



INFORMATION FOR PEOPLE PRESCRIBED MAVIRET

**DON'T
LOOK
BACK**

MY GUIDE TO MAVIRET

FOR CHRONIC HEPATITIS C*

*MAVIRET is a prescription medicine used to treat adults with chronic (long-lasting) hep C virus.

The people shown in this booklet are from stock photography (models) and are not actual patients.

abbvie

MAVIRET 
glecaprevir/pibrentasvir

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The information in this booklet does not replace the Consumer Medicine Information which is available from your pharmacist, www.maviret.co.nz, or www.medsafe.govt.nz.

WHAT IS MAVIRET?

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

MAVIRET is a combination of two medicines, glecaprevir and pibrentasvir, that work together to stop the hep C virus from multiplying.

MAVIRET belongs to a group of medicines called direct-acting antiviral agents.

HOW DOES MAVIRET WORK?

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

If chronic hep C is untreated, the hep C virus can multiply inside your liver cells and cause damage. In some cases, hep C damage can lead to cirrhosis (severe scarring), liver failure and sometimes liver cancer; this can take up to 20 years or more to occur. Successful treatment can lower the risk of developing liver failure and liver cancer in people with cirrhosis.

Based on clinical trials, 98% of people who take MAVIRET as directed and who are new to treatment and without cirrhosis can expect to be cured of their hep C.

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

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

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

WHERE DO I COLLECT MY MAVIRET FROM?

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

Find your closest AbbVie Care Pharmacy on www.maviret.co.nz or talk to your doctor or nurse.

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

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

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

Foil blister / Daily dose pack



Weekly box



Monthly carton



Tablet images are for illustrative purposes only.

MAVIRET DOSING

WHAT DOSE DO I NEED TO TAKE?

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



ONCE DAILY



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

HOW DO I TAKE MY TABLETS?



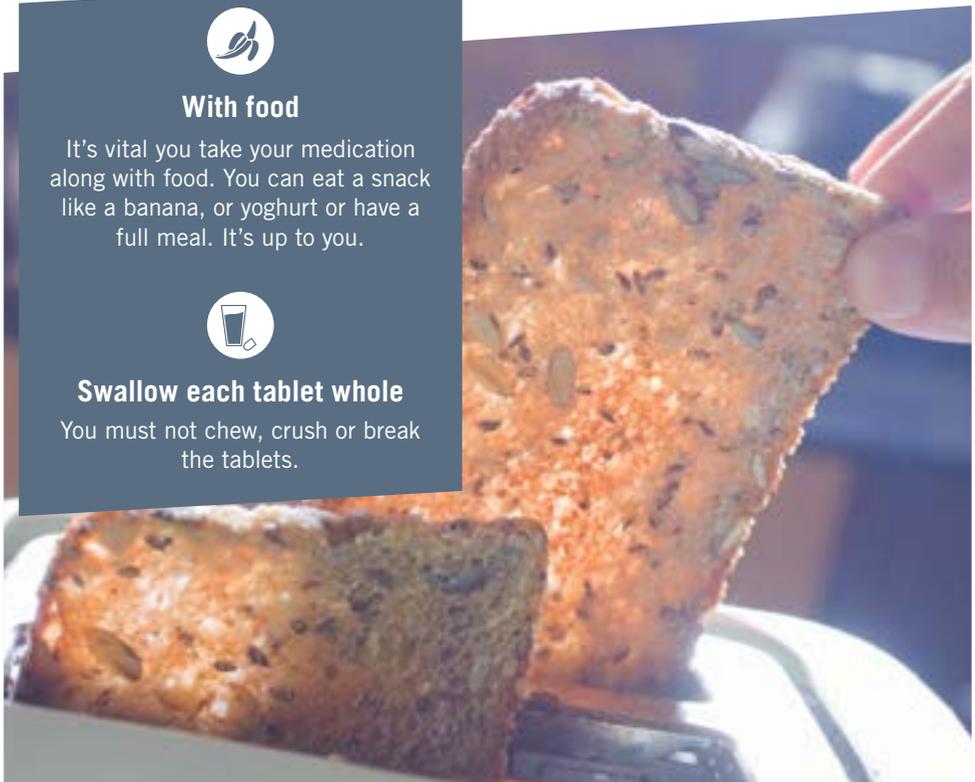
With food

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



Swallow each tablet whole

You must not chew, crush or break the tablets.



