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International Conference on the Management  
of Patients with Viral Hepatitis

# Why do I treat my patients with mild hepatitis C?

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# Antonio Craxi: disclosures

Grant/Research Support: Abbvie, BMS, MSD, Roche,

Consultant/Advisor: Abbvie, Abbott, Achillion, Boehringer  
Ingelheim, BMS, Gilead, Janssen-Cilag, MSD, Novartis

Sponsored lectures: Abbvie, BMS, Gilead, Janssen-Cilag, MSD





# Treatment prioritization

EASL Recommendation on HCV management, J HEP 2015; 63: 199

Treatment priority	Patient group
Treatment should be prioritized	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>. Patients with significant fibrosis (F3) or cirrhosis (F4), including decompensated cirrhosis</li><li>. Patients with HIV coinfection</li><li>. Patients with HBV coinfection</li><li>. Patients with an indication for liver transplantation</li><li>. Patients with HCV recurrence after liver transplantation</li><li>. Patients with clinically significant extra-hepatic manifestations</li><li>. Patients with debilitating fatigue</li><li>. Individuals at risk of transmitting HCV</li></ul>
Treatment is justified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>. Patients with moderate fibrosis (F2)</li></ul>
Treatment can be deferred	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>. Patients with no or mild disease (F0-F1) and none of the above-mentioned extra-hepatic manifestations</li></ul>
Treatment is not recommended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>. Patients with limited life expectancy due to non-liver related comorbidities</li></ul>



# AASLD/IDSA 2015: when and in whom to initiate HCV therapy

- ALL pts are candidates for HCV therapy, regardless of disease stage
- In regions *where limited resources preclude treatment of all patients*, the following groups should be prioritized for therapy:
  - Highest Priority (based on highest risk for disease complications)
    - Advanced fibrosis (F3) or compensated cirrhosis (F4)

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## COMMENTS FROM THE EDITORS

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HEPATOLOGY, Vol. 62, No. 3, 2015

## **The New Hepatitis C Virus Bottleneck: Can Delaying Therapy Be Justified?**

F0-F2 patients are not universally covered by insurance schemes



# Why should I treat my patients with mild hepatitis C?

- Available therapies are highly effective and safe
- Disease staging is not faultless
- HCV causes significant extra-hepatic morbidity
- Best cost-effectiveness is obtained treating at an early stage of disease



# Why should I treat my patients with mild hepatitis C?

- Available therapies are highly effective and safe
  - Excellent SVR and safety in phase 3 and real-life cohorts
  - 8 weeks of therapy are as effective as 12
  - Modest need for retreatment if SVR > 95%
  - Ultra-short regimens (< 4 weeks) may be feasible



# Genotype 1 treatment naïve non- cirrhotic: current regimens

Regimen	Wks	Study	SVR
Ledipasvir/sofosbuvir (HCV RNA < 6 M IU/mL)	8	ION-3[1,2]	119/123 (97%)
Ledipasvir/sofosbuvir	12	ION-3[1]	206/216 (95%)
Simeprevir + sofosbuvir*	8-12	OPTIMIST-1[3]	8 wks: 128/155 (83%) 12 wks: 150/155 (97%)
Ombitasvir/paritaprevir/ritonavir, dasabuvir (GT1b)	12	PEARL III[4]	207/209 (99%)
Ombitasvir/paritaprevir/ritonavir, dasabuvir, ribavirin (GT1a)	12	PEARL IV[4]	97/100 (97%)
Sofosbuvir + daclatasvir	12	AI444040[5]	41/41 (100%)

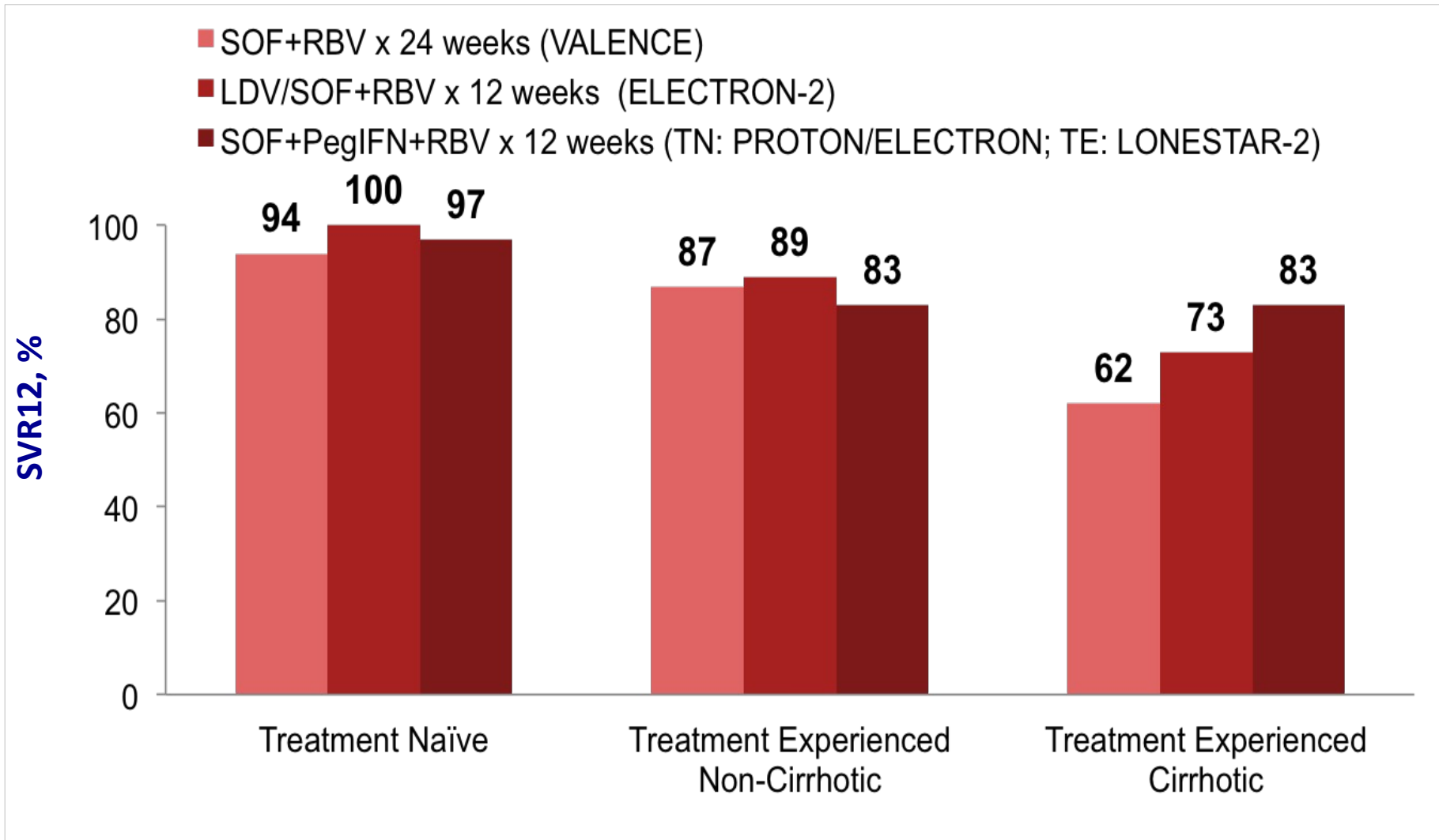
\*GT1a + Q80K-8 wks: 36/49 (73%); GT1a + Q80K-12 wks: 44/46 (96%).

1. Kowdley K, et al. N Engl J Med. 2014;370:1879-1888.
2. Ledipasvir/sofosbuvir [package insert].
3. Kwo PY, et al. EASL 2015. Abstract LP14.
4. Ferenci P, et al. N Engl J Med. 2014;370:1983-1992.
5. Sulkowski M, et al. N Engl J Med. 2014;370:211-221.



