

# hepc . bull

## Canada's Hepatitis C News Bulletin

www.hepcbc.ca

### HEP C IN THE NEWS

#### BREAKING NEWS: BMS-986094 DISCONTINUED

Bristol-Myers Squibb has decided to permanently halt development of BMS-986094 after a patient participating in a clinical trial with that drug passed away from heart failure. The death prompted Bristol-Myers originally to put the trial on hold voluntarily on August 1<sup>st</sup>, and the US FDA put a clinical hold on the drug soon after. In total, 9 patients were hospitalized. Two remain in the hospital. Both heart and kidney problems were cited. The cause of the drug's toxic effects is not yet known but is being investigated. Other drugs from different companies have had to discontinue products because of heart problems. The company has another drug showing promise—daclatasvir, now in phase III clinical trials, the last step before the drug is submitted for approval from the regulators. BMS-986094 was previously called INX-189 which BMS acquired when it bought Inhibitex earlier this year for \$2.5 billion.

Source: [www.canadianbusiness.com/article/96377-bristol-myers-ends-hepatitis-c-drug-development](http://www.canadianbusiness.com/article/96377-bristol-myers-ends-hepatitis-c-drug-development) August 24, 2012

#### HEMOPURIFIER

Aethlon's Hemopurifier is a device that can rid the blood of viruses like HIV and HCV. Treatment data from trials in India showed that the two most recent HCV+ patients treated with Hemopurifier therapy combined with pegIFN/RBV (PR) had undetectable viral load at day 7. The best predictor of SVR (sustained viral response--undetectable virus 24 weeks after treatment) is RVR (rapid viral response--undetectable virus 30 days after starting therapy.) The famous IDEAL Study (3,070 HCV genotype-1 patients) showed only 10.35% of PR-treated patients achieved RVR, but of those patients, 86.2% achieved SVR. The IDEAL study showed only 4.3% of patients achieved undetectable status at day 14, but of those, 91% achieved a SVR, so it is important to achieve RVR. Almost 67% of GT-1 patients treated achieved

RVR using Hemopurifier during the first days of PR therapy. They received up to three, 6-hour Hemopurifier treatments during the first 3 days of PR therapy. Out of ten patients, eight now have undetectable virus. Of the 6 GT-1 patients, 4 achieved RVR. The company hopes to expand into the US.

Studies in India showed that the therapy reduced viral load in both HIV+ and HCV+ dialysis patients without using antivirals. In vitro studies have shown that Hemopurifier could be used in bioterror or pandemic threats. The company believes it would benefit IFN-based treatment as well as treatment with the new direct-acting anti-virals.

Source: <http://theotcinvestor.com/hepatitis-c-virus-undetectable-seven-days-after-aethlon-therapy-1514/> Aug 2, 2012

#### MORE ON THE SERIAL INFECTOR

David Kwiatkowski, 33, ex-employee of Exeter Hospital, was charged with causing an outbreak of Hep C, infecting at least 31 patients. This tragedy could have been prevented several times. Four years ago he was fired from a Pittsburgh hospital. A co-worker reported seeing him take a syringe of a painkiller from the OR and hiding it. A

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**JOHN PLATER**  
ADVOCATE DIES JUNE 30,  
2012 Age 45

John Plater—husband, lawyer, hemophiliac, victim of tainted blood, advocate for compensation—died from complications from his HIV and HCV infections. Thanks to his law studies, John was able to help thousands of victims of tainted blood. Our friend Mike McCarthy, also a hemophiliac and advocate, spoke with the press: “John Plater was a man who was bigger than life and put everyone before himself.”

He helped many with the red tape involved in applying for compensation, and spoke for victims with his “booming, powerful voice” in court. John's input was instrumental in ensuring the changes leading to the safer blood system we have today. He held office in Hemophilia Ontario and the Canadian Hemophilia Society. He was a close friend of co-infected lawyer/advocate James Kreppner, hemophiliac, who passed away in 2009, at age 47. These are great losses for our Hep C community.

Source: [www.thestar.com/news/gta/article/1235674--john-plater-man-who-fought-for-tainted-blood-victims-dead-at-46](http://www.thestar.com/news/gta/article/1235674--john-plater-man-who-fought-for-tainted-blood-victims-dead-at-46)

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## SUBSCRIPTION/ORDER FORM

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

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Please email me a PDF copy, free of charge.

Membership + Subscription (1 year) .....\$20.00

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(Doesn't include membership privileges)

Peppermint Patti's FAQ .....\$15.00

Resource CD .....\$10.00

"I enclose a donation of .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

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"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](http://www.hepcbc.ca/orderform.htm)

**SUBMISSIONS:** The deadline for any contributions to the *hepc.bull*® is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please contact the editors at [jkling2005@shaw.ca](mailto: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 12<sup>th</sup> 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:

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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.

