



INFORMATION FOR PEOPLE PRESCRIBED MAVIRET

# MY GUIDE TO MAVIRET

FOR CHRONIC HEPATITIS C\*

\*MAVIRET is a prescription medicine used to treat adults and adolescents 12 years and older with chronic (long-lasting) hep C virus.

The people shown in this booklet are models, and are not actual patients.

abbvie

**MAVIRET**   
glecaprevir/pibrentasvir

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# WHAT IS MAVIRET?

**MAVIRET** IS A PRESCRIPTION MEDICINE USED TO TREAT ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS 12 YEARS AND OLDER WITH THE 6 MAJOR TYPES\* OF CHRONIC (LONG-LASTING) HEPATITIS C (HEP C).

## HOW DOES MAVIRET WORK?

**MAVIRET** is a combination of two medicines that work together to stop the hep C virus from multiplying and infecting new cells. This allows the infection to be eliminated from the body.

**MAVIRET** belongs to a group of medicines called direct-acting antiviral agents (DAAs) and is available in tablet form.

## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO TREAT HEP C?

The liver performs many vital functions, including removal of waste products, fighting infection, controlling bleeding, digesting food and storing energy.

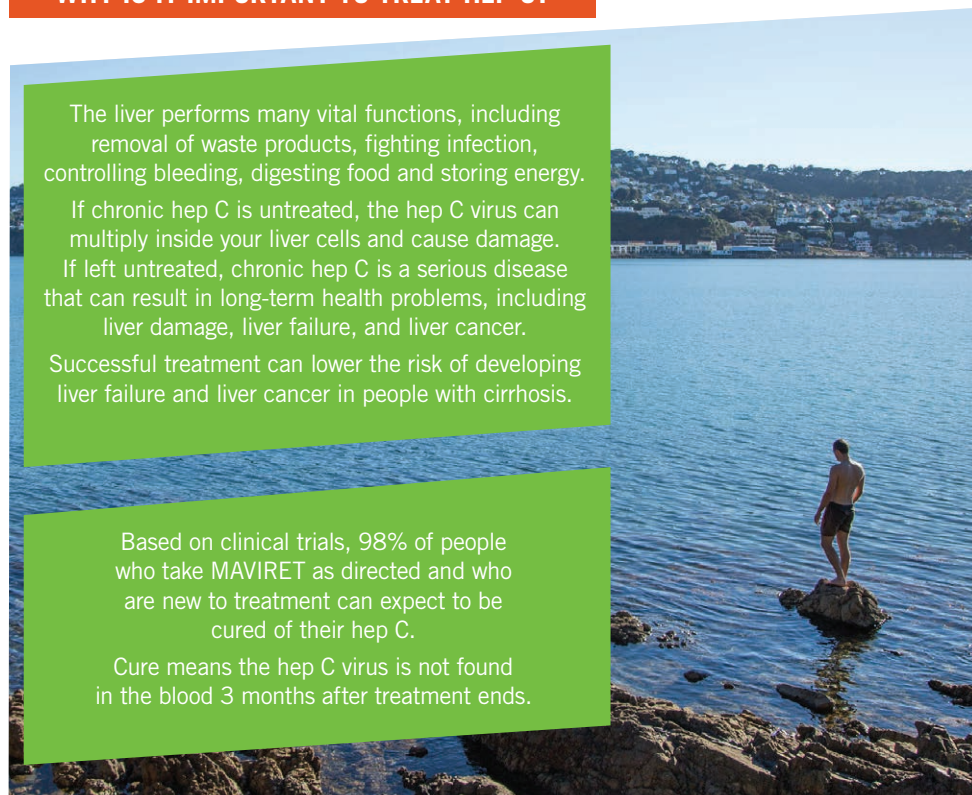
If chronic hep C is untreated, the hep C virus can multiply inside your liver cells and cause damage.

If left untreated, chronic hep C is a serious disease that can result in long-term health problems, including liver damage, liver failure, and liver cancer.

Successful treatment can lower the risk of developing liver failure and liver cancer in people with cirrhosis.

Based on clinical trials, 98% of people who take MAVIRET as directed and who are new to treatment can expect to be cured of their hep C.

Cure means the hep C virus is not found in the blood 3 months after treatment ends.



