

hepc . bulletin

Canada's Hepatitis C News Bulletin

www.hepcbc.ca

NEWS

SETROBUVIR (ANA598)

Anadys Pharmaceuticals' Setrobuvir (ANA598) is an oral non-nucleoside polymerase inhibitor for the treatment of HCV, designed to inhibit the virus in genotypes 1a and 1b. It has proven to be highly powerful in cell cultures and has been proven safe in over 150 human subjects.

The product has US FDA fast-track status as of December 2008. At the EASL Conference 2009, the company reported that ANA598 produced viral load reductions at the end of treatment (day 4) of over 2 log₁₀ (more than 99%) at all dose levels. With twice daily dosing, 200 mg produced an average viral load drop of 2.4 log₁₀; 400 mg produced a 2.3 log₁₀; and 800 mg produced a 2.9 log₁₀. Genotype 1a subjects showed average drops of 1.4 log₁₀, 1.8 log₁₀, and 2.5 log₁₀ at those doses, and genotype 1b patients showed average drops of 2.6 log₁₀, 2.5 log₁₀, and 3.2 log₁₀.

Anadys has now begun a Phase IIb study combining it with pegIFN/RBV (Pegasys/Copegus) in non-responders and treatment-naïve patients. Results at 12 weeks of treatment are expected shortly, and 24-week results are expected in the last quarter of this year. On June 2, 2011, the product was granted a US patent.

Source:

<http://processandproduction.pharmaceutical-business-review.com/news/us-patent-for-anadys-pharma-covering-setrobuvir-020611>

MERICITABINE (RG7128)

Mericitabine is a nucleoside analog NS5B polymerase inhibitor produced by Roche/Genentech. Pre-clinical trials showed the product to be promising. The present JUMP-C study, was designed by Paul Pokros and his team at the Scripps Clinic, and enrolled 166 treatment-naïve subjects with genotype 1 or 4, the most difficult to treat. Approximately 25% of the subjects had advanced fibrosis or cirrhosis. Patients received either peg-IFN/RBV (standard therapy) with or without mericitabine. Group 1 took 24 weeks of tri-

ple therapy, and those with eRVR stopped therapy, while those who didn't have eRVR took pegIFN/RBV alone for another 24 weeks. Group 2 took pegIFN/RBV for 48 weeks.

60% of the mericitabine group stopped treatment at 24 weeks, and 76% of those had sustained their response at 12 weeks post-treatment. Those who took triple therapy and didn't respond by 24 weeks had results like the patients taking standard therapy, i.e., 56% still had undetectable virus at week 36. Side effects were similar in all arms of the trial. No resistant strains were seen in the mericitabine patients.

Source:

www.hivandhepatitis.com/2011_conference/easl2011/docs/0404_2010_c.html

TEGOBUVIR (GS-9190) + GS-9256

(Continued on page 3)

CLINICAL TRIALS MINI-GLOSSARY

- cEVR = Complete Early Virological Response (No Virus Detected after 12 Weeks.)
- EVR = Early Virological Response (2 log drop of HCV RNA after 12 Weeks.)
- RVR = HCV No Virus Detected at Week 4
- eRVR = Virus < 15 IU/ml week 4-22.
- SVR12 = No Virus Detected at 12 Weeks after completion of treatment.
- SVR24 = No Virus Detected at 24 Weeks after completion of treatment.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

News / Toler / Kevorkian	1
Boosting Therapy	3
World Hepatitis Day Events	4
"The Faces of Hepatitis C"	5
Hep C on the Internet / HepCBC Marathon	6
Conferences	7
PegCARE/PegAssist/Neupogen/Compensation	7
Coming Up	8

"DYING IS NOT A CRIME"

Jack Kevorkian
May 26, 1928–June 3, 2011

Known as Dr. Death, Jack Kevorkian met his own Dr. Death on June 3rd. Hated by many, admired by others—whatever your opinion, he has influenced policy changes in several areas of North America, Europe and the rest of the world.



Many people, faced with a diagnosis of a terminal disease, have investigated the possibility of a painless death.

Most of us fear not death, but the pain that might accompany dying. Now, many doctors will prescribe enough painkillers to ease any amount of pain experienced by a terminally-ill patient with a limited life expectancy, no matter what effect that might have on the patient's longevity. This is referred to as palliative care. Many religions condone this practice. Physician-assisted suicide, however, is legal only in 3 US states: Montana, Ore-

(Continued on page 5)

DAVID "FRANKIE" TOLER



June 28, 1951-
June 4, 2011

Photo: http://swampland.com/posts/view/title:frankie_toler RIP

Possibly most famous for being the drummer for the Allman Brothers Band, Frankie Toler suffered from ill health for several years due to hepatitis C, and had a second liver transplant 2 years ago.

Surviving him are his wife Marsha, a daughter Aja, and his big brother Dan, a gui-

(Continued on page 5)

SUBSCRIPTION/ORDER FORM

Please fill out & include a cheque made out to HepCBC - Send to our NEW address:

HepCBC
2642 Quadra Street
PO Box 46009
Victoria, BC V8T-5G7

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov. ____ PC _____

Home(____) _____ Work(____) _____

Email: _____

Please email me a PDF copy, free of charge.

Membership + Subscription (1 year)\$20.00

Membership Only\$10.00
(Doesn't include the *hepc.bull*)

Subscription Only\$10.00
(Doesn't include membership privileges)

Peppermint Patti's FAQ\$12.00

Resource CD\$10.00

"I enclose a donation of\$ _____
so that others may receive the bulletin."

TOTAL: _____

"I cannot afford to subscribe at this time, but I would like to receive the bulletin."

"I want to volunteer. Please contact me."

"I want to join a support group. Please call."

(Note: The *hepc.bull* is mailed with no reference to hepatitis on the envelope.)

You may also subscribe or donate on line via PayPal at www.hepcbc.ca/orderform.htm

SUBMISSIONS: The deadline for any contributions to the *hepc.bull*® is the 15th of each month. Please contact the editors at jkling2005@shaw.ca, (250) 595-3892. The editors reserve the right to edit and cut articles in the interest of space.