## NEW!! FAQ version 9.0



Peppermint Patti's **FAQ Version 9.0** is **NOW AVAILABLE**. Version 8 is available in FRENCH and SPANISH. The ENGLISH version includes treatment information and research from 2012. Place your orders now. It contains 169 pages of information for only \$15 each. Contact HepCBC at (250) 595-3892 or [info@hepcbc.ca](mailto:info@hepcbc.ca)

## HepCBC Resource CD

The CD contains back issues of the *hepc.bull* from 1997-2012, the FAQ V9.0, 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: [www.hepcbc.ca/orderform.htm](http://www.hepcbc.ca/orderform.htm)

**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 therapy 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 [info@hepcbc.ca](mailto:info@hepcbc.ca).

## THANKS!!

HepCBC thanks the following institutions and individuals for their generosity: The late John Crooks, The Ocean, JackFM, Community Living Victoria, Victoria Positive Living Centre, Provincial Employees Community Services Fund, United Way, the Victoria Foundation, Dr. C. D. Mazoff, Lorie FitzGerald, Chris Foster, Judith Fry, Allison Crowe, United Way, and the newsletter team: Beverly Atlas, Diana Ludgate, Alp, Judy Klassen, Cheryl, Anamaria, S. J and L.P.

Please patronize the following businesses that have helped us: Top Shelf Bookkeeping, Thrifty Foods, Samuel's Restaurant, 2 Guys & A Press, Merck Canada, Roche Canada, Vertex, Gilead, Janssen, VanCity, Shoppers Drug Mart, Market on Yates, Country Grocer, and Safeway.

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.

## DIAL-A-DIETITIAN

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

Dietitians of Canada: [www.dietitians.ca](http://www.dietitians.ca)  
HealthLink: [www.dialadietitian.org](http://www.dialadietitian.org)



### 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](mailto:info@hepcbc.ca)

### PRE-PLANNING YOUR FINAL ARRANGEMENTS?

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

### Got Hep C? Single? Visit:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HepCingles2>  
[www.hcvanonymous.com/singles.html](http://www.hcvanonymous.com/singles.html)  
[www.hepc-match.com/](http://www.hepc-match.com/)

CHAT: <http://forums.delphiforums.com/hepatitisen1/chat>

### TAKING SUPPLEMENTS ?

TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR.  
READ LABELS.  
CHECK INGREDIENTS.  
MONITOR LIVER ENZYMES.

### J. Lemmon

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Experienced in medical and legal research Assistance with HCV compensation claims and appeals

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### Hepatitis C

Chances are, you know someone who has it.  
170 million people have Hep C.  
Worldwide, one in 35 people is infected.  
Most do not know it because Hep C is a silent killer.\*

Hep C is transmitted by blood contact.  
There is no vaccine, no 100% cure yet.  
There is an effective treatment.

Would you like to have fun AND make a difference?  
Join the "Sign 4 C" campaign.  
Visit [www.Sign4C.info](http://www.Sign4C.info) and [www.hepcbc.ca](http://www.hepcbc.ca).

**hepcbc**

(NEWS—Continued from page 1)

search revealed more in his locker and pockets, and a test showed opiates in his body. He had been replacing stolen syringes with used ones, filled with dummy liquids, to be used on patients. He was hired at 10 more hospitals because nothing was reported—not to the police, nor to any professional organization. As a result, thousands of people in 8 states are being tested. No nationwide database exists showing violations or disciplinary steps taken against health technicians. This wasn't the first time he was fired for stealing drugs. He was charged in New Hampshire, but claimed someone framed him. In 2010, in Arizona, he was found unconscious and taken to the ER. He tested positive for cocaine and marijuana, but police didn't report it for lack of evidence, so though the Arizona Radiologic Board of Examiners were told, they didn't follow through, and never spoke to the hospital. A few days later, he was hired at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia. He surrendered his professional license, but many states don't require registration and don't check for transgressions. Kansas issued his last license. They checked his studies, but not his past history. He lied on job applications, denying any misconduct actions, and didn't list many places he worked.

Some states don't license radiology techs. Exeter Hospital says there should be a national registry of all problem workers providing patient care. Hopefully, these problems with the system will be examined and fixed--and let's make that an international registry.

"Kwiatkowski's license in New York is still listed on a state website as active and in good standing."

Source: [www.canada.com/mobile/news/world-news/hospital+techs+arrest+sets+hepatitis+scare+states+shows+flaws+system/7088452/story.html](http://www.canada.com/mobile/news/world-news/hospital+techs+arrest+sets+hepatitis+scare+states+shows+flaws+system/7088452/story.html) Aug 14, 2012

## IFN AFFECTS GROWTH IN CHILDREN

107 children ages 5-18 treated with pegIFN $\alpha$  in the Pediatric Study of Hepatitis C (PEDS-C) have shown significant changes in growth, such as height, weight, body mass index (BMI), and body composition. Most of these changes were reversed when therapy ended, but many did not reach their expected height-for-age score 2 years after the end of treatment. The disease is usually mild in children but some do progress to cirrhosis and liver cancer, so PR treatment is approved for young children, and is more useful when the disease has not progressed. The children were seen for two years more to find out if growth was affected. All began with normal height, weight, BMI, and body composition,

but during treatment, some of the children did not grow as was expected for their age. Height was most affected, even though physical activity and eating habits remained the same.