\*There are 6 major strains (genotypes) of the hep C virus.

**It is vital you complete your full course of treatment as directed by your healthcare professional to give your medicine the best chance of successfully clearing the virus.**

# WHERE DO I COLLECT MY MAVIRET FROM?

YOU CAN ONLY GET **MAVIRET** FROM CERTAIN PHARMACIES  
(ABBVIE CARE PHARMACIES).

Find your closest AbbVie Care Pharmacy on [www.maviret.co.nz](http://www.maviret.co.nz)  
or talk to your doctor or nurse.

**MAVIRET** tablets are packed into foil blister **daily dose packs**.

Each **weekly box** contains 7 of these foil blister daily dose packs.

A **monthly** carton contains 4 of these weekly boxes (84 tablets in total).

Foil blister / Daily dose pack



Weekly box



Monthly carton



Tablet images are for illustrative purposes only.

# MAVIRET DOSING

## WHAT DOSE DO I NEED TO TAKE?

If you have been prescribed MAVIRET your daily dose will be the same no matter which type of hep C you have.

The dose is the same for adults and adolescents (12 years and older).



### ONCE DAILY



3 tablets taken together, once a day with food.\*

## HOW DO I TAKE MY TABLETS?



### With food

It's vital you take your medication along with food. You can eat a snack like a banana, or yoghurt or have a full meal. It's up to you.



### Swallow each tablet whole

You must not chew, crush or break the tablets.



\*Tablet images are for illustrative purposes only.

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# HOW LONG SHOULD I TAKE MY TABLETS FOR?

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## TAKING MAVIRET

### **MOST PEOPLE TAKE MAVIRET FOR 8 WEEKS.**

Some people will need to take MAVIRET for 12 weeks or 16 weeks.

Your doctor will tell you how long you need to take MAVIRET for. Always take MAVIRET exactly as your doctor or pharmacist tells you.

Do not change your dose.



## TOO MUCH MAVIRET (OVERDOSE)

Immediately telephone your doctor, call the National Poisons Information Centre on 0800 POISON (0800 764 766), or go to your nearest Accident and Emergency if you think you or anyone else may have taken too much MAVIRET. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention.

It would be helpful to take the medicine pack with you so that you can show the doctor what you have taken.

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**Even if you are feeling better before the end of your course, it is vital that you keep taking MAVIRET every day unless you are told to stop by your healthcare professional. This will give you the best chance of successfully clearing the virus.**

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# WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I MISS A DOSE?

**IT'S VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU TAKE MAVIRET EVERY DAY AND DON'T MISS ANY DOSES.**

However, if you do miss a dose, please follow the instructions below.

## TIME SINCE DOSE WAS MISSED

LESS THAN **18**<sup>hrs</sup> **Take the missed dose with food as soon as possible.**  
Then take the next dose at your usual time.



**18**<sup>hrs</sup> OR MORE **Wait and take the next dose at your usual time.**  
Do not take a double dose (two doses too close together).



If you are not sure what to do, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

# WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I LOSE MY MEDICATION?

If you lose your medication, it is important that you contact your doctor to get a new prescription as quickly as possible.



# WHAT SIDE EFFECTS COULD I EXPERIENCE?

**ALL MEDICINES CAN HAVE SIDE EFFECTS.** MEDICINES CAN AFFECT DIFFERENT PEOPLE IN DIFFERENT WAYS. NOT EVERYONE WILL HAVE SIDE EFFECTS BUT KNOWING WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR MAY HELP YOU TO MANAGE THEM IF YOU DO.




**IF YOU ARE BOTHERED BY ANY SIDE EFFECTS, TELL YOUR DOCTOR, NURSE, OR PHARMACIST AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

You may not experience any of these side effects. Don't worry – this doesn't mean your treatment isn't working.

Most side effects are mild and don't last long.

More information about side effects is available in the Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) leaflet which is available from your pharmacist, [www.maviret.co.nz](http://www.maviret.co.nz), or [www.medsafe.govt.nz](http://www.medsafe.govt.nz)

## Likelihood of common side effects

Feeling very tired		11.4%
Headache		13.2%
Feeling sick (nausea)		7.6%

# CAN I TAKE OTHER MEDICINES WHILE I'M TAKING MAVIRET?

It is important to tell your doctor, nurse, and pharmacist about all the medicines you take. Also tell them about any supplements and remedies that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket, or health-food store.