ADVERTISING: The deadline for placing advertisements in the *hepc.bull* is the 12th of each month. Rates are as follows:

Newsletter Ads: Maximum 4 per issue, if space allows. \$20 for business card size ad, per issue. Payments will be refunded if the ad is not published.

HOW TO REACH US:

EDITOR: _____
PHONE: _____
FAX: _____
EMAIL: _____
WEBSITE: _____

Joan King
(250) 595-3892
(250) 595-3865
info@hepcbc.ca
www.hepcbc.ca

HepCBC
2642 Quadra Street, PO Box 46009
Victoria, BC V8T-5G7

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

The *hepc.bull* welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. When writing to us, please let us know if you *do not* want your letter and/or name to appear in the bulletin.

FAQ version 8.3

Peppermint Patti's **FAQ Version 8.3** is **NOW AVAILABLE**. Version 8 is available in FRENCH and Version 7.1 is available in SPANISH. The ENGLISH version includes treatment information and research from 2009. Place your orders now. Over 140 pages of information for only \$12 each. Contact HepCBC at (250) 595-3892 or info@hepcbc.ca

HepCBC Resource CD

The CD contains back issues of the *hepc.bull* from 1997-2011; the FAQ V8.3; the slide presentations developed by Alan Franciscus; and all of HepCBC's pamphlets. The Resource CD costs \$10 including S&H. Please send cheque or money order to the address on the subscription/order form on this page.

DISCLAIMER: The *hepc.bull*® cannot endorse any physician, product or treatment. Any guests invited to our groups to speak, do so to add to our information only. What they say should not necessarily be considered medical advice, unless they are medical doctors. The information you receive may help you make an informed decision. Please consult with your health practitioner before considering any therapy or surgery protocol. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editors, of HepCBC or of any other group.

REPRINTS

Past articles are available at a low cost in hard copy and on CD ROM. For a list of articles and prices, write to HepCBC.

THANKS!!

HepCBC thanks the following institutions and individuals for their generosity: The late John Crooks, A-Channel News, The Ocean, JackFM, Community Living Victoria, Provincial Employees Community Services Fund, Dr. C. D. Mazoff, Lorie FitzGerald, Chris Foster, Judith Fry, United Way, and the newsletter team: Beverly Atlas, Diana Ludgate, Alp, Judy Klassen, and S. J.

Please patronize the following businesses that have helped us: Top Shelf Bookkeeping, Thrifty Foods, Samuel's Restaurant, Margison Bros. Printers, Roche Canada, VanCity, Merck Canada, Shoppers Drug Mart, and the Victoria Foundation. Heartfelt thanks to Blackwell Science for a subscription renewal to gastrohep.com.

Special thanks to Thrifty Foods for putting our donation tins at their tills in these stores: Greater Victoria: Quadra, Cloverdale, Hillside Mall, Tuscany, Broadmead, Fairfield, James Bay, Admirals Walk, Colwood, Central Saanich, and Sidney. Lower Mainland: Tsawwassen, Coquitlam, Port Moody. Also: Salt Spring and Mill Bay.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday September 20, 2011
6:30 PM

1947 Cook Street,
Victoria, BC

(Victoria Health Unit, Activity Room)

Schedule:

6:00-7:30pm Welcome and Main Speaker

7:30-8:30pm Annual General Meeting

AGENDA:

- Approve minutes of AGM 2010
- Set number of directors (We are looking for new directors)
- Election of those directors
- President's Report
- Coordinator and Staff Report
- Financial Report

Main Speaker & Topic: T.B.A.

Refreshments provided. Public welcome. No charge. Must be a member to vote. Hope to see you there.

A member is entitled to one vote at a meeting of members, and must become a member at least 30 days prior to the meeting to be able to vote.

TIP OF THE MONTH: TRYING ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE?

Add only one ingredient at a time. Try the product for 1 month. Get an ALT/AST test before, during and after treatment. If ALT/ASTs get worse, STOP. If they don't improve, don't waste your money.



DIAL-A-DIETITIAN

(604) 732-9191 or
1 (800) 667-3438

www.dialadietitian.org

Dietitians of Canada: www.dietitians.ca



NEED A BETTER RESUME?

We need a volunteer Executive Director. Also needed: Board members, summarizing, telephone buddies, translation English to Spanish or French. Please contact us at (250) 595-3892 or info@hepcbc.ca

PRE-PLANNING YOUR FINAL ARRANGEMENTS?

Please consider arranging for donations to your local hepatitis C organization.

(NEWS—Continued from page 1)

Tegobuvir (GS-9190) is a non-nucleoside HCV NS5B polymerase inhibitor produced by Gilead Sciences. GS-9256, also produced by Gilead, is a macrocyclic HCV NS3 protease inhibitor. These products work well together in GT1 patients, when combined with pegIFN/RBV, according to reports from EASL 2011, where the company shared posters from its Phase IIb trial about combining tegobuvir with pegIFN/RBV, and other earlier reports on tegobuvir combined with GS-9256 with other products.

Tegobuvir + Standard Therapy

The first study presented was a Phase IIb trial, tegobuvir plus pegIFN/RBV, for either 24 or 48 weeks. 252 treatment naïve GT1 patients with or without cirrhosis were enrolled. The first group took pegIFN/RBV, standard doses + placebo for 48 weeks. The 2nd group took pegIFN/RBV + 40 mg tegobuvir for 48 weeks. The 3rd group was the same dosing as group 2, but stopped if they had an extended rapid virological response (eRVR), or continued for 48 weeks. SVR rates were 56% in all 3 arms. The SVR rate in the patients who achieved RVR and could stop treatment at 24 weeks was 96%, but more of them dropped out because of the side effects (fever, muscle pain, itching), lowering the average.

Tegobuvir with GS-9256

The second study presented preliminary results from a trial of 46 subjects who took either (1) tegobuvir/GS-9256 alone, (2) tegobuvir/GS-9256/ribavirin or (3) tegobuvir/GS-9256/pegIFN/ribavirin for 4 weeks before continuing on pegIFN/RBV alone.