"A reduction in linear growth persisted even after treatment was discontinued," said Dr. Jonas, one of the researchers, who went on to suggest more studies are needed to find the best time to treat children.

Source: [www.sciencecodex.com/height\\_weight\\_and\\_bmi\\_changes\\_seen\\_in\\_children\\_treated\\_with\\_peginterferon\\_alpha\\_for\\_hepatitis\\_c-96343](http://www.sciencecodex.com/height_weight_and_bmi_changes_seen_in_children_treated_with_peginterferon_alpha_for_hepatitis_c-96343)

## WILL YOU GET CIRRHOSIS?

NIH Scientists (National Institutes of Health, USA) have found several factors in HCV+ people that might indicate which patients will progress quickly from infection to cirrhosis or other severe liver disease. Such knowledge could improve treatment, which can be expensive and difficult to tolerate. Any tool that can help predict the speed of progression would be helpful. One of the mysteries of the disease is that some patients show no sign of illness, while others die in less than 10 years. A weak immune system—from coinfection with HIV, for example—can speed progression of the disease.

These researchers took blood samples from 6 patients who received tainted transfusions in the '70s. Their symptoms were followed for up to 30 years, and ranged from mild symptoms to death. The researchers collected blood samples from the 6 patients over the years and were able to analyze 1876 genetic sequences of the HCV, which they used to discover the evolution of two Hep C genes—E1 and E2. They also studied 39 blood proteins throughout the progression of the disease. They found changes in the blood that appeared even in the early stages of the disease such as the presence of a protein called MCP-1, which appears to correspond to the formation of fibrosis leading to cirrhosis.

The scientists, now aware of what to look for, want to expand their studies among more patients. We should be hearing more...

Source: [www.nih.gov/news/health/jul2012/niaid-23a.htm](http://www.nih.gov/news/health/jul2012/niaid-23a.htm) July 23, 2012

## OLDER PATIENTS BEWARE

There is a risk of severe liver damage in older people who use the common, broad-spectrum antibiotics named moxifloxacin and levofloxacin, members of the "fluoroquinolone" family of antibiotics, which are prescribed often for bacterial infections of the respiratory tract. Researchers in Toronto and Hamilton studied the risk of taking moxifloxacin compared to

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## WORLD HEPATITIS DAY EVENTS 2012 in BC

**Campbell River**, July 26<sup>th</sup> at Spirit Square, a health fair was held by AIDS Vancouver Island (AVI) at Spirit Square. There were games, prizes, free food, testing and more. They had a free draw for a gift card, handed out yellow and red ribbons and brochures from the HepCBC website. They did a PowerPoint presentation with music, and put together little boxes with condoms, lube, and information.



They gave balloons to the kids, and made a display board. (See photo)

In **Courtenay**, July 27<sup>th</sup> at Simms Park, they celebrated with a health fair, with games, prizes, entertainment, free food, testing and more.

**Victoria**, July 27<sup>th</sup> at Centennial Square, the 'Love Your Liver Health Fair' was held with community health providers and yoga in the grass. HepCBC teamed up with AVI there, and report that there was lots of sunshine, music, free food, testing and more, and happy connecting with local AIDS organizations, anti-poverty groups, and nurses from Percuro and the street clinic (COOL AID), our Merck representative, and others. They met some people who may be attending future support group meetings, and spoke with some newly-diagnosed people.

In **Surrey**, July 27<sup>th</sup> at the clinic, HepCBC teamed up with Positive Haven. Pablo Oyarzo played guitar throughout the event. The opening ceremony was done by Klah-how-eya, followed by Shayne Williams, executive director, giving the official welcome. HepCBC had a table at the event, spoke with passersby and sent them to the nurses for Hep C testing. On the roster of speakers were Jasbir Sandhu, MP and Jinny Sims. Stephanie Cadieux, MLA

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(NEWS—Continued from p. 3)

other common antibiotics by looking at past data over 9 years. They sought people 66 years old or over with no previous liver damage who were hospitalized due to liver injury 30 days or less after being prescribed the above antibiotics. 144 patients fit this description. Most suffered liver damage about 9 days after starting the antibiotics. Unfortunately 88 of those patients died during their hospitalization. It was found that moxifloxacin was twice as likely to injure the liver compared to clarithromycin. Levofloxacin was less risky, but still toxic to the liver. Luckily these cases are rare and only occur in about 6 out of 100,000 patients treated.

