A: Adult \$39.00/shot, 3 required
Hepatitis B: Adult \$45.00/shot, 2 required
Twinrix (Hep A & B combined): \$78.00/shot, 3 required

Those with a Gold Card can get hepatitis A and B vaccines.

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VACCINES FOR HEPATITIS A & B / VACUNAS PARA LA HEPATITIS A Y B

HEB (RediClinics - in their stores)

9 E. Greenway Plaza, Suite 2950
Houston, TX 77046
(713) 935-0333
www.rediclinic.com

Legacy Community Health Services

215 Westheimer
Houston, TX 77006
(713) 830-3000

Methodist Hospital Institute of Preventative Medicine

6550 Fannin Street SM583
Houston, TX 77030
(713) 441-5978

Randalls Pharmacy

www.randalls.com

UT Health Services

7000 Fannin Street Suite 1620
Houston, TX 77030
(713) 500-3248

Walgreens Pharmacy (24-hours)

2605 West Holcombe Blvd.
Houston, TX 77025
832-778-8106

Hepatitis A: Adult \$114/shot

Pedi \$79/shot, 2 required

Hepatitis B: Adult \$109/shot

Pedi \$49/shot, 3 required

Twinrix (Hep A & B combined): \$159/shot, 3 required

Hepatitis A: Adult \$70, 2 required

Hepatitis B: Adult \$65/shot, 3 required

Twinrix (Hep A & B combined): \$95/shot, 3 required

Hepatitis A: Adult \$84/shot, 2 required

Hepatitis B: Adult \$68/shot, 3 required

Twinrix (Hep A & B combined): \$135/shot, 3 required

Hepatitis A, Adult \$82.99/shot, 2 required

Hepatitis B, Adult \$74.99/shot, 3 required

Twinrix (Hep A & B combined): \$107.99/shot, 3 required

Hepatitis A: Adult \$70/shot, 2 required

Hepatitis B: Adult \$60/shot, 3 required

Twinrix (Hep A & B combined): \$130/shot, 3 required

Hepatitis A: Adult \$100/shot

Adolescent: \$50/shot, 2 required

Hepatitis B: Adult \$95/shot

Adolescent: \$45/shot, 3 required

Twinrix (Hep A & B combined): \$125/shot, 3 required

MONTHLY SUPPORT GROUPS / GRUPOS DE AYUDA MENSUAL

Support groups can be very helpful for people coinfecting with HIV and Hep C, especially when dealing with the emotional challenges of living with these two chronic diseases. A listing of monthly support groups is included below.

Grupos de apoyo pueden ser de gran ayuda para las personas coinfectadas con el VIH y el VHC, especialmente por ser un mayor reto emocional el de vivir con dos enfermedades crónicas. Aquí se encuentra una lista de grupos de apoyo mensuales.

Location / Localidad	Date & Time / Día y Tiempo	Contact / Contacto
Clear Lake St. John West Conference Room 2035 Space Park Drive Nassau Bay, TX. 77058	3rd Thursday of the month 7:00 p.m.	Carol Walker (281) 334-7132 or (713) 828-3299 carowalk@aol.com
Conroe/Woodlands Conroe Regional Medical Center 504 Medical Center Blvd., Dining Room A Conroe, TX 77304	2nd Wednesday 7:00 p.m.	Carol Schansem (936) 441-5106 hcvcarol@yahoo.com
Houston – Central St. Martin's Episcopal Church 717 Sage Road Payne Education Building 2nd Floor, Room 203 Houston, TX 77056	1st Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	John Bickers (713) 783-9334 or (281) 435-1703 johnbickers@hotmail.com