At 24 weeks, the response rates were 100%, 100%, and 67%, respectively.

Source:

www.hivandhepatitis.com/2011_conference/easl2011/docs/0423_2010_a.html 4/23/11

BI 201335

BI 201335 is an NS3/4A protease inhibitor produced by Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals. It has been shown to be effective in previous trials, and now the company has begun to recruit 1,875 HCV+ subjects, starting with North America, for a Phase III trial which will investigate BI 201335 plus pegIFN/RBV in both treatment-experienced and naïve HCV+ GT1 patients. The US FDA has granted Fast Track designation for BI 201335. There are currently three Phase III trials enrolling patients in the US, Canada, Taiwan and Korea. Results from the Phase III studies are expected in the first half of 2013

Source:

www.natap.org/2011/HCV/043011_03.htm 27 April 2011

FILIBUVIR

Filbuvir is one of the direct-acting anti-HCV agents. More specifically, it is an NS5B non-nucleoside polymerase inhibitor. In two recent Phase Ib studies, several different doses were tested in both treatment-naïve and -experienced subjects with GT1. The doses went from 200 to 1400 mg daily for 3 to 10 days. The best results were seen with the higher doses, resulting in an average drop of 2.30 log₁₀ in the naïve patients taking 700 mg twice daily. In the experienced patients, the highest dose was 450 mg daily, and it produced a viral load drop of 2.20 log₁₀. Side effects were mild to moderate, and there were no drop-outs. Trials are underway combining the drug with pegIFN/RBV in treatment-naïve patients.

Source:

www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21488067

AZD7295

AZD7295 is an HCV NS5A inhibitor, specially designed to be effective against HCV genotype 1b. The drug collects well in the liver, according to preclinical tests. The results given here were for a clinical trial in both treatment-experienced and -naïve GT1 and GT3 patients with no cirrhosis. The drug or a placebo was taken for 5 days at different doses, testing effectiveness and safety. The best results were seen in the highest doses in GT1b subjects, who showed drops of 1.2 to 2.1 logs at Day 6. The drug was well tolerated up to 700 mg a day, and works well in GT1b

(Continued on page 5)

BOOSTING THERAPY

CLEMIZOLE

Clemizole, produced by Eiger Bio-Pharmaceuticals, is an inhibitor of the virus' NS4B-RNA binding. This recently-discovered binding has become a target for new drugs, since the binding is needed for the virus to replicate. Clemizole is being investigated in all genotypes, in several clinical trials, as a substance to boost standard of care medications, making them more effective and decreasing resistance, since it targets the interaction between NS4B and the HCV-RNA. Adding clemizole to protease inhibitors may allow them to be used at lower doses, while keeping the desired antiviral effect and avoiding the side-effects caused by the protease inhibitors such as rash and anemia. "Clemizole has the potential to be an ideal component of future anti-HCV

cocktails," said the company's founder, Dr. Jeffrey Glenn, M.D., Ph.D.

Source:

[www.therapeuticsdaily.com/news/article.cfm?](http://www.therapeuticsdaily.com/news/article.cfm?contentValue=715070&contentType=newsarchive&channelID=26)

[con-](http://www.therapeuticsdaily.com/news/article.cfm?contentValue=715070&contentType=newsarchive&channelID=26)

[tentValue=715070&contentType=newsarchive&channelID=26](http://www.therapeuticsdaily.com/news/article.cfm?contentValue=715070&contentType=newsarchive&channelID=26) Jul. 01, 2010

ABT-450

ABT-450 is an oral acylsulfonamide protease inhibitor developed by Abbott and Enanta. The drug works better if boosted with ritonavir (RTV), according to information reported at the AASLD 2010. The study (M11-602) had 3 arms. 24 GT1 patients received either ABT-450/r (boosted with ritonavir) or either of the polymerase inhibitors ABT-072 or ABT 333. 11 patients received a placebo. The companies reported that ABT-450/r 3-Day monotherapy lowered the viral load significantly. The product boosted with RTV became 28-48 times more powerful, so it will be produced together with low-dose RTV so it can be taken once a day. The maximum viral load decrease was 4.02 log₁₀. There were no serious adverse events.

Source:

http://natap.org/2010/AASLD/AASLD_52.htm

DANOPREVRIL + RITONAVIR + PegIFN/RBV

Danoprevir (RG7227 or ITMN-191) is an NS3/4A serine protease inhibitor. Abbot's Ritonavir (RTV or Norvir) is an HIV protease inhibitor that inhibits a liver enzyme called CYP3A4. CYP3A4 metabolizes the "good" protease inhibitors, weakening them. RTV lets the "good" protease inhibitors work longer, so a lower dose of them can be just as effective. This drug is already FDA-approved for use in HIV/AIDS. It has been used in co-infected patients, and is being used in trials to "boost" some Hep C protease inhibitors in patients infected with only HCV.

This trial was designed for GT1 patients who had no response to previous therapy with pegIFN/RBV plus Danoprevir.

24 patients were treated for 12 weeks with danoprevir/ritonavir/pegIFN/RBV, and some continued for 36 weeks of pegIFN/RBV alone. The rapid response rate for GT1b patients was 88%, with only 6% breakthrough cases by week 12. Unfortunately breakthrough was 50% for GT1a patients by week eight.

The researchers plan to add another drug in GT1 null responders, such as mericitabine (RG7128).