"Although our results require confirmation in other settings, the findings suggest that both moxifloxacin and levofloxacin be considered for regulatory warnings regarding acute liver injury," stated the authors.

Source: [www.medicalnewstoday.com/releases/248974.php](http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/releases/248974.php) 14 Aug 2012

## FOOD & SUPPLEMENT NEWS

### BODYBUILDING? DIETING? READ THIS

[Note: These are preliminary results released at a conference. They have not yet been confirmed.]

Bodybuilding and weight loss supplements may help you look better, and may help get rid of fatty liver and combat muscle wasting, but some can cause liver damage. Researchers found that 18% of liver injuries reported in a national registry between 2003 and 2011 may have been caused by drugs or supplements. 34% of those were blamed on bodybuilding supplements, and 26%, on dieting supplements.



There are many worthwhile supplements, like multivitamins, calcium, vitamin D, produced by approved companies, and around 40% of Americans take them. The supplements are sold without a prescription, are not carefully monitored, and there is little info about their side effects. There is a registry for those who have liver damage within 6 months of using some alternative medicines, called



the Drug-Induced Liver Injury Network (DILIN).

Jaundice (yellowing of eyes and skin) from bodybuilding supplements were reported only by men, and caused itching and bright yellow skin that lasted sometimes for over a month. More than 50% were hospitalized. Weight loss supplements were suspected of causing even more damage, including liver inflammation that required liver transplants in 12% of the 17 who reported problems with weight loss products. In 40-50% of these cases, the people were taking no other medication. Some other suspect supplements were products for colds and coughs, depression, anxiety and immune system boosters.

Talk to your doctor before taking any supplements!! It is probably wise to monitor your liver enzymes. Read the labels and check out EVERY ingredient. Steroids may have been added to some bodybuilding supplements. Other supplements may be "spiked."

Source: [www.emedicinehealth.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=158548](http://www.emedicinehealth.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=158548) May 23, 2012

### EAT YOUR APPLE PEELS

The waxy material in apple peels, ursolic acid, increased "brown fat" and muscle in mice that ate high-fat diets in this trial. They burned more calories and had lower obesity rates, and fewer cases of fatty liver and pre-diabetes than those who didn't take the supplement. Researchers hope this will hold true for humans. Just recently scientist thought only infants had brown fat, but better scanning techniques have shown some brown fat mostly in the neck and between the shoulder blades, in adults, too. Less is found in the obese. Higher amounts are found in those with healthy blood sugar and lipid levels, and may prevent obesity, fatty liver and diabetes, as happened in the mice. Ursolic acid may provide effective therapy for muscle wasting, common in advanced liver disease.

Source: [http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2012-06-23/diet/32370052\\_1\\_high-fat-diet-skeletal-muscle-obesity](http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2012-06-23/diet/32370052_1_high-fat-diet-skeletal-muscle-obesity) Jun 23, 2012



## HEP C 101 FOR BABY BOOMERS

Sometimes baby boomers are not diagnosed with hepatitis C because the symptoms are similar to what we tend to expect from the aging process. For instance, tiredness, achy joints, sleep problems, stomach and digestive problems, strange rashes, memory loss, are also symptoms experienced by those with hepatitis C.

### Who is at risk?

- ◆ Those who received blood transfusions or blood products before 1990;
- ◆ Those who have shared blood injecting equipment for drugs;
- ◆ Those who have been tattooed, had body piercing or a needlestick injury.
- ◆ Those exposed to mass inoculations such as people serving in the armed forces (veterans have a high infection rate).
- ◆ Those coming from places where people share home-injection equipment for antibiotics or other prescription drugs, or where sterilization procedures are not effective.



### How is it diagnosed?

Diagnosis is made through a simple blood test.

### I've Been Diagnosed. Now What?

If you are diagnosed with hepatitis C, get informed. Check with your doctor and local support group.

*Make sure that you:*

- ◆ Get re-tested to confirm the diagnosis. Ask to see a specialist, such as a hepatologist (liver), gastroenterologist (stomach & intestines), hematologist (blood), or infectious disease specialist.
- ◆ Get vaccinated against hepatitis A and B, and get tested by your family doctor or at the health clinic to see if the vaccinations took.
- ◆ Ask about the pneumonia and flu vaccines. Hepatitis C compromises the immune system and people can get even sicker with flu or pneumonia than a normal person does.
- ◆ Ask that the following tests be done: Ultrasound yearly; alpha-fetoprotein test yearly to check for cancer; liver biopsy (a biopsy is often being replaced with a fibroscan, where available).
- ◆ Ask the doctor for copies of all tests, and get the results explained to you.



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday September 18, 2012  
6:00 PM

1947 Cook Street,  
Victoria, BC  
(Victoria Health Unit, Activity Room)

### Schedule:

6:00-7:30pm Welcome and Presentations  
7:30-8:30pm Annual General Meeting

### AGENDA:

- Approve minutes of AGM 2011
- 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: Stephen Farmer, president-HepCBC and transplant recipient, followed by an educational panel.