# Genotype 3 non-cirrhotic: current regimens

Cross-Study Comparison: VALENCE, LONESTAR-2, PROTON/ELECTRON, and ELECTRON-2

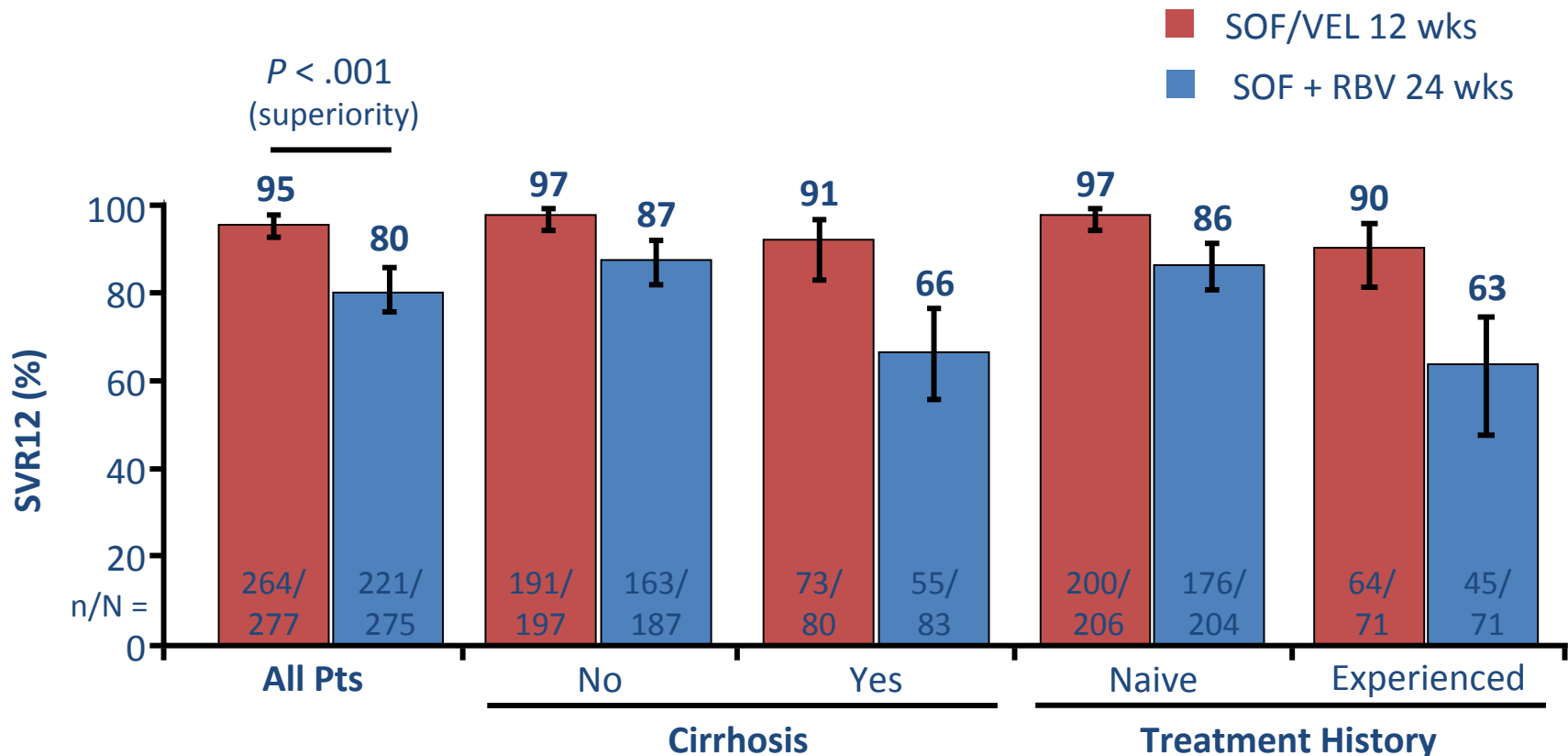






# SVR12, Safety With Sofosbuvir/Velpatasvir in GT3 HCV

SVR12 rate numerically lower with vs without BL NS5A RAVs (88% vs 97%)



Mangia A, et al. AASLD 2015. Abstract 249..

Foster GR, et al. N Engl J Med. 2015;[Epub ahead of print].



## Safety summary of selected DAA combinations

Parameter	Placebo n=105	LDV/SOF n=1080	LDV/SOF n=872	O/P/D n=509	O/P/D n=1551	GZR/EBR n=1,033	GZR/EBR n=657
		no RBV	+ RBV	no RBV	+ RBV	no RBV	+ RBV
≥1 AE, %	68.6	74	85	75	88	71.4	83.6
≥1 TAE, %	39.0	45	71			40.1	67.6
SAEs, %	2.9	3	2	1,4	3	2.4	2.6
Treatment-related SAEs, %	0	<1	<1			0.1	0.5
D/C due to AE, %	1.0	1	1	0.4	1	0.5	1.7
Mean Hgb decline at TW8, mg/dL	-0.1	-0.2 ION3	-1.9 ION3			-0.3	-2.2
Grade 3+ ALT ↑, %	8.6	< 1%	<1 %	0.2	1.3	1.6	0.6
Grade 3+ increase in total bilirubin, %	0	< 1%	2.4%	0.4	5	0.3	5.9

Dusheiko, AASLD 2015, 712; Kowdley KV et al. N Engl J Med. 2014 May 15;370(20):1879-88.

FDA Clinical Review NDA 205834: Ledipasvir/Sofosbuvir Fixed-Dose Combination Available at: [http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda\\_docs/nda/2014/205834Orig1s000MedR.pdf](http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/nda/2014/205834Orig1s000MedR.pdf)

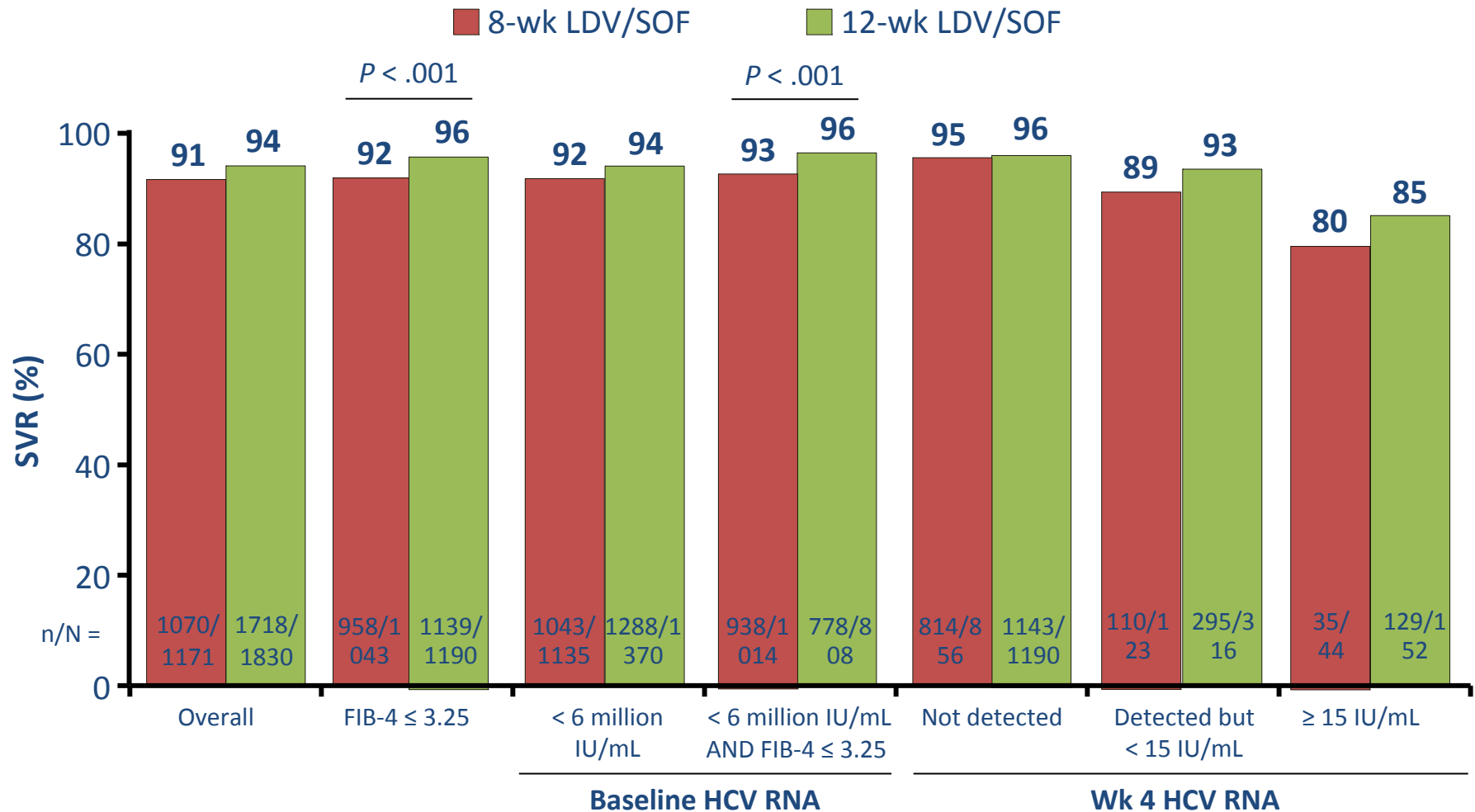
Viekira SmPC EMA (1/15); SAPPHIRE-I: Feld JJ, et al. N Engl J Med 2014;370:1594-603; SAPPHIRE-II: Zeuzem S, et al. N Engl J Med 2014;370:1604-14;