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Location / Localidad	Date & Time / Día y Tiempo	Contact / Contacto
Houston - Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center 2002 Holcombe Blvd, Rm 1A-442 Primecare Clinic 5 (NASA) Houston, TX 770030	1st Friday 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. For VA patients and their families	Stacey Pelton, LMSW (713) 791-1414, ext 6867 or Michelle Ray, RN, ext 3394
Houston - Memorial City Memorial Hermann Memorial City Hospital 920 Frostwood, 2nd Floor, Classroom A Houston, TX 77024	3rd Wednesday 7:00 p.m.	John Bickers (713) 783-9334 or (281) 435-1703 johnbickers@hotmail.com
Houston – North of Downtown HIV/HCV Coinfection Support Group Thomas Street Health Center 2015 Thomas Street Third (3rd) Floor Large Conference Rm Houston, TX 77009	Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday 11:00 am - 12 noon	Harold Henderson (713) 873-4069 ellis_henderson@hchd.tmc.edu
Houston - Northwest Methodist Hospital – Willowbrook 18220 Tomball Parkway (Hwy 249) First Floor, Room C Houston, Texas 77070	2nd Monday 7:00 p.m.	Bob Knaze (281) 820-6168 rbkna5@aol.com
Houston - St. Luke's Adult Liver Transplant 6720 Bertner St. Cooley Bldg., Level B1 Green Elevators, Conf. Rm A, C068 Houston, TX 77030	Every 6 weeks @ 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. (No meetings in December) For pre-transplant patients	Ann Holder, LMSW-ACP (832) 355-3026 zayh01@sleh.com
Galveston Moody Memorial First UMC 2803 53rd Street Galveston, TX 77551	1st Thursday 6:30 p.m.	Sam Critz (281) 534-0819 scritz@houston.rr.com or carolyncritz@houston.rr.com
Magnolia Outreach Support Group 30410 Rickett Magnolia, TX 77355	Call for date and time.	Michael T. Enright (832) 228-7253

PUBLICATIONS & INFORMATION / PUBLICACIONES Y INFORMACIÓN

For more information about Hepatitis C you may wish to contact the following resources:

Si usted desea más información sobre la hepatitis C sirvase contactar a la siguiente fundación.

Name / Nombre	Phone & Web Site / Teléfono y Sitio Web	Mailing Address / Dirección que Envía	Description / Descripción
American Liver Foundation – Houston Chapter	(713) 622-1318 (866-58-LIVER) www.liverfoundation.org/chapters/southtexas/	2425 West Loop South, Suite 840 Houston, TX 77027	Patient support groups, info & physician referral, Liver Update educational seminars for physicians, patients, their families and friends; publishes a yearly local chapter newsletter.

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Name / Nombre	Phone & Web Site / Teléfono y Sitio Web	Mailing Address / Dirección que Envía	Description / Descripción
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636) www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis/	Not applicable	Free, comprehensive information on viral hepatitis.
Hep C Alert	(305) 893-7992 877-HELP4HEP (877-435-7443) 866-4HEPHIV (866-443-7448) www.hep-c-alert.org	660 NE 125 Street North Miami, FL 33161	Promotes awareness, and provides health education, counseling, testing and linkage services to people throughout the U.S.
Hepatitis C Advocates	alanfranciscus@hcvadvocate.org (No phone number) www.hcvadvocate.org	Not applicable	Provides unbiased information, support, and advocacy to all communities affected by HCV and HIV/HCV coinfection.
Hepatitis C Connection	Phone: (303) 860-0800 Toll Free: (800) 390-1202 www.hepc-connection.org	1325 S. Colorado Blvd Building B, Suite 302 Denver, CO 80222	Information-based advocacy organizations. Quarterly electronic newsletter.
Hepatitis C Open Journal	KPFT 90.1 (713) 526-5738 Live stream from the website: www.KPFT.org	419 Lovett Boulevard Houston, TX 77006	Radio show broadcast on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 12-1 p.m. Call with questions or comments.
HIVandHepatitis.com	www.hivandhepatitis.com	Not applicable.	Informational website
Houston Buyers Club	(713) 520-5288 (800) 350-2392 www.houstonbuyersclub.com	3224 Yoakum Blvd. Houston, TX 77006	Houston Buyers Club is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization that has been helping people living with chronic illness manage side effects since 1996.
Liver Health Today	(800) 792-6397, ext. 133 (713) 520-1474 (713) 520-1463 Fax www.liverhealthtoday.org	523 N. Sam Houston Pkwy. East, Suite 300 Houston, Texas 77060	Magazine, published quarterly. First issue free with subscription, 6 issues \$20, 12 issues \$35.
National Hepatitis C Advocacy Council	(951) 766-8238 (Not toll-free but they will call you back) www.hepcnetwork.org	P.O. Box 5058 Hemet, California 92544	Provides education and support through online communications and hep C hotline. They ask that incarcerated individuals have a family member or friend request info for them.
Syringe Access Information Line	(713) 830-3095	Not applicable	Call for an up to date list of pharmacies that sell syringes without a prescription and provide safe disposal information.
Texas Liver Coalition	(832) 355-8966 www.texasliver.org	6620 Main St, Ste 1505 Houston, TX 77030	Ongoing clinical trials available providing free treatment.