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.*

## HEP C LIVER WARRIORS MARATHON TEAM NEEDS RUNNERS, WALKERS, VOLUNTEERS, DONATIONS!

Help HepCBC's Liver Warriors team fight HCV stigma, publicize the benefits of exercise for those with liver disease, and raise funds to help HepCBC continue its vital programs! 8k, 23k, and 45k events take place Oct. 7 in Victoria, BC, at the Goodlife Marathon (a Boston Marathon Qualifier!) Seventeen Liver Warriors (nurses, family, liver transplant recipients, HCV+ people) are already registered, but the more of us, the better! If people see how much fun we're having, they might think about hepatitis C a little differently from now on, and maybe consider testing or treatment! If we raise \$25,000, we can re-open our office and re-hire a part-time executive director.

### INFORMATION:

<http://hepcbc.ca/marathons-walks/>

**DONATE** (Tax-deductible):

<http://hepcbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/PLEDGEFORM.pdf>

**LIKE US** on FB: [www.facebook.com/HepcbcLiverWarriors](http://www.facebook.com/HepcbcLiverWarriors)

**REGISTER:**

<http://runvictoriamarathon.com/events/register.php>

### SEE US ON YOUTUBE:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=urHqTrNl3Ho](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=urHqTrNl3Ho)

Lose kilos! Make new friends! Do something nice for your liver, heart, brain (and for others)!

**CONTACT:** Cheryl 250-595-3892, or email her: [marathon.hepcbc@gmail.com](mailto:marathon.hepcbc@gmail.com)



## HEP C CLINIC AT PERCURO VICTORIA, BC



Did you know that the Hepatology Clinic at PerCuro provides comprehensive HCV education and long-term support to patients and their families undergoing HCV treatment in the Greater Victoria/Southern Vancouver Island region?

Specialized nurses assist with the procurement of financial coverage for treatment, ensure lab tests are scheduled appropriately, provide instruction in the self-administration of injectable medication, assist with the management of side effects, facilitate a monthly support group, and liaise with family doctors and specialists regarding your HCV status, treatment and any other issues of concern.

This type of professional support is imperative now that standard of care therapy often involves three medications.

PerCuro also offers access to cutting edge clinical trials for both naïve and treatment-experienced patients.

Every attempt is made to meet the individual needs of all patients. There is no cost involved.

**Nursing Support improves outcomes. Contact 250-382-6270**



Hepatitis C Education & Prevention Society  
Confronting hepatitis C since 1996

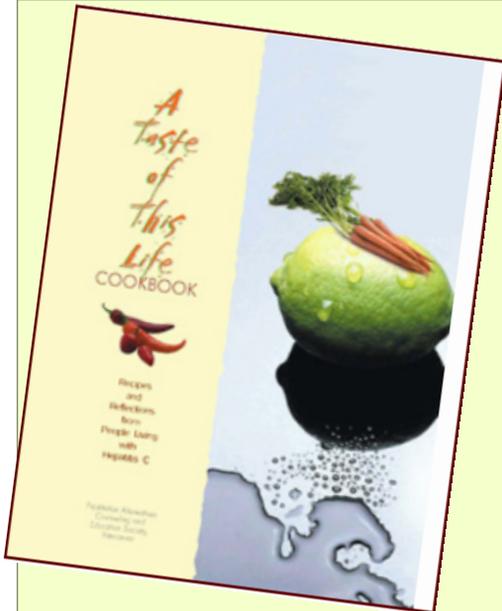


**COME VISIT OUR RE-DESIGNED WEBSITE!!**

[WWW.HEPCBC.CA](http://WWW.HEPCBC.CA)

(WHD in BC—Continued from page 3)

read the proclamation and beloved Mayor Dianne Watts, though not scheduled, showed up and spoke. Also on the program were MLA Harry Bains and Dr. Burji. Dr. Tam, from the LAIR Centre, gave a seminar after the ceremonies. The memorial service honoured our loved ones from both Victoria and Surrey. Mary Martin, Surrey Councillor, read the proclamation at the end. The closing ceremony was provided by Shayne Williams. There was face-painting and some gorgeous mehndi after the barbeque.



