

## **WHO-PQ RECOMMENDED PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET**

*This patient information leaflet focuses on uses of the medicine covered by WHO's Prequalification Team - Medicines. The recommendations for use are based on WHO guidelines and on information from stringent regulatory authorities.\**

*The medicine may be authorised for additional or different uses by national medicines regulatory authorities.*

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\* [https://extranet.who.int/prequal/sites/default/files/document\\_files/75%20SRA%20clarification\\_Feb2017\\_newtempl.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/prequal/sites/default/files/document_files/75%20SRA%20clarification_Feb2017_newtempl.pdf)

## Information for the patient

[HP003 product name]<sup>†</sup>  
Sofosbuvir

*The warnings and instructions in this leaflet are intended for the person taking the medicine.  
If you are a parent or carer responsible for giving the medicine to someone else such as a child,  
you will need to apply the instructions accordingly.*

### **Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have questions about the medicine, ask your health care provider.
- This medicine is for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their illness seems to be the same as yours.
- If you are concerned about any side effects, talk to your health care provider. This includes unwanted effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

### **What is in this leaflet**

1. What [HP003 product name] is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take [HP003 product name]
3. How to take [HP003 product name]
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store [HP003 product name]
6. Contents of the pack and other information

#### **1. What [HP003 product name] is and what it is used for**

[HP003 product name] is used to treat adults and children who have hepatitis C, an infectious liver disease caused by the hepatitis C virus.

[HP003 product name] is always taken with other medicines. It is commonly taken with either:

- daclatasvir
- velpatasvir
- ledipasvir

[HP003 product name] contains the active substance sofosbuvir and works by blocking a protein that the virus needs to grow and reproduce itself. This lowers the amount of hepatitis C virus in your body and removes the virus from your blood over a period of time.

#### **2. What you need to know before you take [HP003 product name]**

##### **Do not take [HP003 product name]**

- If you are allergic to sofosbuvir or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6 of this leaflet).
- If you are currently taking any of the following medicines:
  - **Rifampicin** (an antibiotic used to treat infections, including tuberculosis);
  - **St. John's wort** (*Hypericum perforatum* – herbal medicine used to treat depression);
  - **Carbamazepine, phenobarbital and phenytoin** (medicines used to treat epilepsy and prevent

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<sup>†</sup> Trade names are not prequalified by WHO. This is the national medicines regulatory agency's responsibility.

seizures).

### Warnings and precautions

[HP003 product name] is always taken with other medicines (see section 1 above). Talk to your health care provider before taking this medicine if you:

- Currently take, or have taken in the last few months, the medicine amiodarone to treat irregular heartbeats. Taking [HP003 product name] with or shortly after amiodarone may make your heart beat too slowly, which can be dangerous. Your health care provider will consider alternative treatments if you have taken amiodarone. If giving [HP003 product name] with, or shortly after, amiodarone is essential, you may require additional heart monitoring;
- Have liver problems other than hepatitis C, e.g. if you are awaiting a liver transplantation;
- Have a current or previous infection with the hepatitis B virus, since your health care provider may want to monitor you more closely;
- Have diabetes. You may need closer monitoring of your blood glucose levels and/or adjustment of your diabetes medication after starting [HP003 product name]. Some patients with diabetes have experienced low sugar levels in the blood (hypoglycaemia) after starting treatment with medicines like [HP003 product name].

**Tell your health care provider immediately** if you are taking any medicines for heart problems and during treatment you experience:

- slow or irregular heartbeat, or heart rhythm problems
- shortness of breath or worsening of any shortness of breath you already have
- chest pain
- light-headedness
- palpitations
- fainting

### Blood tests

Your health care provider will test your blood before, during and after your treatment with [HP003 product name]. This is so your health care provider can:

- Decide what other medicines you should take with [HP003 product name] and for how long;
- Confirm that your treatment has worked and you are free of the hepatitis C virus.

### Children and adolescents

The use of [HP003 product name] in children under 3 years of age has not yet been studied.

### Other medicines and [HP003 product name]

Tell your health care provider if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines. This includes herbal medicines and medicines obtained without a prescription. [HP003 product name] must not be used with some medicines (see 'Do not take [HP003 product name]', above) and other medicines may not work as well or may affect the way this medicine works.

**Warfarin** and other similar medicines called vitamin K antagonists are used to thin the blood. Your health care provider may need to increase the frequency of your blood tests to check how well your blood can clot.

Your liver function may change with treatment of hepatitis C and therefore may affect other medications (e.g. medicines used to suppress your immune system, etc.). Your health care provider may need to closely monitor these other medicines you are taking and make adjustments after starting [HP003 product name].

Talk to your health care provider if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- Oxcarbazepine (a medicine used to treat epilepsy and prevent seizures);
- Modafinil (a medicine to treat people with narcolepsy to help them stay awake).
- Rifapentine (a medicine used to treat infections including tuberculosis).

This is because they may make [HP003 product name] work less well.

**Tell your health care provider** if you take:

- amiodarone, used to treat irregular heartbeats. If you are not sure, talk to your health care provider.

### **Pregnancy and contraception**

There are no or limited amount of data on the use of [HP003 product name] in pregnant women.

If you are pregnant, think you may be pregnant or are planning to become pregnant, ask your health care provider for advice before taking this medicine.

### **Breast-feeding**

You should not breast-feed during treatment with [HP003 product name]. It is not known whether sofosbuvir, the active substance of [HP003 product name], passes into human breast milk or could affect the baby.

### **Driving and using machines**

When taking [HP003 product name] together with other medicines for the treatment of hepatitis C infection, patients have reported tiredness and reduced attention. If you have any of these side effects, do not drive or use any tools or machines.

