

NURSING CONSIDERATIONS

Assess:

- Heart rate, B/P; severe bradycardia may occur with amiodarone used concurrently
- Serum HCV-RNA baseline and periodically
- Severe renal disease/GFR <30 mL/min/1.73 m²: monitor BUN, creatinine
- Closer monitoring in geriatric patients; may develop renal, cardiac symptoms more rapidly
- **HBV reactivation:** test is required before beginning therapy; monitor throughout, monitor coinfecting patients closely

Black Box Warning: Hepatitis B exacerbation: monitor HBsAg, HBV DNA, hepatic enzymes, bilirubin

- **Pregnancy:** if planned or suspected; if pregnant, call the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry, 1-800-258-4263; obtain pregnancy test before starting treatment; women who have HIV-1 and HCV who are taking antiretrovirals also should enroll with the registry

Evaluate:

- Therapeutic response: decreased symptoms of chronic hepatitis C

Teach patient/family:

- That optimal duration of treatment is unknown; that product is not a cure; that transmission may still occur
- To avoid use with other medications unless approved by prescriber
- Not to stop abruptly unless directed; worsening of hepatitis may occur, not to use alone, keep in original container
- **Pregnancy/breastfeeding:** to notify prescriber if pregnancy is planned or suspected; to use two forms of reliable contraception; to avoid breastfeeding

Black Box Warning: Hepatitis B exacerbation: to notify prescriber immediately of liver toxicity, yellow eyes or skin, fatigue, weakness, loss of appetite, nausea/vomiting, light-colored stools

sofosbuvir/velpatasvir

(soe-fos' bue-vir / vel-pat' as-vir)

Epclusa

Func. class.: Antiviral, antihepatitis agent

ACTION: Sofosbuvir: A nucleotide prodrug that prevents hepatitis C viral (HCV) replication by inhibiting the activity of HCV NS5B RNA polymerase. It undergoes intracellular metabolism to form an active uridine analog triphosphate. Hepatitis C virus NS5B RNA polymerase incorporates this metabolite into the viral RNA, where it acts as a chain terminator. It does not inhibit human DNA or RNA polymerase, nor does it block mitochondrial RNA polymerase

Velpatasvir: Inhibits the HCV NS5A protein, which is required for viral replication

USES: Treatment of chronic hepatitis C infection, including genotypes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, in those without cirrhosis and in patients with compensated cirrhosis (Child-Pugh A); treatment of chronic hepatitis C infection in patients with decompensated cirrhosis (Child-Pugh B or C)

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Hypersensitivity

Precautions: Breastfeeding, hepatitis C and HIV coinfection, male-mediated teratogenicity, pregnancy, renal failure/impairment

Black Box Warning: Hepatitis B exacerbation

DOSAGE AND ROUTES

Chronic hepatitis C infection in patients without cirrhosis and in patients with compensated cirrhosis (Child-Pugh A)

- **Adult:** PO 1 tablet (400 mg sofosbuvir; 100 mg velpatasvir) qday × 12 wk

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