

## ***Direct-Acting Antivirals – on the Eve of a New Era of Hepatitis C Treatment***



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**SUMMARY:** *This review provides essential information on a newly introduced group of medications for the treatment of genotype 1 hepatitis C in combination with the current standard of care – pegylated interferon alpha and ribavirin. The mechanism of action is briefly explained, with respect to a significant increase in the potency of triple therapy in comparison with the current dual therapy. The text aims at providing addiction professionals with information on the new approaches and limitations this therapy involves. The factors predicting treatment response are described. The critical issues of treatment-induced viral resistance and interactions with other medication and/or illicit drugs are brought up. The potential of specific adverse effects of new medications is also addressed.*

**KEY WORDS:** VIRAL HEPATITIS C – INJECTING DRUG USE – PEGYLATED INTERFERON – RIBAVIRIN – BOCEPREVIR – TELAPREVIR – ADHERENCE – VIRAL RESISTANCE

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