PEARL-III & PEARL-IV: Ferenci et al. N Engl J Med, 2014; 370:1983-92; PEARL-II: Andreone, P, et al. Gastroenterology 2014; 147 (2): 359-365;

TURQUOISE-II: Poordad F, et al. N Engl J Med; May 22, 2014; 370:1973-82



# VA: SVR With 8-Wk vs 12-Wk Ledipasvir/ Sofosbuvir

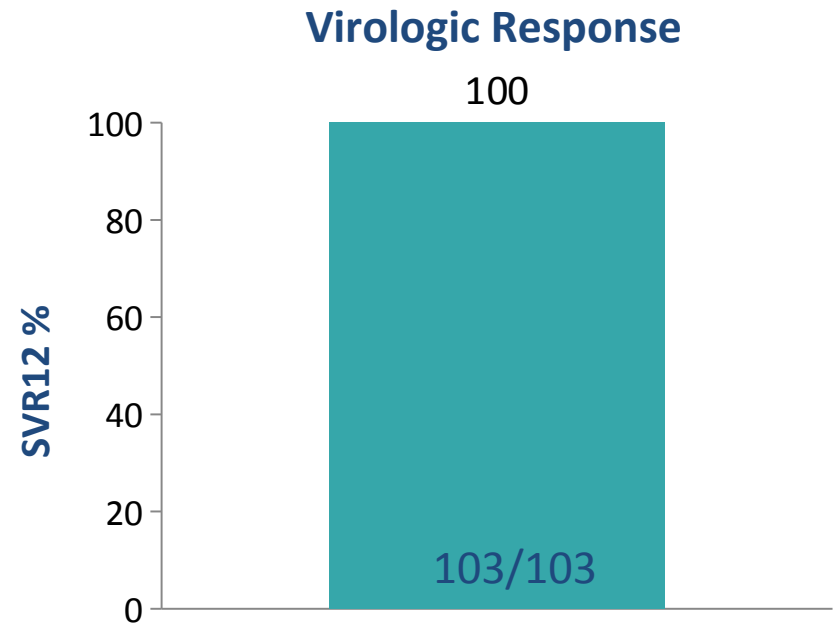




# German Real-World LDV/SOF for 8 Weeks

Single center German study of 103 primarily naïve, non-cirrhotic patients with baseline HCV RNA < 6 million IU/mL treated with LDV/SOF for 8 weeks

	N=103
Median (range) age, years	50 (22–77)
Male gender, n (%)	43 (42)
Caucasian, n (%)	103 (100)
Genotype, n (%)	
GT 1a	49 (46)
GT 1b	52 (51)
GT 4	2 (2)
Metavir stage, n (%)	
F0	56 (54)
F1	25 (24)
F2	17 (17)
F3	5 (5)
F4	0 (0)
Median baseline HCV RNA, IU/mL*	870,964
Treatment-naïve, n (%)†	100 (97)
At least one comorbidity, n (%)	94 (91)



**LDV/SOF for 8 weeks resulted in high rates of SVR12 and was well tolerated**

\*Roche COBAS® AmpliPrep/COBAS® TaqMan®, cut-off < 12 IU/mL † including 3 PegIFN+RBV Relapsers  
Fibrosis was measured by FibroScan® with cut-off values for METAVIR stage F3 or less of ≤12.3kPa.



# 4 or 6 weeks treatment duration for GT-1 non cirrhotic patients

## 6 weeks treatment

Regimen	author	SVR 12
SOF+LDV+RBV	Gane et al	68%
SOF+LDV+GS-9669	Kohli et al	95%
SOF+LDV+ GS-9451	Kholiet et al	100%
SOF + ODV (Odalasvir)	Gane et al	100%
SOF+GZR+ELB	Poordad et al	87%
SOF+VEL+GS-9857	Gane et al	93%

## 4 weeks treatment

Regimen	author	SVR 12
SOF+LDV+GS9451	Kattakuzhy et al	40%
SOF+LDV+GS-9451+GS9699	Kattakuzhy et al	20%
SOF+GZR+ ELB	Poordad et al	33 %
SOF+VEL+GS-9857	Gane et al	27%

Gane EJ, et al Gastroenterology. 2014;146:736-43., Kohli et al, Lancet 2015, 385: 1107-1113 Kattakuzhy EASL 2015 Gane EJ et al

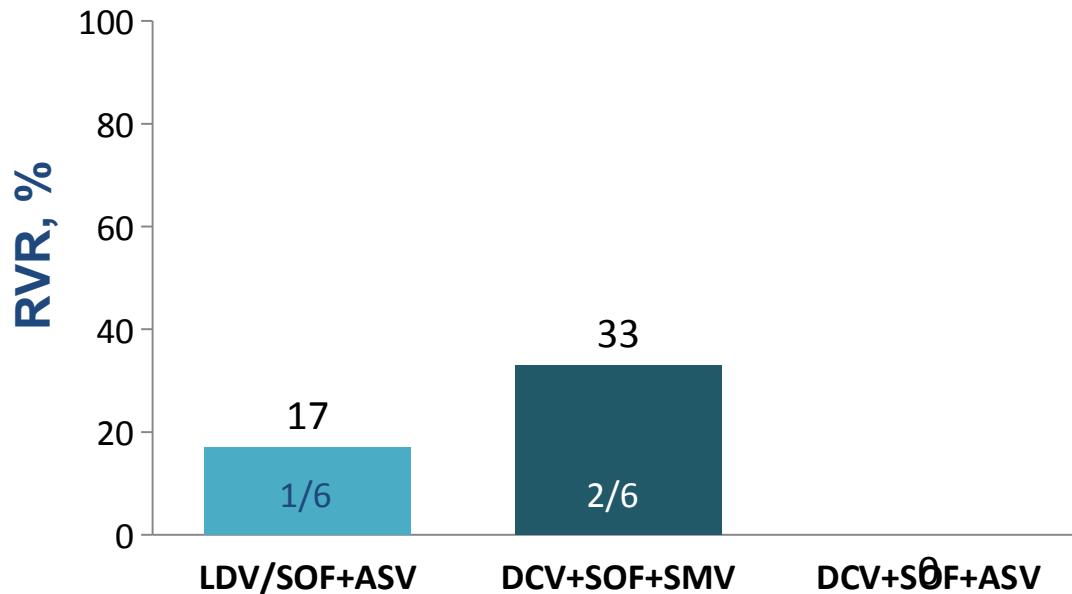
EASL 2015, Poordad et al. C-Swift study EASL 2015 Gane EJ et al EASL 2015



# All-Oral DAA Therapy for 3 Weeks in Select Treatment-Naïve, Non-Cirrhotic GT 1b Chinese Patients

Pilot, open-label study to evaluate 3 week response guided triple therapy in non-cirrhotic Chinese patients with GT 1b HCV who have RVR.

## RVR achieved in 3 patients



- 3 patients with RVR at Day 2 and 3 weeks of DAA achieved SVR12
- No D/C or significant AEs