Source: www.clinicaloptions.com/Hepatitis/Conference%20Coverage/Vienna%202010/Tracks/HCV/HCV/Pages/Page%207.aspx
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ritonavir>



WHD EVENTS 2011

BRITISH COLUMBIA

ANKORS (Nelson, Trail, Castlegar, Grand Forks) Awareness Events, Community Bash
Grand Forks Wildlife Hall July 28th
Trail booth at regional hospital; downtown Nelson booth, Castlegar booth
Presentation: Lesley Gallagher, Vancouver Pender Clinic
Karen, support@ankors.bc.ca
www.ankors.bc.ca/

Hepatitis Kelowna Outreach Program/Living Positive Resource Centre
Education and Awareness Event
July 28th Location TBA
Lisa, ljmortell@shaw.ca

AIDS Vancouver Island Campbell River BBQ, Awareness Events
July 27th, 11:00am-2:00pm
Campbell River Commons, rear parking lot
Jeanette, Jeanette.reinhardt@avi.org

AIDS Vancouver Island Courtenay BBQ, Awareness Events
July 28th, 11:00am-2:00pm
Simms Park
Jeanette, Jeanette.reinhardt@avi.org

ALBERTA

Safeworks Calgary
Education and Awareness Events July 28th
Calgary Drop In Centre, Centre of Hope, Sheldon Chumir Health Centre
diane.nielson@albertahealthservices.ca
Linda, linda.ton@albertahealthservices.ca

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

NWT HIV HEP C Support Network (Yellowknife)
BBQ and Education and Awareness Event
July 28th, 11:00am-2:00pm
Franklin Ave, in front of the post office
Debbie & Audrey, drussell@northwestel.net
<http://nwthhsn.ca/>

QUEBEC

Centre Associatif Polyvalent d'Aide Hépatite C
Awareness Events throughout Quebec
Various dates
Laurence, capahc@hotmail.com
www.capahc.com/

ONTARIO

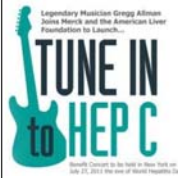
AIDS Committee of North Bay & Area Open House
July 28th, 1-3:30pm
269 Main St. West, Suite 201
Shannon, hepcmmcoo@ gmail.com
www.aidsnorthbay.com/

Wayside House of Hamilton
July 28th
The Salvation Army Booth Centre, 94 York Blvd
Jemelle Maynard, Jemelle.hepc@gmail.com
www.waysidehouse.ca/

Toronto Hepatitis C Alliance
Community Health Fair in Yonge-Dundas Square
July 28th, 2-8pm
Yonge-Dundas Square, Toronto
Michael, mbrito@catie.ca

Canadian Liver Foundation (Toronto)
Chinese liver health forum "Demystify Hepatitis ABC". Info booths: "Finding Family Doctors" "Drug Safety Advice" and "Insurance Help"
July 23rd, 1-6pm
CICS Immigration Centre, 2330 Midland Ave, Scarborough
Daphne, dshih@liver.ca www.liver.ca/

Teen Health Centre—Hep C Support & Treatment (Windsor)
BBQ July 22nd
Downtown Windsor
Rola, rosman@teenhealthcentre.com



Merck, together with musician Gregg Allman and the American Liver Foundation will produce a benefit concert with The Allman Brothers Band in New York July 27th, the eve of World Hepatitis Day. The event "Tune in to Hep C" will take place at the Beacon Theatre.

"Gregg's willingness to share his story will open the door for meaningful dialogue that can help reduce stigma and the lack of understanding surrounding chronic hepatitis C," commented Newton Guerin, CEO of ALF.

Tickets available at LiveNation.com, Ticketmaster.com, and The Beacon Theatre box office.

Proceeds will be go to community-based organizations providing education and support to those with Hep C.

Source: www.musicstack.com/articles/gregg-allman-to-lead-benefit-concert-for-world-hepatitis-day

Hastings and Prince Edward Counties Health Unit (Belleville)

Education and Awareness Event
July 25th-July 29th
Various locations: Belleville, Trenton, Bancroft, Picton, Madoc
David, david.ryding@hpechu.on.ca
www.hpechu.on.ca

Sanguen Health Centre (Waterloo)
Open House July 28th, 11:30am-3:30pm
29 Young St. E., Waterloo, ON,
Jan, jklotz@sanguen.com www.sanguen.com/

Street Health Centre – Kingston Community Health Centre - Awareness Events
July 28th & the following week
Different locations across Kingston
Christinah, christinahk@streethealth.kchc.ca
www.kchc.ca/sh.shtml

AIDS Thunder Bay BBQ, Open House, Clients' Art Display
July 28th
574 Memorial Ave
Rhonda, rstock@aidsthunderbay.org
www.aidsthunderbay.org/

Access AIDS Network (Sudbury)
July 25th, 26th, & 27th Street Outreach
July 28th, 11:00am-4:00pm Awareness Event
Downtown Mall
Lori, lorim@accessaidsnetwork.com
www.accessaidsnetwork.com/

Hepatitis C Program – Timmins Family Health Team Open House
July 28th, all day event
300-123 Third Ave, Timmins
Annie, alauzon@timminsfht.ca
www.timminsfht.ca/

NOVA SCOTIA

Hepatitis Outreach Society of Nova Scotia (HepNS) Awareness Events
July 28th, 10am -1 pm
Colin Green, director@hepatitisoutreach.com
www.hepatitisoutreach.com/

<http://whdcanada.ca/LinkClick.aspx?link=79&tabid=72>

WORLD HEPATITIS DAY 2011



**Open House to
promote the Education,
Prevention and Awareness of
Hepatitis C**

**July 28, 2011 12-2 PM
Positive Haven
10697-135A St
Surrey, BC**

**Short Awareness Walk to
Surrey Central Plaza
Flower Ceremony in memory
of our loved ones.**

**~ Speakers ~ ~ Goodies ~
~ Prizes ~ ~ Entertainment ~
~ Confidential HCV Testing ~**



Contact: Joan
(604) 576-2022
info@hepcbc.ca

Made possible through financial support by Merck



**AIDS Vancouver Island
Health Fair in Centennial
Square on World Hepatitis
Awareness Day, Thursday**

July 28th, 11:00am – 2:00pm, with participation from a number of local healthcare and service providers, including HepCBC, Cool Aid Health Center, and VIHA Street Nurses. Entertainment, speakers, snacks, and other goodies. Everyone welcome. More info contact Hermione: 250-384-2366 ext 2270



WORLD HEPATITIS DAY



THE FACES OF HEPATITIS C

Mindy's note: Selles was a very courageous woman and helped so many. She passed not long after her transplant. Thought I would share with you what she wrote .