PACE Society was granted financial support from Health Canada's Hepatitis C Prevention, Support and Research Program to work with individuals living with Hepatitis C. These individuals living with Hepatitis C that are actively involved in, or have experience in, survival sex and injection drug use created this cookbook: A Taste of This Life: Recipes and Reflections from People Living with Hepatitis C. [Download Cookbook here.](#)

<http://hepcbc.ca/2012/08/pace-providing-alternatives-counselling-education-society-hcv-cookbook-a-taste-of-this-life/>



# Hep C Sites on facebook.

## Hep C, the Silent Killer

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



## FIGHT Against Hepatitis C

Open Group — [fightagainsthepatitisc@groups.facebook.com](mailto:fightagainsthepatitisc@groups.facebook.com)



## 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:

[www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=311699175404&ref=share](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=311699175404&ref=share)

HCVEDGE Get the edge on managing your Hepatitis C



## Hepatitis C management made easy.

HCV-Edge is a tool that assists you by managing your Hepatitis C treatments. Find out what HCV-Edge can do for you. [Learn More >](#)

### Why choose HCV-Edge?

- access to a broad array of reliable background information on Hepatitis C
- electronic reminders for pill taking and office visits, wherever you are
- detailed information on response rates, potential side effects and duration of your antiviral therapy
- gets you familiar with the latest antiviral therapies... and more.

### What can HCV-Edge do for me?

Find out by checking out our walk-thru demo >



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/>

# 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](http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html)

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

## 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>

## 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](http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/medwatch/medwatch-online.htm)

## 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 15<sup>th</sup> of next month, **standing 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](mailto:info@hepcbc.ca)

# Hepatitis C Research and News

[hepatitiscresearchandnewsupdates.blogspot.com/](http://hepatitiscresearchandnewsupdates.blogspot.com/)

<http://www.patient-experience.com/index.php/hepatitis-c-a-blog-about-the-signs-and-symptoms-of-hep-c/>



Hepatitis C – a blog about the signs and symptoms of Hep C » *The Patient Experience*  
[www.patient-experience.com](http://www.patient-experience.com)

Welcome to our latest informational blog about Hepatitis C (or Hep C as it is often called). In the past we have run a blog looking at life experiences of

# Pacific Hepatitis C Network

[www.pacifichepc.org](http://www.pacifichepc.org)



HCV ADVOCATE  
[www.hcvadvocate.org](http://www.hcvadvocate.org)

[www.facebook.com/hcvadvocate.hcsp](http://www.facebook.com/hcvadvocate.hcsp)

## HEP C TELECONFERENCES

Tuesdays 7- 9 PM CST. Speakers. Q&A session. Chat. Free and confidential.

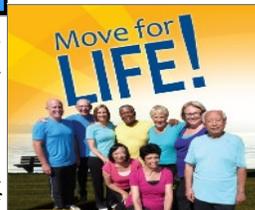
More info: <http://www.hepcmo.org>

**COLUMBIA GASTROENTEROLOGY**  
**New Westminster, B.C.**  
**604-525-0155**

## GLOBAL HEPATITIS C NETWORK IN CANADA



[www.globalhepc.net](http://www.globalhepc.net)



"At any age, staying strong and flexible helps you do the things you enjoy, and perform day-to-day activities with great ease."

Here, you can find a link to the Move for Life DVD, good eating tips and a series of short "walkabouts," "energy bursts," and lots of great health tips:

[www.actnowbc.ca/move\\_for\\_life\\_dvd](http://www.actnowbc.ca/move_for_life_dvd)

## CONFERENCES

The Viral Hepatitis Congress  
7-9 September 2012  
Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität  
Frankfurt, Germany  
[www.theconferencewebsite.com/conference-info/Viral-Hepatitis-Congress-2012](http://www.theconferencewebsite.com/conference-info/Viral-Hepatitis-Congress-2012)

8<sup>th</sup> Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference  
10-12 September 2012  
SkyCity Convention Centre  
Auckland, New Zealand  
[www.hepatitis.org.au/](http://www.hepatitis.org.au/)

EASL Special Conference  
Clinical Drug Development for Hepatitis C  
14-16 September 2012  
Prague, Czech Republic  
[www.easl.eu/events/easl-special-conference/easl-special-conference-clinical-drug-development-for-hepatitis-c](http://www.easl.eu/events/easl-special-conference/easl-special-conference-clinical-drug-development-for-hepatitis-c)

2<sup>nd</sup> World Congress on Controversies in the  
Management of Viral Hepatitis (C-Hep)  
18-20 October 2012  
Berlin, Germany  
[www.comtecmec.com/chep/2012/](http://www.comtecmec.com/chep/2012/)

AASLD - The Liver Meeting 2012  
9-11 November 2012  
Boston, Massachusetts  
[www.aasld.org/lm2012/program/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.aasld.org/lm2012/program/Pages/default.aspx)

Canadian Digestive Diseases Week (CDDW)  
and Annual Canadian Association for the  
Study of the Liver (CASL) Winter Meeting  
March 1-4 2013 Victoria, BC  
[www.cag-acg.org/annual-conference-cddw](http://www.cag-acg.org/annual-conference-cddw)

## INCIVEK CARE

Vertex's IncivekCare Patient Assistance Program supports patients with the reimbursement process for Incivek (telaprevir) treatment (Incivek, pegIFN, ribavirin). It will give you an efficient assessment of your options and eligibility. You may qualify to receive co-payment and other financial assistance to supplement your private and provincial drug program coverage. The program also provides dispensing and home delivery options and expert treatment advice. Call the Support Line at 1-877-574-4298. (Select option 2 for English, then 2 for Incivek Care.)