RVR=plasma HCV RNA <500 IU/ml by Day 2

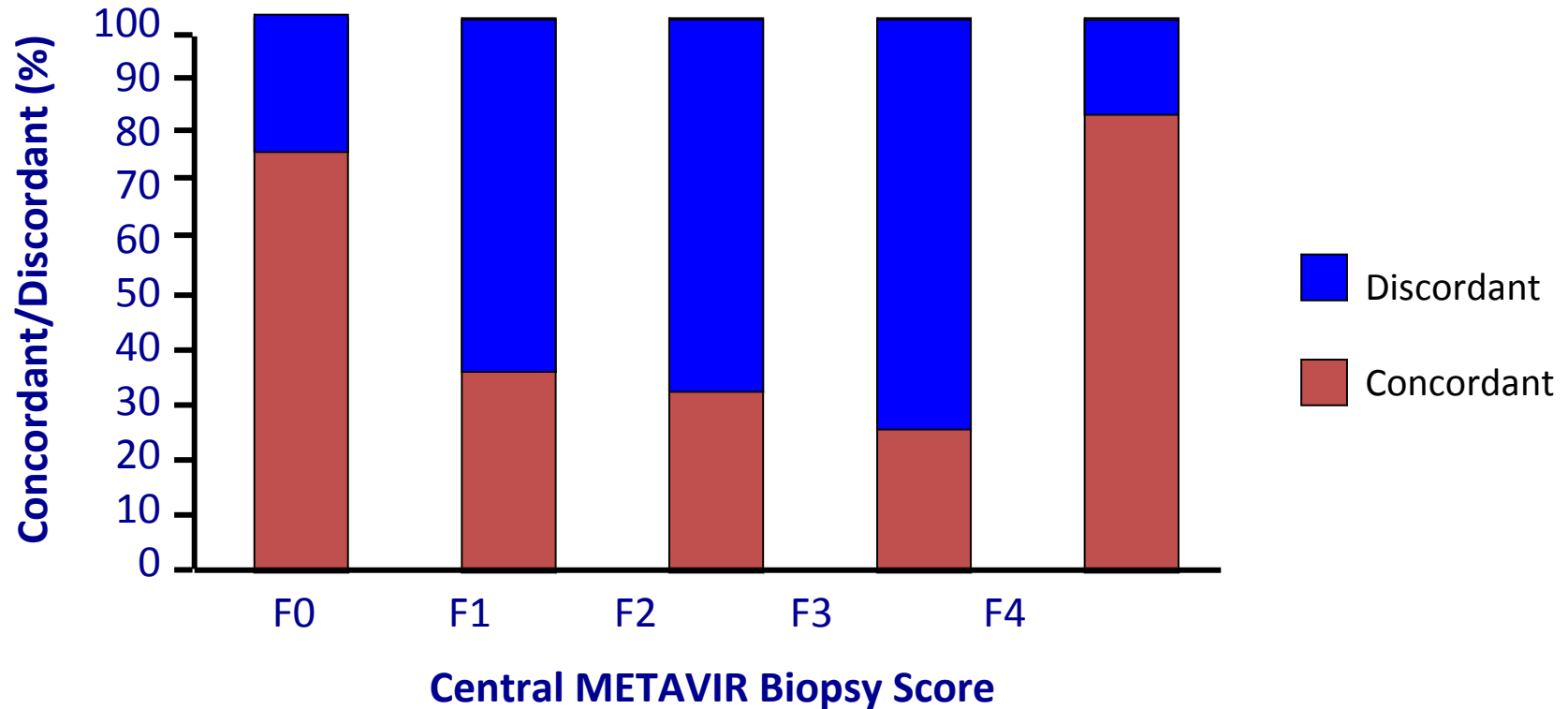


# Why should I treat my patients with mild hepatitis C?

- Disease staging is not faultless



# Proportion of concordant and discordant liver biopsy (N = 234) staging between 3 pathologists



Diagnostic Value for Fibrosis  
(F234 vs F0F1) Right Lobe vs Left Lobe Biopsy (N = 124)

- Discordance rate = 33%
- Kappa = 0.50
- AUROC = 0.76



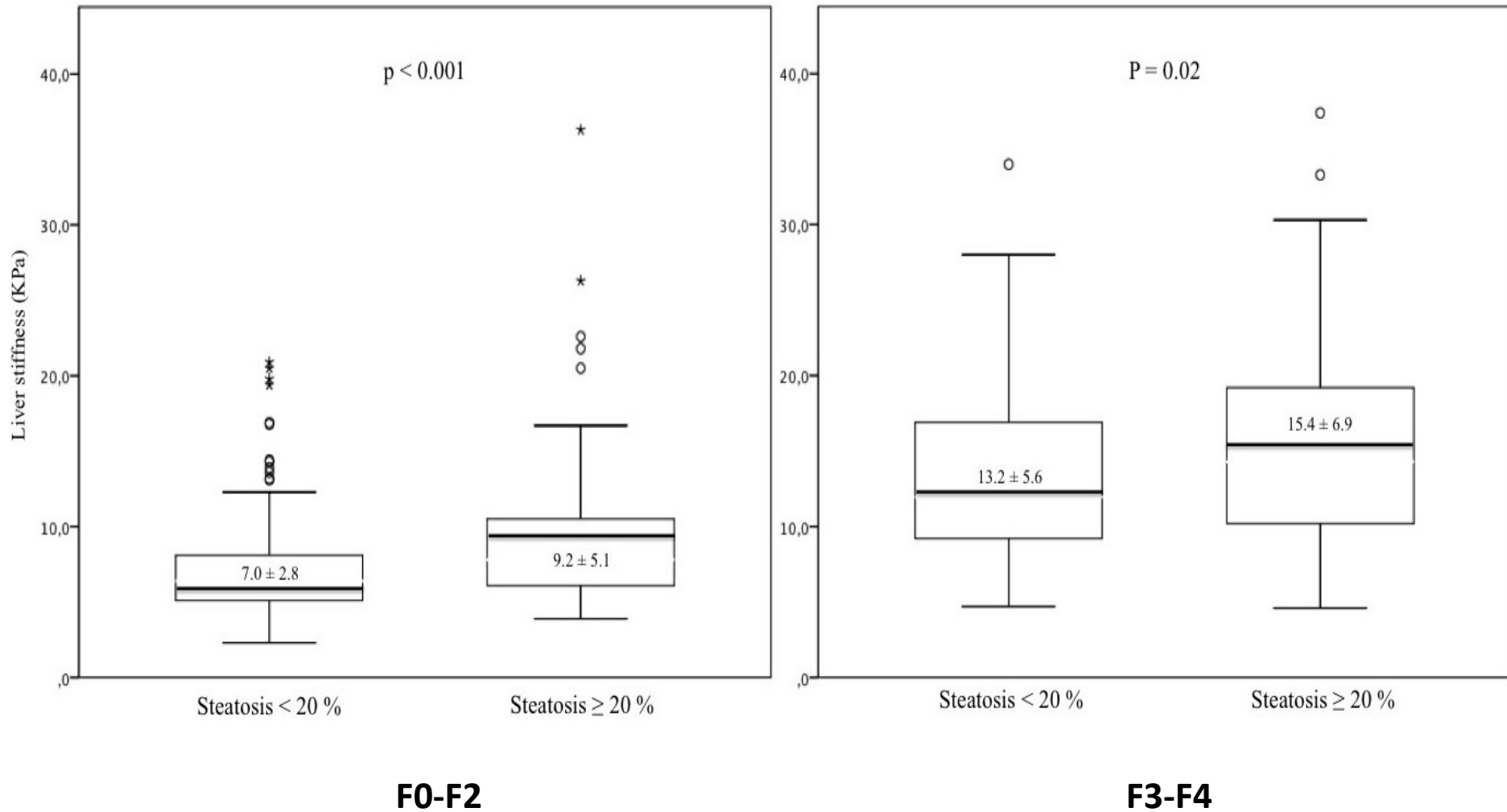


# Metaanalysis of Transient Elastography

	Number of Studies	Nr. of patients	AUROC			Cut-off (kPa)		
			$\geq F2$	$\geq F3$	F4	$\geq F2$	$\geq F3$	F4
Talwalkar et al	9	2.083	0,870	N/A	0,957	N/A	N/A	N/A
Stebbing et al.	22	4.760	0,84	0,89	0,94	7,81	N/A	15,56
Friedrich-Rust et al.	50	8.206	0,84	0,89	0,94	7,65	N/A	13,01
Tsochatzis et al.	40	7.723	N/A	N/A	N/A	7,3	10,2	15,0