Dear Family and Friends;

I sat down and wrote this today. It came from somewhere so deep I didn't even have time to think about it....It just happened. I just hope it means something to you as well.



The Faces of Hepatitis C

*You are a doctor or a nurse--You are a fifth grade teacher
Your skin is white or brown or black---You are Mexican or Asian,
Caucasian or African American*

You are very old, have grandchildren, near the end of your golden years---

*You are middle aged--children grown and gone ready to 'enjoy' your life--
You are a young mother with a small child-- a young father
trying to provide for his family*

*You are a teenager--waiting for proms, boy or girlfriends, your first kiss,
dreaming of college and a car of your own*

You are a newborn baby lying in your mother's arms---

YOU are the faces of Hepatitis C



*I may not recognize you as you pass me on the street or in the store
where I shop or the church where I worship, but you are there---*

The faces of Hepatitis C

My heart cries out for you, for what fate has given you---

It was not your fault---it was just meant to be

My heart swells with pride for you---your courage, your faith---

You have been asked to keep on going when others would have given up.

The faces of Hepatitis C

You wait anxiously for a drug that will rid you of this virus growing inside---

You wait anxiously for another loving person to give you

"The Gift of Life"

The gift of their own liver at the end of THEIR life...

I am filled with love for each of you---my brother---my sister

Those I have met and those I will never know---

You see---I am one of those faces

The faces of Hepatitis C

by Selles Dole

05/28/05

*Selles Dole died on November 29, 2008. Her words live on.
Reprinted with the kind permission of Delphi HepCentre
Bulletin Board.*



(KEVORKIAN—Continued from page 1)

gon and Washington, and there are strict guidelines that must be followed. But this article is about Dr. Kevorkian, not about the right to die.

Dr. Kevorkian was not just a doctor, not just an activist. He was also a talented composer, musician (flute and organ) and artist. You can find his artwork on the Internet. His paintings embody his obsession with Death, rather like the works of Frida Kahlo put a face to Pain. The doctor spent 8 years in prison, convicted for second-degree murder for assisting patients to die. He sometimes took people at their word and did not gather enough evidence to prove that they were terminally ill. That sealed his conviction. He was released on parole in June 2007 after promising not to assist in any more deaths.

A movie, *You Don't Know Jack*, starring Al Pacino, Susan Sarandon and John Goodman, was about his life and work.

Interestingly, Kevorkian did not end his own life. "According to his attorney, Mayer Morganroth, there were no artificial attempts to keep him alive and his death was painless."

He suffered from kidney disease for years, had liver cancer, developed pneumonia, and died of a blot clot. Oh--and he had Hep C.

Joan King, editor

Sources: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jack_Kevorkian

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palliative_care

<http://bcc.rcav.org/component/content/article/1-latest-news/325-palliative-care-in-line-with-catholic-doctrine-and-tradition->

(FRANKIE—Continued from page 1)

tarist who played with Frankie in several groups. Among his best-known albums are Atlanta's Burning Down (1978), Brothers of the Road (1981), and I'm No Angel (1986).

"Frankie was a big part of that era of the Brothers. We had amazing times and we stayed great friends."-- Gregg Allman

Source: http://www.denverpost.com/search/ci_18227219

(NEWS—Continued from page 3)

patients.

The company has planned a Phase II study with a new formulation of the drug, and is combining it with pegIFN/RBV, and testing it on GT1b subjects.

Source: www.kenes.com/easl2010/posters/Abstract3.htm Apr 15, 2010



Hep C Sites on facebook.

FIGHT Against Hepatitis C

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Victoria-BC/HepCBC/274985724940>



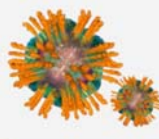
<http://bit.ly/9Nylw3>

Transplant Support Group of British Columbia

You can join the Facebook group by putting "Transplant Support Group of British Columbia" in your browser or by using this URL: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=311699175404&ref=share>

Stop hepatitis C

Intended for audiences from Europe and Latin America



www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/stop.hepatitisc.info

4,429 people like this site



I have been working on my peer support Wendy's Wellness Website and wanted to offer everyone a safe place to get together.

This is the link to my post, offering a secure place to blog about Hep C health. I hope to connect with anyone interested in sharing how we cope and manage our health challenges.

Please pass this along to anyone out there who would like a safe place to blog.

<http://wendyswellness.ca/>

HEPCBC LIVER WARRIORS HALF-MARATHON WALKING TEAM

On Sunday, October 9, 2011 in Victoria, BC, join the HepCBC "Liver Warriors" and participate in the Victoria Marathon. We will walk 21.1 km in 6 hours (or less) to publicize the benefits of exercise such as walking, particularly to those with liver disease.

If you are interested in training with this team or participating in this walk, go to www.runvictoriamarathon.com/events/register.php. Be sure to select "Half-Marathon" and "Open" and "Hep C BC Liver Warriors" as your team. You must pay a \$64.86 registration fee with a credit card. You don't have to pledge anything else—only that you'll WALK with a SMILE!



Phone Cheryl at 250-360-4068 if you need help with registration or require lodging in Victoria.

If you want to join the full (42.2 km) running marathon, please phone Rachel at 250-853-3424.

See you there!

twitter

Hey there! **hepcbc** is using Twitter.

Twitter is a free service that lets you keep in touch with people through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to one simple question: 'What's happening?' Join today to start receiving **hepcbc**'s tweets.

<http://twitter.com/hepcbc>

COMPETITION!

HepCBC needs writers for the *hepc.bull*, and will pay \$50.00 for a featured article. The article should be original, 500 to 800 words, and be about hepatitis C. It may be, for example, about the author's experience with hepatitis C, a study (with references) on some aspect of Hep C, or a call for action. Submissions must be in by the 15th of next month, **stating interest in receiving the bonus**. If there is more than one submission chosen, the editors reserve the right to print both, or leave one for a future edition. info@hepcbc.ca

PHYSICIANS FOR PATIENTS



An online physician-mediated support group for patients, families, and friends of those with hepatitis C.

