

December 21, 2016

Cheryl Reitz  
Board Member and HCV+ volunteer  
Hepatitis C Education and Prevention Society

Dear Cheryl,

Thank you for providing patient input for sofosbuvir/velpatasvir (Epclusa) to the CADTH Common Drug Review.

Your group's input helped CADTH reviewers develop the review protocol by identifying important outcomes, and is discussed in the clinical report where relevant. The clinical report 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 recommendation is now available on our website.

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

- Continuing to provide fresh insights, perspectives and emphases in your input to CADTH on drugs to treat hepatitis C.
- Raising patient concerns about the possibility of hepatitis B virus reactivation and of liver cancer resurgence among HCV patients taking the new interferon-free DAA treatments.
- Emphasizing that the high cost of interferon-free DAAs is a major barrier to patient access.

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,



Sarah Berglas  
Patient Engagement Officer, CADTH

cc: Frank Gavin, Public Member, CDEC; Allen Lefebvre, Public Member, CDEC; Trevor Richter, Director, CDR and Optimal Use; Ken Bond, Director, Patient Engagement, CADTH.