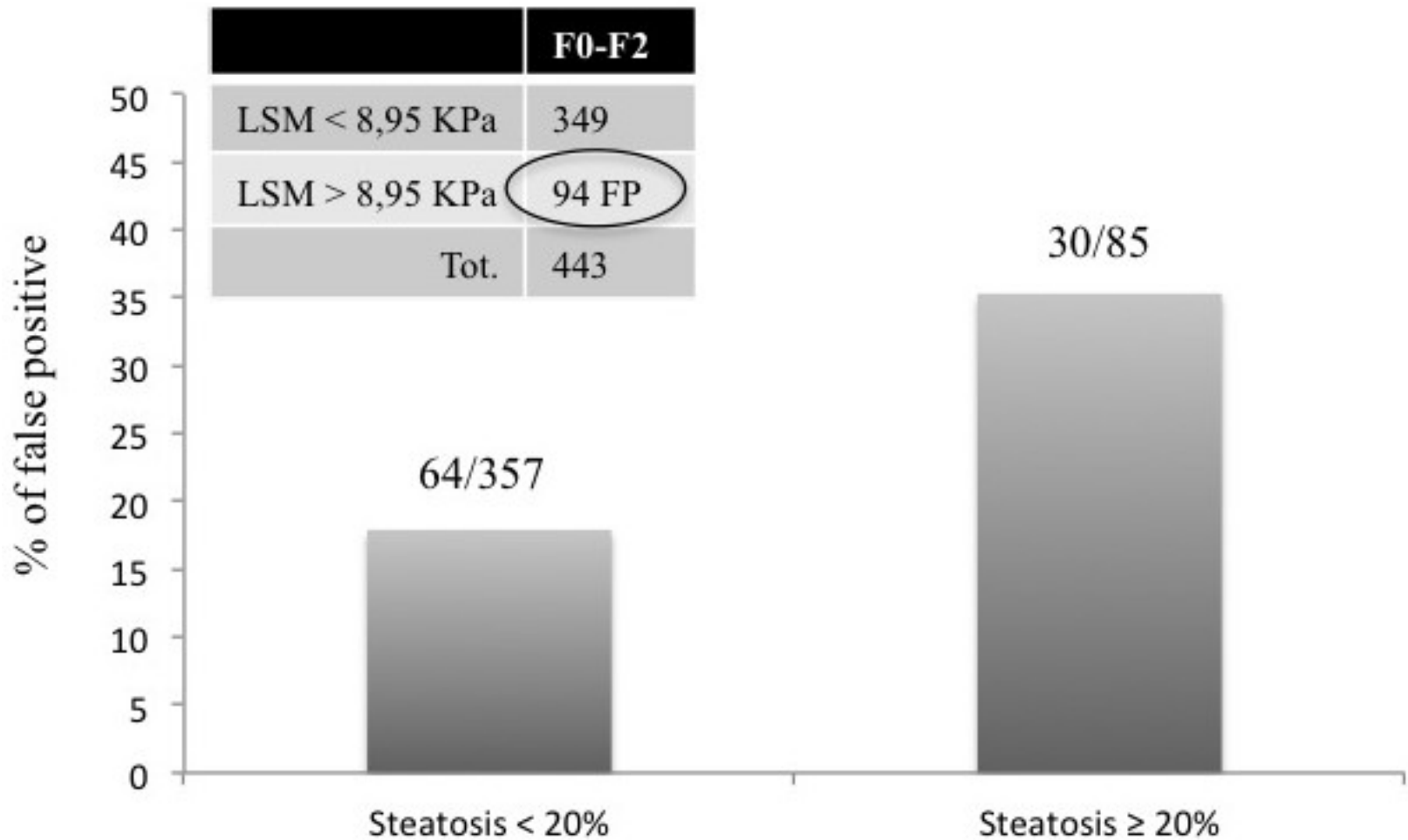


# Steatosis affects the performance of liver stiffness measurement for fibrosis assessment in patients with genotype 1 chronic hepatitis C





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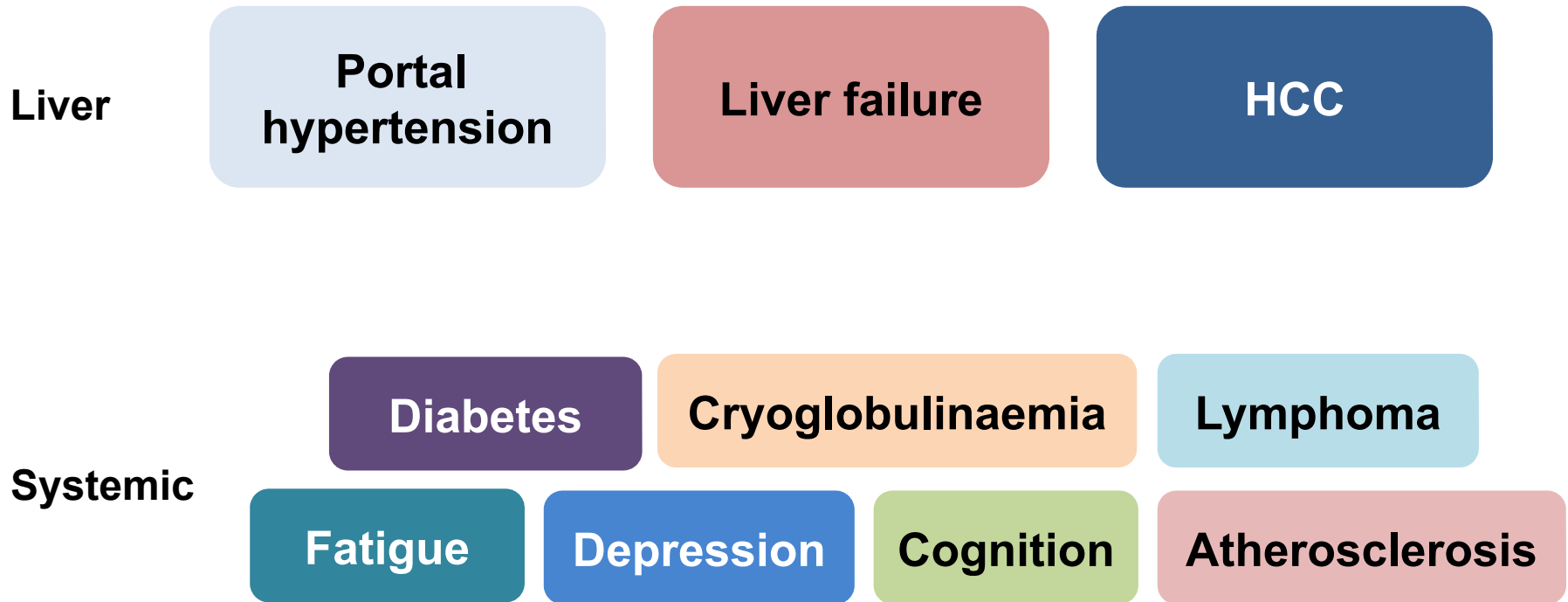


# Why should I treat my patients with mild hepatitis C?

- HCV causes significant extra-hepatic morbidity



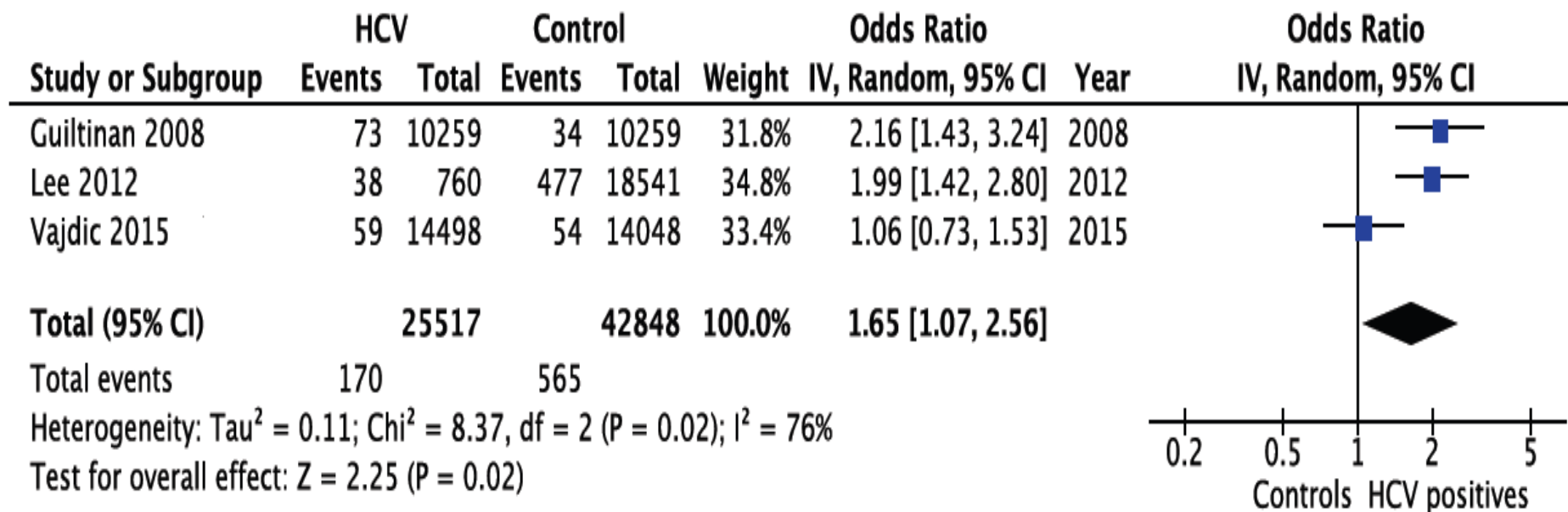
# Hepatitis C: beyond the liver....