<http://hepatitisc.physiciansforpatients.com/>

If you are receiving this newsletter by snail mail but have internet access, please consider switching to our pdf version. All you need is Adobe Acrobat Reader, free at this site:

www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html

Just send your email address to info@hepcbc.ca and say, "Send me the email version, please," and you, too, can enjoy this newsletter in glorious colour, free of charge.

The Combo Survival Guide from A to Z

<http://www.hepcsurvivalguide.org/comboguide.htm>

my ehealth

Are you in British Columbia? Are you 16 years old or older? Do you have a BC Care Card? If so, you can now get your lab test results online at a secure internet site at www.myhealth.ca

You must have had a lab test within the last 10 days at a LifeLabs or BC Biomedical laboratory centre in order to register. Have your Care Card number ready. You must use the mailing address that your lab has. Tel. 1-888-522-7758

ADVERSE EVENTS

Report problems with medical products, product use errors, quality problems and serious adverse events.

www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/medwatch/medwatch-online.htm

CONFERENCES

5th Annual Conference of the International Liver Cancer Association
September 2, 2011
Hong Kong
<http://www.ilca2011.org/>

HCV 2011
18th International Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus and Related Viruses
September 8-12, 2011
Sheraton Seattle Hotel & Towers
Seattle, WA
Registration: Opens 1 February, 2011
www.hcv2011.org/

2nd International Symposium on Hepatitis care in substance users
September 15-16, 2011
Brussels, Belgium
<http://www.easl.eu/events/>

21st Brazilian Congress of Hepatology
September 27 - October 1, 2011
Pestana Bahia Hotel
Salvador, Bahia, Brazil
www.easl.eu/events

AASLD 2011
The Liver Meeting
November 4 - 8, 2011
Moscone West Convention Center
San Francisco, CA
www.aasld.org/lm/Pages/default.aspx

United European Gastroenterology Week
UEGW 2011
November 15, 2011
Somerset, United Kingdom
<http://uegw11.uegf.org/aboutuegw2011.html>

HEP C TELECONFERENCES

Join us every Tuesday 7- 9 PM CST.
Speakers. Q&A session. Chat.
Free and confidential.
More info: <http://www.hepcmo.org>

EPREX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Janssen-Ortho Inc, Canada has a program that may provide assistance in obtaining epoetin. It is the Eprex Assistance Program (EPO) 1-877-793-7739

For more info, provincial coverage and forms: <http://profiles.drugcoverage.ca/en/default.asp?DrugID=25>

PEGCARE

PegCARE is a reimbursement program to help people who have been prescribed Pegetron and need assistance with any co-payment they might have, whether through their provincial coverage (i.e., Pharmacare) deductible or their 3rd-party health insurance. It is pro-rated, so the less the family income is, the more help they get. If someone's net family income is less than \$30,000, they will get 100% reimbursement. The income maximum is \$100,000. Patients must be signed up for Fair Pharmacare to qualify, and they need to provide a copy of last year's T4 form.

A 24/7 Nursing Hotline and bilingual assistance is available, at no charge. Other services are access to live translation services (150 languages) and injection assistance from registered nurses. Ask your doctor or nurse to enroll you in PegCARE. It's an easy single-page form to fill out, which they will provide. PegCARE: 1-866-872-5773

PEGASSIST

The PegAssist Reimbursement Assistance Program provides reimbursement coordination assistance for patients who have been prescribed Pegasys or Pegasys RBV. The program will assist in securing funding for patients to ensure that they can start, stay on, and complete their treatment successfully. PegAssist Reimbursement Specialists are available (Monday to Friday, 10 AM- 6 PM EST) by calling: 1-877-PEGASYS or 1-877-734-2797. Patients can also obtain a program enrollment form from their nurse/physician to gain access to the program.

The program provides financial aid to qualified patients, alleviating financial barriers which may prevent patients from starting treatment, i.e., deductibles and/or co-payments. In partnership with CALEA Pharmacy, the program can conveniently deliver the medication directly to patients' homes or to the clinics.

NEUPOGEN VICTORY PROGRAM

Amgen has a program for patients who have been prescribed Neupogen. A reimbursement assessment is conducted by a specialist who will help you navigate through your personal or provincial coverage options. Dependant on specific criteria, some patients may be able to obtain Neupogen on a compassionate basis free of charge. Please note that Amgen will only provide Neupogen to patients on a compassionate basis **as long as it is prescribed and dosed in accordance with the approved product monograph**. This service is accessed through the Victory Program: 1-888-706-4717.

COMPENSATION

LAW FIRMS

1986-1990

Bruce Lemer/Grant Kovacs Norell
Vancouver, BC
Phone: 1-604-609-6699
Fax: 1-604-609-6688

Pre-1986/ Post-1990

Klein Lyons
Vancouver, BC 1-604-874-7171,
1-800-468-4466, Fax 1-604-874-7180
www.kleinlyons.com/class/settled/hepc/

Lauzon Belanger S.E.N.C. (Quebec)
Toronto, ON
Phone 416-362-1989; Fax 416-362-6204
www.lauzonbelanger.qc.ca/cms/index.php?page=108

Roy Elliott
Roy Elliott Kim O'Connor LLP.
hepc@reko.ca www.reko.ca/html/hepatitisc.html

Kolthammer Batchelor & Laidlaw LLP
#208, 11062 - 156 Street,
Edmonton, AB T5P-4M8
Tel: 780-489-5003 Fax: 780-486-2107
kkoltham@telusplanet.net

Other:

William Dermody/Dempster, Dermody, Riley & Buntain
Hamilton, ON L8N 3Z1 1-905-572-6688

LOOKBACK/TRACEBACK

Canadian Blood Services Lookback/Traceback & Info Line: 1-888-462-4056

Lookback Programs, Canada: 1-800-668-2866

Canadian Blood Services, Vancouver, BC
1-888-332-5663 (local 3467) or 604-707-3467