Keep a list of your medicines to show your doctor and pharmacist.



**DON'T START ANY NEW MEDICINES WITHOUT TALKING TO YOUR DOCTOR OR PHARMACIST ABOUT WHETHER THEY CAN BE USED AT THE SAME TIME AS YOU ARE TAKING MAVIRET.**



# WHEN SHOULD YOU NOT TAKE MAVIRET?

-  If you have an allergy to any medicine containing glecaprevir or pibrentasvir (the active ingredients of MAVIRET), or any non-active ingredient of MAVIRET.
-  If you have severe liver disease.
-  If you are taking atazanavir (for HIV infection), rifampicin (for tuberculosis).
-  If you are under the age of 12 years.
-  After the expiry date printed on the pack or if the packaging is damaged or shows signs of tampering. If it is expired or is damaged, return it to your pharmacist for disposal.

## TELL YOUR DOCTOR IF:

- You have any allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.
- You have or have had any of the following medical conditions:
  - liver problems other than hepatitis C infection.
  - HIV (human immunodeficiency virus).
  - hepatitis B infection.
- You have diabetes and are taking treatment to help your blood glucose control.
- You have lactose intolerance.
- You have had a liver or kidney transplant.
- You are pregnant or trying to become pregnant.
- You are breastfeeding or are planning to breastfeed.

## HEPATITIS B INFECTION

You should be screened for hepatitis B before starting to take MAVIRET as the hepatitis B virus can become active again during treatment with MAVIRET.

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# IS IT OK TO TAKE MAVIRET IF I AM PREGNANT?

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## TELL YOUR DOCTOR OR PHARMACIST IF YOU ARE PREGNANT OR TRYING TO BECOME PREGNANT.

It is not known if taking MAVIRET while you are pregnant will harm your unborn baby. Your doctor can discuss the risks and benefits involved.

If you fall pregnant while on MAVIRET contact your doctor or nurse as soon as possible, to inform them.

Some contraceptives should not be taken during treatment, so your doctor may ask you to change your contraceptive.



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# CAN I BREASTFEED WHILE TAKING MAVIRET?

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It is not known if MAVIRET can be passed into breast milk. Your doctor can discuss the risks and benefits involved.

# SOME COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT TREATMENT

## HOW DO I COLLECT MAVIRET FROM THE PHARMACY?

**A: You can only get MAVIRET from certain pharmacies (AbbVie Care Pharmacies).** Find your closest AbbVie Care Pharmacy on [www.maviret.co.nz](http://www.maviret.co.nz) or talk to your doctor or nurse. After your doctor writes your prescription, take it to your chosen AbbVie Care Pharmacy. The Pharmacist will then order your MAVIRET and contact you when it's ready to pick up (this may take a few days). You will not have to pay pharmacy fees when you collect your MAVIRET each month.

## DOES IT REALLY MATTER WHEN I TAKE MAVIRET?

**A: Absolutely.** You must take your tablets daily as directed by your doctor. Taking MAVIRET at the same time each day will have the best effect. It will also help you remember when to take it.

## HOW CAN I REMEMBER TO TAKE MY MAVIRET EVERY DAY?

**A: There are lots of ways to help you remember to take your MAVIRET.**

For example, you could set a reminder on your phone or online calendar. Or you could leave sticky notes on the front door to remind you to take it before you go out.

## HOW DO I STORE MAVIRET?

**A: Keep your tablets in the pack until it is time to take them. Keep MAVIRET in a cool, dry place where the temperature stays below 30°C.** Do not store it in the bathroom, near a sink, or on a windowsill. Do not leave it in the car. Keep this medicine out of sight and reach of children. A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

## CAN I DRINK ALCOHOL WHILE ON MAVIRET?

**A: Ask your doctor for advice specific to you.** For a healthy liver, try to reduce or avoid alcohol.

## WILL MAVIRET AFFECT MY ABILITY TO DRIVE?

**A: MAVIRET should not affect your ability to drive or use machinery** but be careful until you know how MAVIRET affects you.