Negro F, Forton D, Craxì A, Sulkowski MS, Feld JJ, Manns MP. Extrahepatic Morbidity and Mortality of Chronic Hepatitis C. *Gastroenterology*. 2015;149:1345-60

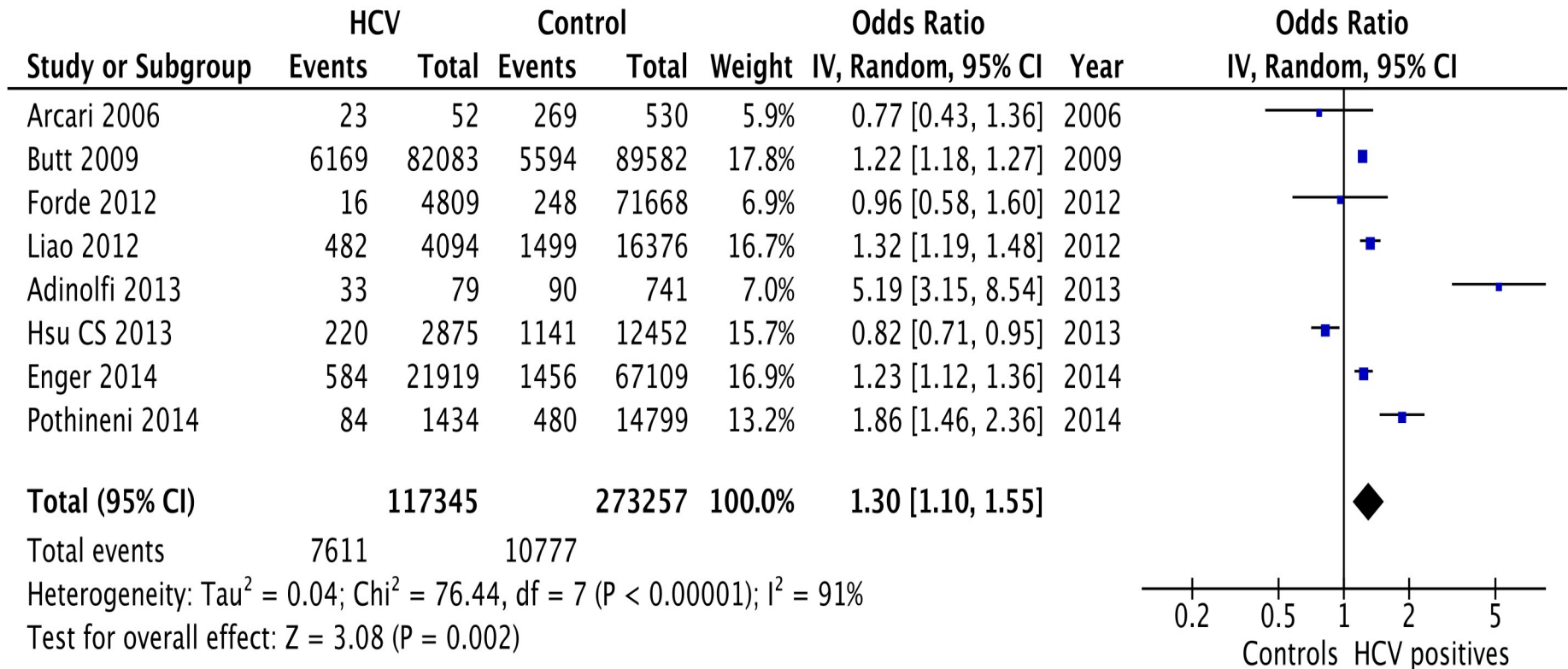


# HCV infection is associated with increased cardiovascular mortality: a meta-analysis of observational studies





# HCV infection is associated with increased cerebro-cardiovascular events: a meta-analysis of observational studies



**High Heterogeneity!!!!!!**



# Association Between Antiviral Treatment and Extrahepatic Outcomes in Patients with HCV

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**Propensity score study in Taiwan: 12,384 eligible to IFN/RBV vs 24,768**

## Cumulative 8-yr incidence in treated vs not treated

**End stage renal disease      0.15% vs 1.32%      *HR 0.15 (95% CI 0.07-0.31)***

**Acute coronary syndrome    2.21% vs 2.96%      *HR 0.77 (95% CI 0.62-0.97)***

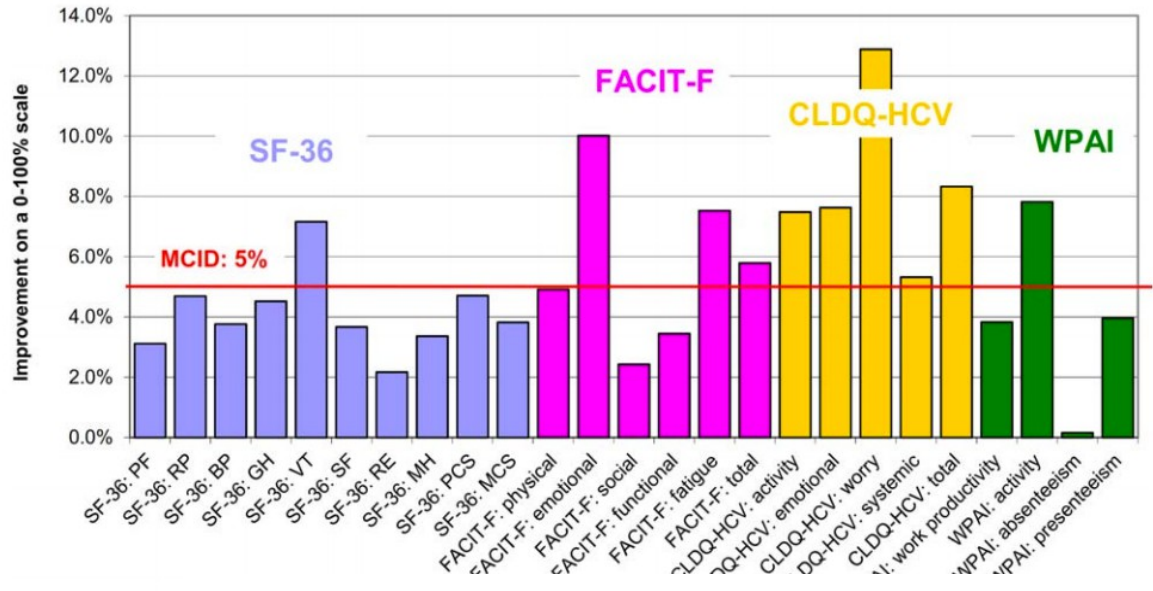
**Ischemic stroke              1.31% vs 1.76%      *HR 0.62 (95% CI 0.46-0.83)***

**Autoimmune catastrophes    0.57% vs 0.48%      *P<0.816***





Post-SVR12 improvements in PRO scores  
 Results From the ION-1,-2, and -3 Clinical Trials



1,952 pts treated for  
 8 (431)  
 12 (867)  
 24 wks (654)

LDV/SOF (1,080)  
 LDV/SOF/RBV (872).

FACIT-F total: post-treatment week 12

The most consistent predictors of lower PRO scores at all time points (P<0.001).

Enrolled in the USA	10.680 ±1.566	<0.0001
Baseline anxiety	-7.015 ±1.518	<0.0001
Baseline depression	-12.113 ±1.373	<0.0001
Baseline fatigue	-7.237 ±1.684	<0.0001
Baseline insomnia	-5.032 ±1.464	0.0006
Baseline type 2 diabetes	-6.241 ±1.781	0.0005



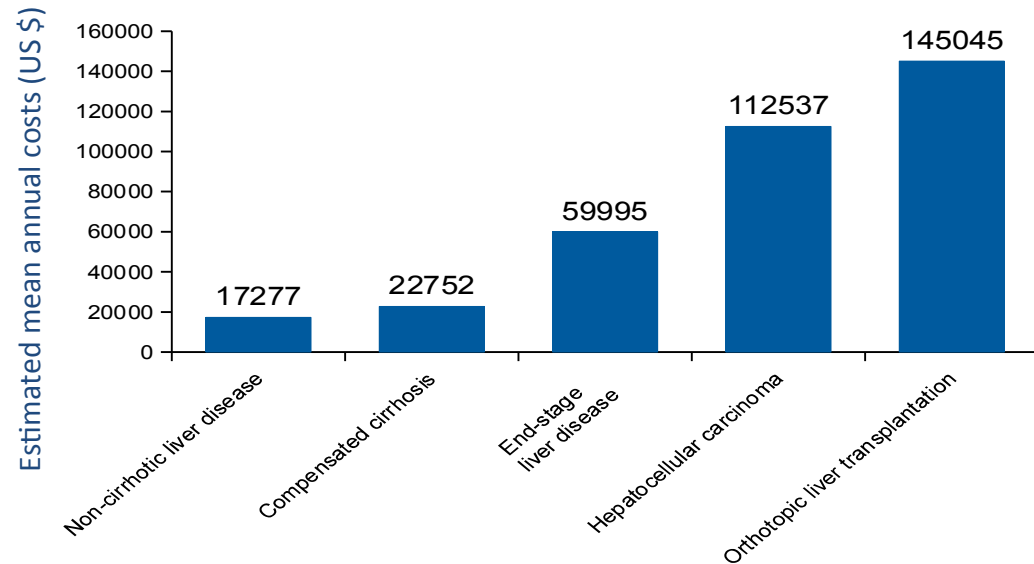
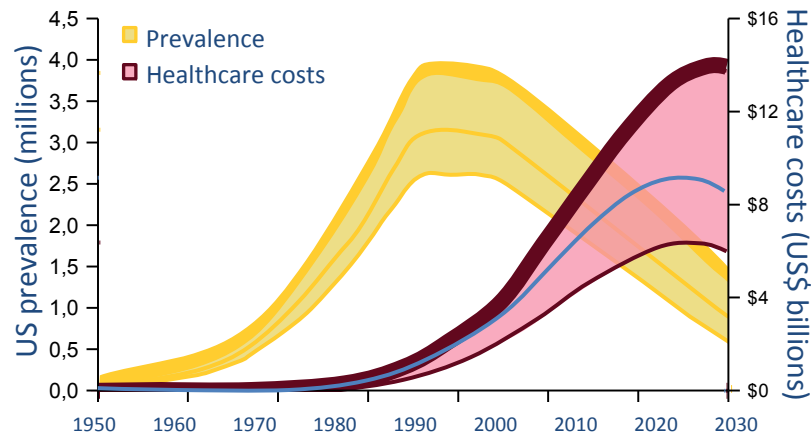
# Why should I treat my patients with mild hepatitis C?