Lookback Programs, BC: 1-888-770-4800

Hema-Quebec Lookback/Traceback & Info Line:
1-888-666-4362

Manitoba Traceback: 1-866-357-0196

Canadian Blood Services, Ontario
1-800-701-7803 ext 4480 (Irene)
Irene.dines@Blood.ca

RCMP Blood Probe Task Force TIPS Hotline
1-888-530-1111 or 1-905-953-7388
Mon-Fri 7 AM-10 PM EST
345 Harry Walker Parkway, South Newmarket, ON L3Y 8P6 Fax: 1-905-953-7747

CLASS ACTION/COMPENSATION

Class Action Suit Hotline: 1-800-229-5323 ext. 8296
Health Canada Compensation Line: 1-888-780-1111
Red Cross Compensation pre-86/post-90 Registration: 1-888-840-5764 HepatitisC@kpmg.ca
Ontario Compensation: 1-877-222-4977
Quebec Compensation: 1-888-840-5764
www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hepc/comp-indem_e.html

CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR

1986-1990

Administrator 1-877- 434-0944
www.hepc8690.com info@hepc8690.com
www.hepc8690.ca/PDFs/initialClaims/tran5-e.pdf

Pre-86/Post-90

Administrator 1-866-334-3361
preposthepc@crawco.ca
www.pre86post90settlement.ca

Settlement Agreement: http://www.reko.ca/html/hepc_settlement.pdf



SUPPORT BC/YUKON:

Armstrong HepCURE Phone support 1-888-437-2873

AIDS Vancouver Island The following groups provide info, harm reduction, support, education and more:

♦ **Campbell River:** Drop in, needle exchange, advocacy. 1371 C - Cedar St. Contact leanne.cunningham@avi.org 250-830-0787

♦ **Comox Valley** Harm reduction, counseling, advocacy. 355 6th St. Courtenay. Contact Sarah Sarah_sullivan@avi.org 250-338-7400

♦ **Nanaimo** Hep C Meetings twice monthly: Contact Anita 250-753-2437

anita.rosewall@avi.org for details.

♦ **Port Hardy** (Port McNeil, Alert Bay, Port Hardy, Sayward, Sointula and Woss) Drop-in kitchen. 7070 Shomcliffe Rd. Contact Tom, 250-949-0432 tom.fenton@avi.org.

♦ **Victoria** Access Health Centre, drop in, disability applications, peer training. Support group Tues 12:30 PM, 713 Johnson St., 3rd floor, 250-384-2366 Hermione.jefferies@avi.org

Boundary HCV Support and Education Contact Ken 250-442-1280

ksthomson@direct.ca

Burnaby HCV Support Contact Beverly 604-435-3717 batlas@telus.net

Castlegar Contact Robin 250-365-6137 eor@shaw.ca

Comox Valley Treatment/Pre-treatment Support Group 2nd & 4th Wed., Comox Valley Nursing Centre. Contact Cheryl Cheryl.taylor@viha.ca 250-331-8524.

Courtenay HCV Peer Support and Education. Contact Del 250-703-0231 dggrimstad@shaw.ca

Cowichan Valley HCV Support Contact Leah 250-748-3432 r-lattig@shaw.ca

HepCBC info@hepcbc.ca, www.hepcbc.ca

♦ **Victoria Peer Support:** 4th Tues. monthly 7-8:30 PM, Victoria Health Unit, 1947 Cook St. Contact 250-595-3892 Phone support 9 AM-10 PM. 250-595-3891

♦ **Fraser Valley Support/Info:** 604-576-2022

Kamloops ASK Wellness Centre. Chronic illness health navigation/support. info@askwellness.ca 250-376-7558 1-800-661-7541 ext 232 or Merritt health housing and counseling 250-315-0098. www.askwellness.ca

Kamloops Hep C support group, 2nd and 4th Wed monthly, 10-1 PM, Interior Indian Friendship Society, 125 Palm St. Kamloops. Contact Cheri 250-376-1296 Fax 250-376-2275

Kelowna Hepkop: Phone support and meeting info. Contact Elaine 250-768-3573, eriseley@shaw.ca, Lisa 1-866-637-5144 ljmortell@shaw.ca

Mid Island Hepatitis C Society 2nd Thurs. monthly, 7 PM (Location to be arranged.) Contact midislandhepc@hotmail.com

Nanaimo Hepatitis C Treatment Support Group 1st & 3rd Thurs. monthly 4-5 PM, AVI Health Centre, #216-55 Victoria Rd. Contact Fran 250-740-6942. hepc2xpeersupport@hotmail.com

Nelson Hepatitis C Support Group 1st Thurs. every 2nd month, afternoons. ANKORS, 101 Baker St. Library M-Th 9-4:30. Contact Alex or Karen 1-800-421-2437, 250-505-5506,

information@ankors.bc.ca alex@ankors.bc.ca
www.ankors.bc.ca/

New Westminster "HepC" Support Group each Fri 10 AM May 13th till August 26th. Nurse. Acupuncture. Refreshments. Contact: Michelle 604-526-2522., mail@purposesociety.org

North Island Liver Service Info, support, treatment. Doctor or self-referral. 1-877-215-7005 250-850-2605.

♦ **Courtenay:** 2nd Fri monthly 1PM, Drop-in, Comox Valley Nursing Centre (nurse)

♦ **Campbell River:** 2nd Tues monthly 1PM Drop-in, Salvation Army Lighthouse. (nurse)

Powell River Hepatology Service Powell River Community Health, 3rd Floor-5000 Joyce Ave. Contact Melinda Melinda.herceg@vch.ca 604-485-3310

Prince George Hep C Support Group 2nd Tues. monthly, 7-9 PM, Prince George Regional Hospital, Rm. 421. Contact Ilse 250-565-7387

ilse.kuepper@northernhealth.ca

Prince Rupert Hep C Support Contact: Dolly 250-627-7942

hepcprincerupert@citvnet.net

Queen Charlotte Islands/Haida Gwaii & Northern BC support. Contact Wendy 250-557-2487, 1-888-557-2487, <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/Network-BC/> wendy@wendyswellness.ca www.wendyswellness.ca

Slocan Valley Support Group Contact Ken 250-355-2732, ken.forsythe@gmail.com

Sunshine Coast-Sechelt Healthy Livers Support Group Information/resources, contact Catriona 604-886-5613 catriona.hardwick@vch.ca or Brent, 604-740-9042 brent.fitzsimmons@vch.ca

Surrey Positive Haven Info, harm reduction, support, drop in, clinic. 10697 135A St. Contact Monika 604-589-9004.

