

# Ribavirin

## What is ribavirin?

- Ribavirin is a prescription medication used to treat Hepatitis C and is always used in combination with another medication.

## How should I take ribavirin?

- The amount you take is based on your weight and results of your blood tests, so it could be different for everyone.
- Take ribavirin exactly as your healthcare provider tells you.
- If you are taking ribavirin more than once a day, the dose must be **spaced 8 hours apart** from each other
- **Take ribavirin with food**

## What should I do if I miss a dose of ribavirin?

- If you miss a dose of ribavirin, take the missed dose **as soon as possible** during the same day. **Do not double the next dose.**

## Are there side effects of ribavirin?

- You may have **stomach pain, nausea**, vomiting or diarrhea
- You may feel **tired, dizzy**, or confused.
- **Rash**

## What else should I know about ribavirin?

- **Do not start any new medications**, over-the-counter medications, vitamins, or herbal supplements without speaking to your healthcare team
- Ribavirin can **cause harm or death to your unborn baby** when taken with certain medications. You and your partner must use **2 forms of birth control during treatment and for at least 6 months after your treatment is complete. Do not become pregnant during this time.**
- If you have low blood count you should not take ribavirin. If low blood count develops during treatment then your dose of ribavirin could be decreased