- Best cost-effectiveness is obtained treating at an early stage of disease



# Management of HCV-related liver disease is costly

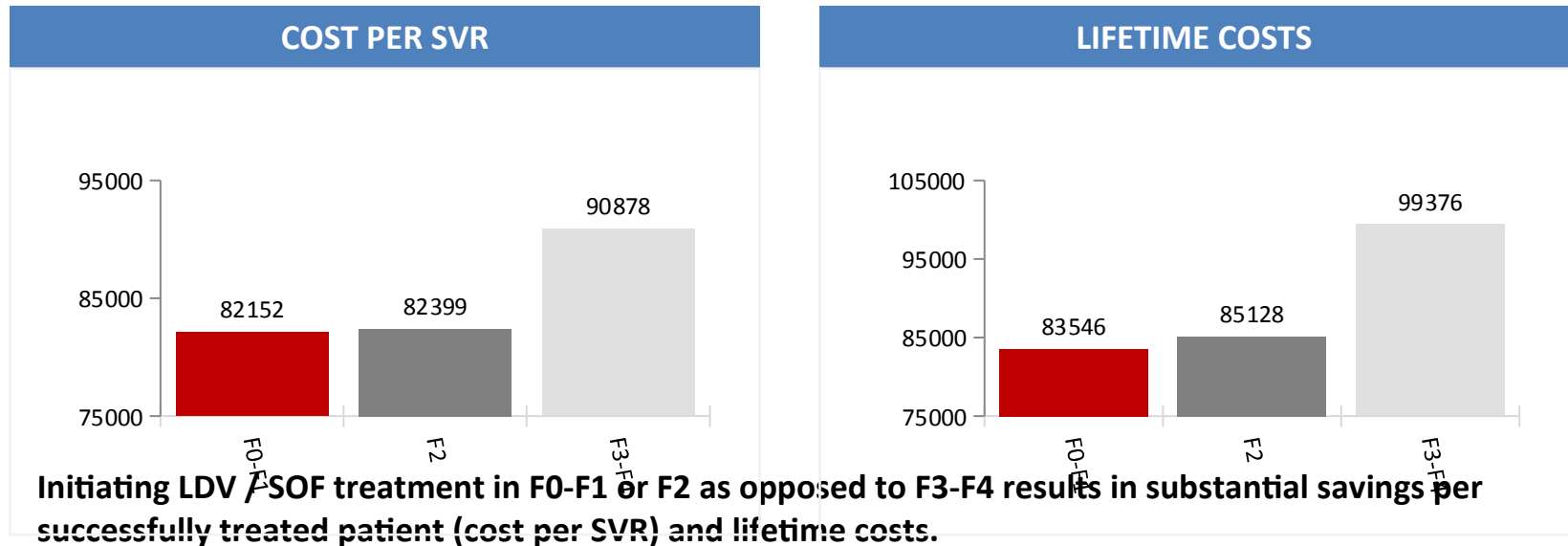
Costs associated with the care of HCV-infected patients increase with disease severity





# Evaluation of Health Outcomes from LDV/SOF Treatment of Patients with Early vs. Advanced Liver Fibrosis

Initiating LDV/SOF treatment at F0-F1 and F2 rather than F3-F4 reduces lifetime costs of treatment, and has a lower cost per SVR





# Benefits of early vs delayed treatment

- Retrospective analysis of pts with HCV infection in VA Clinical Case Registry[1]
  - Early vs delayed treatment associated with reduced risk of liver-related events and death
  - Risk of delaying treatment increases as disease severity increases, due to diminished likelihood of achieving SVR
- Markov disease utility state-transition modeling of OBV/PTV/RTV + DSV ± RBV therapy in genotype 1 HCV infection[2]
  - Treatment prolongs survival and quality of life vs watchful waiting
  - Treatment-related survival benefits of previously treated pts 1% to 6% lower than treatment-naive pts



And the true question is .....

Am I allowed to treat my patients with  
mild hepatitis C?



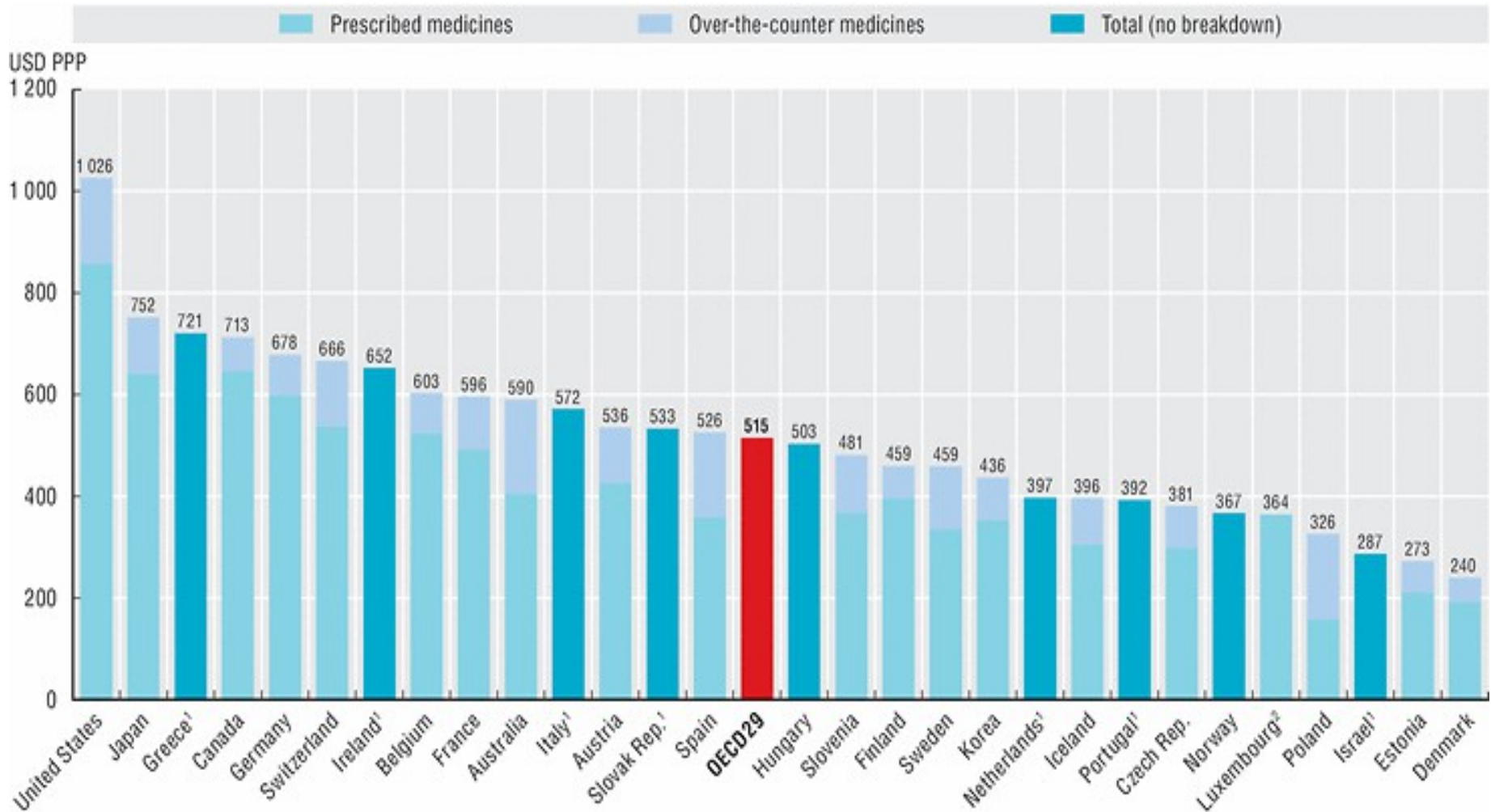
# Reimbursement of DAAs across some EU countries