VANDU The Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users. 380 E Hastings St. M-F 10-4 Contact 604-683-6061

vandu@vandu.org www.vandu.org

Vancouver Pre/post liver transplant support Contact Gordon Kerr sd.gk@shaw.ca

Vancouver Hepatitis C Support Group Contact 604-454-1347 or 778-898-7211, or call 604-522-1714 (Shelley), 604-454-1347 (Terry), to talk or meet for coffee.

Vernon telephone buddy, M-F 10-6 Contact Peter, pvanbo@gmail.com Tel. 250-309-1358.

Victoria CoolAid Peer Support each Wed 10-11:30 AM, 713 Johnson St. Support for all stages of treatment (deciding, during, after). Contact Carolyn cshowler@coolaid.org

YouthCO HIV + Hep C Community Outreach. Drop-in T&W 12-3, Fri. 9-12. Call to schedule appts M-F 10-6. 205-568 Seymour St, Vancouver 604-688-1441, 1-855-YOUTHCO Support Staff: Lulu lulug@youthco.org, Briony brionym@youthco.org www.youthco.org

Whitehorse, Yukon—Blood Ties Four Directions Contact 867-633-2437 bloodties@klondiker.com

OTHER PROVINCES:

ONTARIO:

Barrie Hepatitis Support Contact Jeanie for info/appointment jeanievilleneuve@hotmail.com

Sandi's Crusade Against Hepatitis C/ Durham Hepatitis C Support Group Contact Sandi: smking@rogers.com www.creativeintensity.com/smking/

Hamilton Hepatitis C Support Group 1st Thurs. monthly, 6-7 PM, Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre, 71 Rebecca St. Hamilton. Contact Maciej Kowalski, Health Promoter 905-522-3233 mkowalski@hucchc.com

Hep C Team, AIDS Committee of North Bay & Area. Education, outreach, treatment, individual & group support, harm reduction, needle exchange. 269 Main St. W, Suite 201, North Bay. Contact 705-497-3560, 1-800-387-3701 or hepccommcoord@gmail.com, www.aidsnorthbay.com

Hepatitis C Network of Windsor & Essex County Last Thurs. monthly, 7 PM, Teen Health Centre -Street Health Program Office, 711 Pelissier St., Suite 4, Windsor. Contact Andrea Monkman 519-967-0490 or hepcnetwork@gmail.com. <http://hepcnetwork.net>

Kingston Hep C Info HIV/AIDS Regional Service. Contact 613-545-3698, 1-800-565-2209 hars@kingston.net, www.hars.ca

Kitchener Area Support 3rd Wed. monthly, 7:30 PM, **NEW:** Zehrs Community Room, Laurentian Power Centre, 750 Ottawa St. S., Kitchener. Contact Bob 519-886-5706, Mavis 519-743-1922 or waterlooregionhepcsupport@gmail.com

London Hepatitis Hep C Support 186 King St, London. For those infected as well as affected by Hep C. Contact: 519-434-1601, 1-866-920-1601, hivaidconnection.com

Owen Sound Info, support. Contact Debby Minielly dminielly@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca 1-800-263-3456 Ext. 1257, 519-376-9420, Ext. 1257, www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca/

Peel Region (Brampton, Mississauga, Caledon) 905-799-7700 healthlinepeel@peelregion.ca

St. Catharines Contact Joe 905-682-6194 icolangelo3@cogeco.ca

Sudbury Circle C Support Group 1st Tues. monthly. Contact Ernie 705-522-5156,

hepc.support@persona.ca or Monique 705-691-4507.

Toronto CLF First Mon. monthly Oct. through June, 7:30 PM, North York Civic Centre, 5100 Yonge Street. More info: www.liver.ca. Contact Billie 416-491-3353, bpotkonjak@liver.ca

Thunder Bay Hep C support. Contact Sarah Tycholiz 807-345-1516 (or for 807 area only 1-800-488-5840)

Unified Networkers of Drug Users Nationally undun@sympatico.ca

York Region Hepatitis C Education Group 3rd Wed. monthly, 7:30 PM, York Region Health Services, 4261 Hwy 7 East, B6-9, Unionville. Contact 905-940-1333, 1-800-361-5653 info@hepcyorkregion.org www.hepcyorkregion.org

QUEBEC:

Quebec City Region Contact Renée Daurio 418-836-2307 reneedaurio@hotmail.com

ATLANTIC PROVINCES:

Hepatitis Outreach Society of NS. Info and support line for the entire province. Call 1-800-521-0572, 902-420-1767

info@hepatitisoutreach.com. www.hepatitisoutreach.com

PRAIRIE PROVINCES:

Edmonton Contact Jackie Neufeld 780-939-3379.

Wood Buffalo HIV & AIDS Society #002-9908 Franklin Ave, Fort McMurray, AB Contact 780-743-9200 wbbhas@telus.net www.wbbhas.ca

Manitoba Hepatitis C Support Community Inc. 1st Tues. monthly, 7 PM, 595 Broadway Ave. Everyone welcome.

Contact Kirk 204-772-8925 info@mbhepc.org www.mbhepc.org

Medicine Hat, AB Hep C Support Group 1st & 3rd Wed. monthly, 6:30 PM, HIV/AIDS Network of S.E. AB Association, 550 Allowance Ave. Contact 403-527-7099

bet-tyc2@hivnetwork.ca



If you have a Canadian HCV support group to list here, please send details to info@hepcbc.ca by the 15th of the month. It's free!