## WHAT HAPPENS AT THE END OF MY TREATMENT?

**A: It is a good idea to make a note of the date you take your last dose (end date for your treatment). 12 weeks after you finish your treatment you will need to have a blood test to check whether your treatment with MAVIRET has worked. Once the test results come back, your doctor will explain them to you.** When you get your results, there is a small chance that you will find out that the hep C virus has not been cleared. If this is the case, you will probably feel disappointed and frustrated that you are not cured. Talk to your doctor and nurse about your options, and how you can continue to look after your liver. It may also help to talk with close friends and family.

## WILL SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT PREVENT ME FROM GETTING HEP C IN THE FUTURE?

**A: No, MAVIRET is not a vaccine. You should take precautions to avoid re-infection.**

# USEFUL INFORMATION

## WHAT IS HEPATITIS C?

**“HEPATITIS” MEANS INFLAMMATION OF THE LIVER.**

**WHEN THE LIVER IS INFLAMED OR DAMAGED, ITS FUNCTION CAN BE AFFECTED.**

Hepatitis C, also known as “hep C”, is inflammation of the liver that results from infection with the hepatitis C virus.

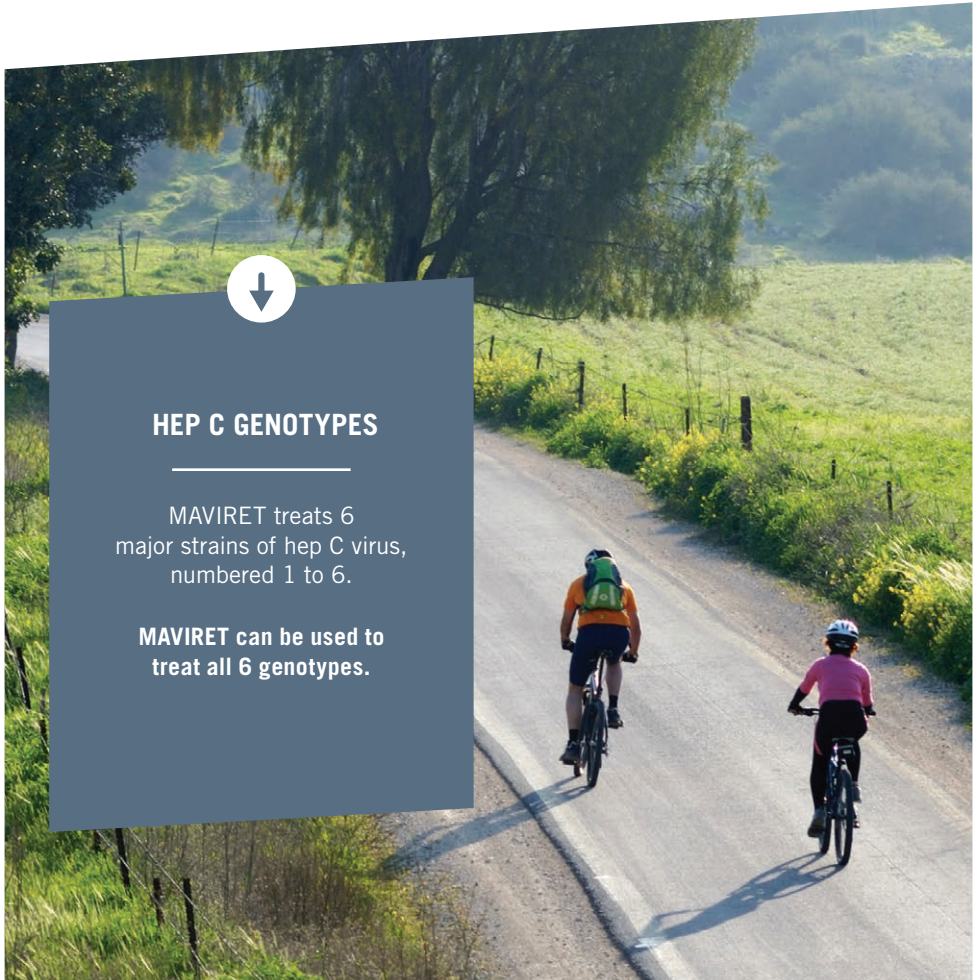
For more information, visit [www.hepcinfo.co.nz](http://www.hepcinfo.co.nz) and [www.maviret.co.nz](http://www.maviret.co.nz).