	Ombitasvir/Dasabuvir/ Paritaprevir	Sofosbuvir/ Ledipasvir	Sofosbuvir	Simeprevir	Daclatasvir	Source
	Reimbursement (fibrosis stages)	Reimbursement (fibrosis stages)	Reimbursement (fibrosis stages)	Reimbursement (fibrosis stages)	Reimbursement (fibrosis stages)	
Germany	F0-F4	Per label	Per label	Per label	Per label	Lauer Taxe ( <a href="http://www.ifaffm.de/de/ifa-fuer-anbieter/ifa-redaktionskalender.html">http://www.ifaffm.de/de/ifa-fuer-anbieter/ifa-redaktionskalender.html</a> ). Official web site. Protected by password
France	F3-F4 + F2 severe	F4-F3, F2 severe	F4-F3, F2 severe	F4-F3, F2 severe	F4-F3, F2 severe	Official Journal, JOURNAL OFFICIEL DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE, aout 2015
UK	F4 (NHS policy) Scotland: F0-F4	See NHS policy	NICE approved (+PegR)	See NHS policy	See NHS policy	<a href="http://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2015/06/hep-c-cirrhosis-polcy-statmnt-0615.pdf">http://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2015/06/hep-c-cirrhosis-polcy-statmnt-0615.pdf</a>
Italy	F3-F4	F3-F4	F3-F4	F0-F4	F3-F4	GAZZETTA UFFICIALE DELLA REPUBBLICA ITALIANA No. 118, 2015
SPAIN	F2-F4	Per label	F4 + severe	Per label	Per label	Prices and reimbursement on <a href="https://botplusweb.portalfarma.com/botplus.aspx">https://botplusweb.portalfarma.com/botplus.aspx</a> (protected by password)
Sweden	F2-F4	F3-F4	F3-F4	F3-F4	F3-F4	<a href="http://www.apoteket.se">www.apoteket.se</a> or <a href="http://www.apotekhartat.se">www.apotekhartat.se</a> . <a href="http://www.TLV.se">www.TLV.se</a>
Finland	F3-F4	F3-F4	F3-F4	F3-F4	F3-F4	<a href="https://easointi.kela.fi/laakekys_app/LaakekysApplication?kieli=en">https://easointi.kela.fi/laakekys_app/LaakekysApplication?kieli=en</a>
DENMARK	F3-F4	F3-F4 (RADS Guid.)	F3-F4 (RADS Guid.)	F3-F4 (RADS Guid.)	F3-F4 (RADS Guid.)	prices and reimburseemnt status on <a href="http://www.medicinpriser.dk/">http://www.medicinpriser.dk/</a>
AUSTRIA	F2-F4	F2-F4	F2-F4	Not reimbursed	F2-F4	<a href="http://www.hauptverband.at/portal27/portal/hvbportal/emed/">http://www.hauptverband.at/portal27/portal/hvbportal/emed/</a>
Portugal	NA	All Fs	All Fs	Not reimbursed	Not reimbursed	<a href="http://www.infarmed.pt">www.infarmed.pt</a>
Turkey	NA	Not reimbursed	Not reimbursed	Not registered	Not registered	
Israel	F3-F4	Not reimbursed	Not reimbursed	Not reimbursed	Not reimbursed	<a href="http://www.old.health.gov.il/units/pharmacy/trufot/Ycran_ListN.asp?Letter=vielirax&amp;Sr_Type=T_Name&amp;p=1&amp;safa=e">http://www.old.health.gov.il/units/pharmacy/trufot/Ycran_ListN.asp?Letter=vielirax&amp;Sr_Type=T_Name&amp;p=1&amp;safa=e</a>
Switzerland	F2-F4	F3-F4	F3-F4	F3-F4	--	Compendium.ch
Luxembourg	F0-F4	Per label	Per label	Per label	Per label	<a href="http://www.cns.lu/prestataires/?m=55-41-28&amp;p=248">http://www.cns.lu/prestataires/?m=55-41-28&amp;p=248</a>
Netherlands	F0-F4	F0-F4	F3/F4 only	Full label	GT1 and GT4	Prices and reimbursement on <a href="https://www.medicijnkosten.nl/">https://www.medicijnkosten.nl/</a>



# Pharmaceutical Expenditure per Capita

OECD Health Statistics 2015

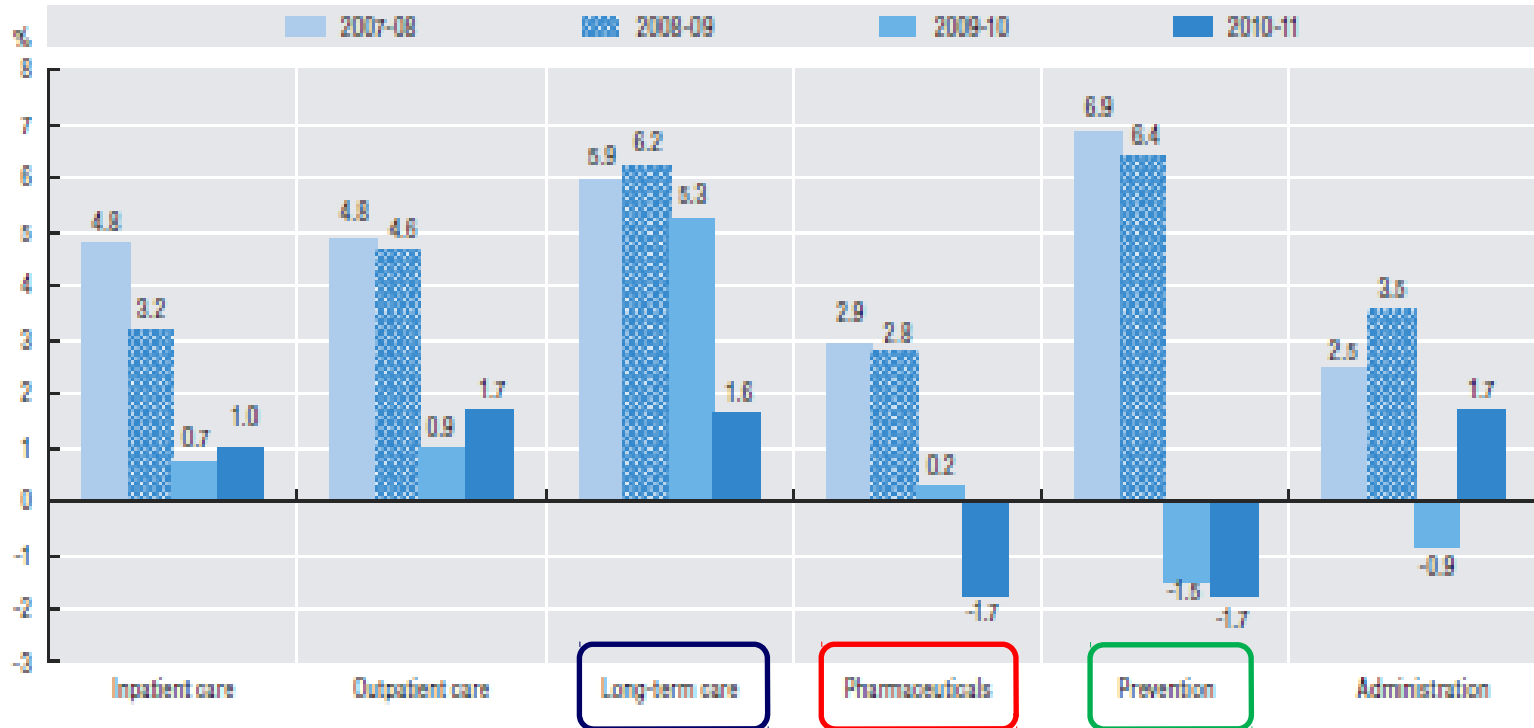






# Growth Change for Selected Functions

van Gool, *et al.*, OECD Working Papers 2014; DOI: 10.1787/18152015



- Average annual growth change for selected functions 2000-2011