*Tablet images are for illustrative purposes only.

HOW LONG SHOULD I TAKE MY TABLETS FOR?



TAKING MAVIRET

MOST PEOPLE TAKE MAVIRET FOR 8 WEEKS.

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

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

Do not change your dose.



TOO MUCH MAVIRET (OVERDOSE)

Immediately telephone your doctor, call the Poisons Information Centre on 0800 POISON (0800 764 766), or go to your nearest Accident and Emergency.

Take the medicine pack with you so that you can show the doctor what you have taken. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort.

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

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I MISS A DOSE?

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

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

TIME SINCE DOSE WAS MISSED

LESS THAN 18^{hrs} **Take the missed dose with food as soon as possible.**
Then take the next dose at your usual time. 

18^{hrs} OR MORE **Wait and take the next dose at your usual time.**
Do not take a double dose (two doses too close together). 

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

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I LOSE MY MEDICATION?

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

WHAT SIDE EFFECTS COULD I EXPERIENCE?

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

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

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

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

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

Likelihood of common side effects

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

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

Some medicines interact with MAVIRET.

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

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



DON'T START ANY NEW MEDICINES WITHOUT TALKING TO YOUR DOCTOR OR PHARMACIST ABOUT WHETHER THEY CAN BE USED AT THE SAME TIME AS YOUR TREATMENT FOR HEP C.

WHEN SHOULD YOU NOT TAKE MAVIRET?

- ❌ If you have an allergy to any medicine containing glecaprevir or pibrentasvir (the active ingredients of MAVIRET), or any non-active ingredient of MAVIRET.
- ❌ If you have severe liver disease.
- ❌ If you are taking atazanavir (for HIV infection), rifampicin (for tuberculosis).
- ❌ If you are under the age of 18 years.
- ❌ After the expiry date printed on the pack or if the packaging is damaged or shows signs of tampering. If it is expired or is damaged, return it to your pharmacist for disposal.

TELL YOUR DOCTOR IF:

- you have any allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.
- you have or have had any of the following medical conditions:
 - liver problems other than hepatitis C infection.
 - HIV (human immunodeficiency virus).
 - hepatitis B infection.
- you have had a liver transplant.
- you are pregnant or trying to become pregnant.
- you are breastfeeding or are planning to breastfeed.

HEPATITIS B INFECTION

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

IS IT OK TO TAKE MAVIRET IF I AM PREGNANT?

**THE EFFECTS OF MAVIRET DURING PREGNANCY ARE NOT KNOWN.
THEREFORE THE USE OF MAVIRET IN PREGNANCY IS NOT RECOMMENDED.**

If you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant, or your partner is pregnant or planning to become pregnant, ask your doctor for advice before taking MAVIRET.

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

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



CAN I BREASTFEED WHILE TAKING MAVIRET?



It is not known whether the active substances (glecaprevir and pibrentasvir) in MAVIRET pass into breast milk. A risk to a breastfed baby cannot be ruled out. Your doctor will discuss this decision with you.

SOME COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT TREATMENT

HOW DO I COLLECT MAVIRET FROM THE PHARMACY?

A: You can only get MAVIRET from certain pharmacies (AbbVie Care Pharmacies). Find your closest AbbVie Care Pharmacy on www.maviret.co.nz or talk to your doctor or nurse. After your doctor writes your prescription, take it to your chosen AbbVie Care Pharmacy. The Pharmacist will then order your MAVIRET and contact you when it's ready to pick up (this may take a few days). You will usually get a 1-month supply of MAVIRET each time you visit, until you finish your treatment. You will not have to pay pharmacy fees when you collect your MAVIRET each month.

