

I have been suffering from Hepatitis C for 22 years. I don't take drugs at all nor do I drink at all. I am just an ordinary guy and was diagnosed 8 years ago when I began to feel unwell. Since then my health has slowly gone down hill to the point where I am now confined to my rented unit with my son who helps me. I suffer from severe fatigue and find it difficult to walk further than 50 meters. I can go on short shopping trips and appointments and tidy the flat but can do nothing else.

24 hours a day I battle a whole raft of symptoms that would make most just give up, and the effects caused me to give up my job of 14 years and my unit I was paying off. I was forced on to disability payments one year ago when I simply became unable to continue working.

In 2007 I was treated for 11 months with Interferon injections and Ribavirin. The treatment was a nightmare and failed to produce a positive result. In 2013 my specialist [REDACTED] ordered a second treatment of Interferon injections, Ribavirin and Boceprevir. In the third week of this treatment it was discovered that I had become Interferon intolerant and had, as a result of the injections, become dangerously anaemic. I had to be removed from treatment as a lifesaving measure and it became clear that I would not be able to take Interferon, Ribavirin or any other drug that has anaemia as a side effect. My red blood cell count has not recovered fully and probably will not plus I now have cirrhosis of the liver. The only hope I have to live beyond another year or two is to receive a liver transplant, or access to Sofobuvir via the P.B.S. The oral drug Harvoni cures most patients even with cirrhosis. I implore you to make it available at least to the most sick and stop the unnecessary deaths.

With Thanks, Mark Taranto

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