## 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/](http://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](http://www.lauzonbelanger.qc.ca/cms/index.php?page=108)

Roy Elliot  
Roy Elliott Kim O'Connor LLP.  
[hepc@reko.ca](mailto:hepc@reko.ca) [www.reko.ca/html/hepatitisc.html](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hepc/comp-indem_e.html)

### CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR

#### 1986-1990

Administrator 1-877-434-0944  
[www.hepc8690.com](http://www.hepc8690.com) [info@hepc8690.com](mailto:info@hepc8690.com)  
[www.hepc8690.ca/PDFs/initialClaims/tran5-e.pdf](http://www.hepc8690.ca/PDFs/initialClaims/tran5-e.pdf)

#### Pre-86/Post-90

Administrator 1-866-334-3361  
[preposthepc@crawco.ca](mailto:preposthepc@crawco.ca)  
[www.pre86post90settlement.ca](http://www.pre86post90settlement.ca)

**Settlement Agreement:**  
[www.reko.ca/html/hepc\\_settlement.pdf](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](mailto:leanne.cunningham@avi.org) 250-830-0787

♦ **Comox Valley** Harm reduction, counselling, advocacy. 355 6<sup>th</sup> St., Courtenay. Contact Sarah

[sarah.sullivan@avi.org](mailto:sarah.sullivan@avi.org) 250-338-7400

♦ **Nanaimo** Meetings 4<sup>th</sup> Tues monthly 1<sup>st</sup> 15 pm 201-55 Victoria Rd Contact Anita for details. 250-753-2437

[anital.rosewall@avi.org](mailto:anital.rosewall@avi.org)

♦ **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](mailto: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.jeffers@avi.org](mailto:Hermione.jeffers@avi.org)

**Boundary HCV Support and Education** Contact Ken 250-442-1280 [ksthomson@direct.ca](mailto:ksthomson@direct.ca)

**Burnaby HCV Support** Contact Beverly 604-435-3717 [batlas@ielus.net](mailto:batlas@ielus.net)

**Castlegar** Contact Robin 250-365-6137 [eor@shaw.ca](mailto:eor@shaw.ca)

**Comox Valley Positive Wellness North Island Treatment/Pre & Post-treatment Support Group** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed., 615-10th St, Courtenay. Lunch. Contact Cheryl [Cheryl.taylor@viha.ca](mailto:Cheryl.taylor@viha.ca) 250-331-8524.

**CoolAid** Community Health Centre, Victoria. Meetings each Wed 10 AM. 713 Johnson St. Support for all stages of treatment (deciding, during, after). Contact Roz [rmilne@coolaid.org](mailto:rmilne@coolaid.org)

**Courtenay HCV Peer Support and Education.** Contact Del 250-703-0231 [dgrimstad@shaw.ca](mailto:dgrimstad@shaw.ca)

**Cowichan Valley HCV Support** Contact Leah 250-748-3432 [r-lattig@shaw.ca](mailto:r-lattig@shaw.ca)

**HepCBC** [info@hepcbc.ca](http://info@hepcbc.ca), [www.hepcbc.ca](http://www.hepcbc.ca)

♦ **Victoria Peer Support:** 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:info@askwellness.ca) 250-376-7558 1-800-661-7541 ext 232 or Merritt health housing and counseling 250-315-0098. [www.askwellness.ca](http://www.askwellness.ca)

**Kamloops Hep C support group,** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:eriseley@shaw.ca), Lisa 1-866-637-5144 [ljmortell@shaw.ca](mailto:ljmortell@shaw.ca)

**Mid Island Hepatitis C Society** Contact [midislandhepc@hotmail.com](mailto:midislandhepc@hotmail.com)

**Nanaimo Hepatitis C Treatment Support** AVI Health Centre, #216-55 Victoria Rd. Contact Fran 250-740-6942. [hepcxpeersupport@hotmail.com](mailto:hepcxpeersupport@hotmail.com)

**Nelson** Info & support for prevention, testing, treatment and living well with hepatitis C. Contact Laura 1-800-421-2437, 250-505-5506. [ankorshepc@ankors.bc.ca](mailto:ankorshepc@ankors.bc.ca)

**New Westminster Stride "HepC"** Support Group each Fri 10 AM *except* 4<sup>th</sup> Fri. of the month. Nurse Practitioner, refreshments. Contact: Stride Workers 604-526-2522, [mail@purposesociety.org](mailto:mail@purposesociety.org)

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

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

♦ **Campbell River:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues monthly 1PM Drop-in, Salvation Army Light-house. (nurse)

**Penticton & District** Community Resources Society, Harm Reduction Program, 330 Ellis Street, Penticton. Contact: 250-488-1376 or 250-492-5814

