

HepCBC Hepatitis C Education and Prevention Society  
Cheryl Reitz, HCV+ Volunteer, Board Member  
[cherylreitz.hepcbc@gmail.com](mailto:cherylreitz.hepcbc@gmail.com)

Dear Ms. Reitz;

Thank you for providing patient input submissions for Zaxine and Revolade to the CADTH Common Drug Review.

Your group's input helped CADTH reviewers develop the review protocols by identifying important outcomes, and is discussed in the clinical reports where relevant. These reports will shortly become available on CADTH's website.

A member of the Canadian Drug Expert Committee presented your input to provide the whole committee with patients' perspectives and to underscore unmet needs. Committee members reflected on how or whether the evidence under review addressed the issues identified by your group. A summary of the reasons for the recommendations are now available on our website.

CADTH reviewers and expert committee members found your input useful, particularly with regards to:

- Describing the experience of hepatic encephalopathy, and how even mild symptoms have a significant negative impact on an individual's quality of life, their relationships and their ability to concentrate (Zaxine).
- Describing the limitations of the current treatments; lactulose. Not all patients respond to it and the side effects are considerable. It can be hard to adhere to lactulose because of these side effects and the need for frequent dosage adjustments (Zaxine).
- The willingness of patients to cope with serious side effects to deal with their thrombocytopenia if it can help them initiate or continue treatment (Revolade).

Patient groups have asked us to also provide suggestions to help prepare future submissions. In this spirit, we suggest the following for your consideration:

- If patients had experienced problems, or mixed results with Zaxine, it would have been helpful to hear of these experiences too.

CADTH reviewers and the Canadian Drug Expert Committee members thank you for your time and effort in providing patients' perspectives. Patient input is an integral part of our review process and we appreciate your contribution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Rader".

Tamara Rader  
Patient Engagement Officer, CADTH

cc: Frank Gavin, Public Member, CDEC; Allen Lefebvre, Public Member, CDEC; Chander Sehgal, Director, CDR and Optimal Use