## **3. How to take [HP003 product name]**

Always take this medicine exactly as your health care provider has told you. Check with your health care provider if you are not sure.

[HP003 product name] should always be taken in combination with other medicines for hepatitis C.

### **Recommended dose**

The recommended dose is **one tablet once a day** for 12 weeks. Your health care provider may extend your treatment with [HP003 product name] to 24 weeks in certain cases.

### **How to take the tablet**

Swallow the tablet whole **with food**. Do not chew, crush or split the tablet as it has a very bitter taste. Tell your health care provider if you have problems swallowing tablets.

If you are sick (vomit) **less than 2 hours** after taking [HP003 product name], take another tablet. If you vomit **more than 2 hours** after taking it, you do not need to take another tablet until your next regularly scheduled tablet.

### **If you take more [HP003 product name] than you should**

If you accidentally take more than the recommended dose you should contact your health care provider or nearest emergency department immediately for advice. Keep the tablet container with you so that you can easily describe what you have taken.

### **If you forget to take [HP003 product name]**

It is important not to miss a dose of this medicine.

If you do miss a dose:

- **and you notice that there are more than 6 hours to go** until your next dose, you must take the missed tablet right away. Then take the next dose at your usual time.
- **and there are less than 6 hours to go** until the time you usually take [HP003 product name], then wait and take the next dose at your usual time. Do not take a double dose (two doses close together).

### **Do not stop taking [HP003 product name]**

**Do not stop taking this medicine** unless your health care provider tells you to. It is very important that you complete the full course of treatment to give the medicines the best chance to treat your hepatitis C virus infection.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your health care provider.

#### 4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

When you take [HP003 product name] in combination with and amiodarone (a medicine used for heart problems), you may get one or more of the side effects below:

- slow or irregular heartbeat or heart rhythm problems
- shortness of breath or worsening of any shortness of breath you already have

Tell your health care provider if you notice any of the above side effects during therapy.

The following side effects have been reported when [HP003 product name] has been used in combination with another hepatitis C medicine:

##### Very common side effects

(may affect more than 1 in 10 people)

- feeling sick (nausea)
- trouble sleeping (insomnia)
- feeling tired and irritable
- headache

*Blood tests may also show:*

- low haemoglobin (the protein in red blood cells that carries oxygen around the body)
- changes in your liver (as shown by increased amounts of a substance called bilirubin in the blood)

##### Common side effects

(may affect up to 1 in 10 people)

- inflammation of the nose and throat (nasopharyngitis)
- loss of appetite
- feeling depressed
- loss of concentration
- shortness of breath, cough
- stomach discomfort, constipation, indigestion
- hair loss and thinning hair
- dry skin and itching
- back pain, muscle spasms
- muscle aches and pains, pain in the joints
- weakness
- fever

*Blood tests may also show:*

- low red blood cell count (anaemia); the signs may include feeling tired, headaches, shortness of breath when exercising

*Other effects that may be seen during treatment with sofosbuvir:*

The frequency of the following side effects is not known (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data).

- a wide-spread severe rash with peeling skin which may be accompanied by fever, flu-like symptoms, blisters in the mouth, eyes, and/or genitals (Stevens-Johnson syndrome).

→ **If any of the side effects get serious tell your health care provider.**

##### Reporting of side effects

If you get a side effect, talk to your health care provider. This includes side effects not listed in this leaflet. You may also be able to report such effects directly to your national reporting system if one is available. By reporting side effects, you can help to improve the available information on this medicine.

## 5. How to store [HP003 product name]

Store at a temperature not exceeding 30°C, in a dry place.

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date stated on the label after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not use this medicine if you notice description of the visible signs of deterioration that it is different from the description below.

Do not throw away any medicines in wastewater or household waste. Ask your health care provider how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

## 6. Contents of the pack and other information

### What [HP003 product name] contains

- The active ingredient is sofosbuvir
- The other ingredients of [HP003 product name] are:

*Core tablet:* mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, croscarmellose sodium, colloidal silicon dioxide and magnesium stearate

*Film coat:* polyethylene glycol, polyvinyl alcohol, talc, titanium dioxide and iron oxide yellow

There is too little sodium in this medicine to have any effect, even if you are on a low-sodium diet.

### What [HP003 product name] looks like and contents of the pack

[HP003 trade name] are:

Pale yellow to yellow oblong biconvex (rounded on top and bottom) tablets.

[HP003 trade name] are packed in white 50ml HDPE bottle with aluminium seal and white child-resistant HDPE cap, containing 28 film-coated tablets and a desiccant.

### Supplier and Manufacturer

#### *Supplier*

European Egyptian Pharmaceutical Industries  
Alexandria-Cairo Desert Road Km 25  
Amriya, Alexandria  
P.O. Box 111, El Manshia Alex  
Egypt  
Tel: +20 (3) 4700083 / 9613699  
Email: [pharco@pharco.com.eg](mailto:pharco@pharco.com.eg)

#### *Manufacturer*

European Egyptian Pharmaceutical Industries  
Alexandria-Cairo Desert Road Km 25  
Amriya, Alexandria  
El Manshia Alex  
Egypt  
Tel: +20 (3) 4700083 / 9613699  
Email: [pharco@pharco.com.eg](mailto:pharco@pharco.com.eg)

For any information about this medicine, contact the local representative of the supplier:

**This leaflet was last revised in May 2024**

Detailed information on this medicine is available on the World Health Organization (WHO) website:  
<https://extranet.who.int/prequal/medicines/prequalified/finished-pharmaceutical-products>