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

**Powell River Hepatology Service** Powell River Community Health, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor-5000 Joyce Ave. Contact Melinda [Melinda.herceg@vch.ca](mailto:Melinda.herceg@vch.ca) 604-485-3310

**Prince George Hep C Support** Contact Ilse [ilse.kuepper@northernhealth.ca](mailto:ilse.kuepper@northernhealth.ca)

**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](mailto:wendy@wendyswellness.ca) [www.wendyswellness.ca](http://www.wendyswellness.ca)

**Slocan Valley Support Group** Contact Ken 250-355-2732, [ken.forsythe@gmail.com](mailto:ken.forsythe@gmail.com)

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

**VANDU** The Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users. 380 E Hastings St. M-F 10-4 Contact 604-683-6061 [vandu@vandu.org](mailto:vandu@vandu.org) [www.vandu.org](http://www.vandu.org)

**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](mailto:pvanbo@gmail.com) Tel. 250-309-1358.

**YouthCO** HIV + Hep C Society of BC. 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: Stewart [stewartc@youthco.org](mailto:stewartc@youthco.org), Briony [brionym@youthco.org](mailto:brionym@youthco.org) [www.youthco.org](http://www.youthco.org)

**Whitehorse, Yukon—Blood Ties Four Directions** Contact 867-633-2437 Toll free: 1-877-333-2437 [bloodties@klondiker.com](mailto:bloodties@klondiker.com)

## OTHER PROVINCES

### ONTARIO:

**Barrie Hepatitis Support** Contact Jeanie for info/appointment [jeanievilleneuve@hotmail.com](mailto:jeanievilleneuve@hotmail.com)

**Hamilton Hepatitis C Support Group** 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:hepccommcoord@gmail.com), [www.aidsnorthbay.com](http://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](mailto:hepcnetwork@gmail.com). <http://hepcnetwork.net>

**Kingston Hep C Info** HIV/AIDS Regional Service. Contact 613-545-3698, 1-800-565-2209 [www.hars.ca](http://www.hars.ca) [hars@kingston.net](mailto:hars@kingston.net)

**Kitchener Area Support** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. monthly, 7:30 PM, Ray of Hope Community Room, 659 King St. East (Enter off King St) Kitchener. Contact Bob 519-886-5706, Mavis 519-743-1922 or [waterlooregionhepcsupport@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://hivaidconnection.com)

**Oshawa Community Health Centre Hepatitis C Team** 115 Grassmere Ave. Social worker, outreach worker, coordinator, nurse. Hep C Support Group meetings—1<sup>st</sup> Wed monthly, 6 PM, 79 McMillan St. [www.ochc.ca](http://www.ochc.ca) Contact 1-855-808-6242

**Owen Sound** Info, support. Contact Debby Minielly [dminielly@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca](mailto:dminielly@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca) 1-800-263-3456 Ext. 1257, 519-376-9420, Ext. 1257, [www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca/](http://www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca/)

**Peel Region** (Brampton, Mississauga, Caledon) 905-799-7700 [healthlinepeel@peelregion.ca](mailto:healthlinepeel@peelregion.ca)

**St. Catharines** Contact Joe 905-682-6194

**Sudbury Circle C Support Group** 1<sup>st</sup> Tues. monthly. Contact Ernie 705-522-5156, [hepc.support@persona.ca](mailto:hepc.support@persona.ca) or Monique 705-691-4507.

**Toronto CLF** 1<sup>st</sup> Mon. monthly Oct.—June, 7:30 PM, North York Civic Centre, 5100 Yonge Street. Contact Billie 416-491-3353, ext. 4932. [bpotkonjak@liver.ca](mailto:bpotkonjak@liver.ca) [www.liver.ca](http://www.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](http://undun@sympatico.ca)

**York Region Hepatitis C Education Group** 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:info@hepcyorkregion.org) [www.hepcyorkregion.org](http://www.hepcyorkregion.org)

### QUEBEC:

**Quebec City Region** Contact Renée Daurio 418-836-2307 [reneeaurio@hotmail.com](mailto:reneeaurio@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](mailto:info@hepatitisoutreach.com) [www.hepatitisoutreach.com](http://www.hepatitisoutreach.com)

### PRAIRIE PROVINCES:

**Manitoba** Hepatitis C phone and email support and outreach. Info Line: 1-204-779-6464 or contact Kirk at [info@mbhepc.org](mailto:info@mbhepc.org). Direct line: 1-204-389-5814

**Medicine Hat, AB Hep C Support Group** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. monthly, 6:30 PM, HIV/AIDS Network of S.E. AB Association, 550 Allowance Ave. Contact 403-527-7099 [bettyc2@hivnetwork.ca](mailto:bettyc2@hivnetwork.ca)

**If you have a Canadian HCV support group to list here, please send details to [info@hepcbc.ca](mailto:info@hepcbc.ca) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. It's free!**