DOES IT REALLY MATTER WHEN I TAKE MAVIRET?

A: Absolutely. You must take your tablets daily as directed by your doctor. Sticking to a regular time helps you remember when to take your daily dose and this helps to regulate the amount of active ingredient in your body across a 24-hour period.

HOW CAN I REMEMBER TO TAKE MY MAVIRET EVERY DAY?

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

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

HOW DO I STORE MAVIRET?

A: Keep MAVIRET in a cool, dry place where the temperature stays below 30°C. Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children. Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and blister pack after 'EXP'.

CAN I DRINK ALCOHOL WHILE ON MAVIRET?

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

WILL MAVIRET AFFECT MY ABILITY TO DRIVE?

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

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE END OF MY TREATMENT?

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

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

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

USEFUL INFORMATION

WHAT IS HEPATITIS C?

**“HEPATITIS” MEANS INFLAMMATION OF THE LIVER.
WHEN THE LIVER IS INFLAMED OR DAMAGED, ITS FUNCTION CAN BE AFFECTED.**

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

For more information, visit www.hepcinfo.co.nz and www.maviret.co.nz.



HEP C GENOTYPES

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

MAVIRET can be used to treat all 6 genotypes.



TAKING CARE OF YOUR LIVER

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

TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR FOR ADVICE.

WHAT SHOULD YOU BE EATING?

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

OTHER MEDICATIONS

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

GET ACTIVE

Exercise doesn't have to mean gym classes or sport. **Getting out and about walking** is enough if you don't fancy jumping around – try to **exercise three times a week** if you can. Always discuss with your doctor.

REDUCE OR AVOID ALCOHOL

If you have no liver fibrosis (liver scarring) or only mild fibrosis, you should **reduce your alcohol intake**. If you have moderate or severe liver damage (fibrosis or cirrhosis), it is best to **avoid alcohol completely**.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Hep C Doctor: _____ Phone: _____

Nurse: _____ Phone: _____

Pharmacist: _____ Phone: _____

GP: _____ Phone: _____

Other: _____ Phone: _____

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

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

Treatment start date: _____

Blood tests: _____

Clinic visits: _____

Pharmacy visits: _____

Treatment end date: _____

Blood test 12 weeks after treatment: _____

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

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT MAVIRET®

MAVIRET is a prescription medicine containing a combination tablet of 100 mg of glecaprevir and 40 mg of pibrentasvir. It is used to treat chronic (long-lasting) hepatitis C virus (HCV) in adults. This medicine belongs to a group of medicines called direct-acting antiviral agents. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why MAVIRET has been prescribed for you. **MAVIRET has risks and benefits.** You must not take MAVIRET if you are allergic to any of the medicines contained in MAVIRET, or to any of the inactive ingredients. Do not take it if you have severe liver disease; if you are taking atazanavir or rifampicin containing products. Before you use MAVIRET, tell your doctor if you have or have had liver problems other than hepatitis C infection, HIV infection, hepatitis B infection, or a liver or kidney transplant. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are pregnant, trying to become pregnant or if you are breastfeeding or are planning to breastfeed. Do not give MAVIRET to a child under the age of 18 years. Some medicines and MAVIRET may interfere with each other, so tell your doctor if you are taking medicines containing any of the following: atorvastatin, simvastatin, pravastatin, rosuvastatin, lovastatin, carbamazepine, ciclosporin, darunavir, lopinavir, ritonavir, efavirenz, dabigatran, digoxin, ethinyloestradiol, fluindione, warfarin or other vitamin K antagonists, St John's wort. Tell your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you notice anything that is making you feel unwell. Some of the more common side effects of MAVIRET include feeling very tired, headache and nausea.

If you have any questions about using MAVIRET, including its risks and benefits, how much to use, how and when to use it, ask your healthcare professional and refer to the Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) available from your pharmacist, from the Medsafe website www.medsafe.govt.nz or free phone 0800 900 030. Ask your doctor if MAVIRET is right for you. Normal doctor's charges apply. Always use strictly as directed. If symptoms continue, or you have side effects, see your healthcare professional