### HEP C GENOTYPES

MAVIRET treats 6 major strains of hep C virus, numbered 1 to 6.

**MAVIRET can be used to treat all 6 genotypes.**



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# TAKING CARE OF YOUR LIVER

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**EVEN WITH HEP C, THERE ARE PLENTY OF THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP PUT LESS STRAIN ON YOUR LIVER.**

**TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR FOR ADVICE.**

## WHAT SHOULD YOU BE EATING?

For most people, your diet should be the same as anyone else would follow for good health. That means a **variety of fruits and vegetables, lean protein** (e.g. meat, chicken, seafood, eggs), **whole grain breads and cereals**. Your doctor will advise if there is anything you need to avoid.

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## OTHER MEDICATIONS

Some medicines can cause **damage to the liver** so **always talk to your doctor, nurse or pharmacist** before taking any other medications, including ones you can buy without prescription.

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## GET ACTIVE

Regular exercise has plenty of health benefits. For people who have or who are at risk of liver disease, it's an important part of maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

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## AVOID ALCOHOL

Minimise alcohol intake. It can damage liver cells and lead to swelling or scarring, which can in turn lead to cirrhosis.

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# IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Hep C Doctor: _____	Phone: _____
Nurse: _____	Phone: _____
Pharmacist: _____	Phone: _____
GP: _____	Phone: _____
Other: _____	Phone: _____

**If you need help, the best person to call is your doctor or nurse. If it's an emergency, go directly to your nearest hospital or accident and emergency centre.**

The Hepatitis Foundation offers information, support, and links to other healthcare organisations in your community. You can call them toll-free on **0800 33 20 10** or visit their website at **[www.hepatitisfoundation.org.nz](http://www.hepatitisfoundation.org.nz)**.

# DATES TO REMEMBER

Treatment start date: _____
Blood tests: _____
Clinic visits: _____
Pharmacy visits: _____
Treatment end date: _____
Blood test 12 weeks after treatment: _____

MAVIRET is a fully funded medicine with an alternative arrangement on how it is available to you. Your prescriber will explain this to you.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT MAVIRET®**

MAVIRET® is a prescription medicine containing a combination tablet of 100 mg of glecaprevir and 40 mg of pibrentasvir. It is used to treat adults and adolescents 12 years and older with chronic (long-lasting) hepatitis C virus (HCV). This medicine belongs to a group of medicines called direct-acting antiviral agents. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why MAVIRET® has been prescribed for you.

**MAVIRET has risks and benefits.** You must not take MAVIRET® if you are allergic to any of the medicines contained in MAVIRET®, or to any of the inactive ingredients. Do not take it if you have severe liver disease; if you are taking atazanavir or rifampicin containing products. Before you use MAVIRET®, tell your doctor if you have or have had liver problems other than hepatitis C infection, HIV infection, hepatitis B infection, or a liver or kidney transplant. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have or have had diabetes. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are pregnant, trying to become pregnant or if you are breastfeeding or are planning to breastfeed. Do not give MAVIRET® to a child under the age of 12 years. Some medicines and MAVIRET® may interfere with each other, so tell your doctor if you are taking medicines containing any of the following: atorvastatin, simvastatin, pravastatin, rosuvastatin, lovastatin, carbamazepine, ciclosporin, darunavir, lopinavir, ritonavir, efavirenz, dabigatran, digoxin, ethinyloestradiol, fluindione, warfarin or other vitamin K antagonists, St John's wort. Some of the more common side effects of MAVIRET include feeling very tired, headache and nausea. Other side effects may occur in some people. Tell your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you notice anything that is making you feel unwell.

**If you have any questions about using MAVIRET, including its risks and benefits, how much to use, how and when to use it, ask your healthcare professional and refer to the Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) available from [abbv.ie/nz-mav-cmi](http://abbv.ie/nz-mav-cmi) or free phone 0800 900 030. Ask your doctor if MAVIRET is right for you. Normal doctor's charges apply. Always use strictly as directed. If symptoms continue, or you have side effects, see your doctor, pharmacist or healthcare professional.**



