Efficacy and safety of sofosbuvir/velpatasvir in people with chronic hepatitis C virus infection and recent injecting drug use: The SIMPLIFY study

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Disclosures

- Funding and speaker fees from AbbVie, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Cepheid, Gilead Sciences and Merck

Acknowledgements

We extend our gratitude to the participants, their families, investigators and site personnel who participated in this study.

Protocol Steering Committee – Gregory Dore (Chair, UNSW Sydney, Sydney, Australia), Philip Bruggmann (Arud Centres for Addiction Medicine, Zurich, Switzerland), Jason Grebely (UNSW Sydney, Sydney, Australia), Philippa Marks (UNSW Sydney, Sydney, Australia), Julie Bruneau (Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal, Canada), Tracy Swan (Médecins Sans Frontières, New York, United States), Olav Dalgard (Akershus University Hospital, Oslo, Norway), Jude Byrne (Australian Injecting & Illicit Drug Users League), Melanie Lacalamita (Poliklinik für Infektiologie, Inselspital, Bern, Switzerland) and Adrian Dunlop (Newcastle Pharmacotherapy Service, Newcastle, Australia).

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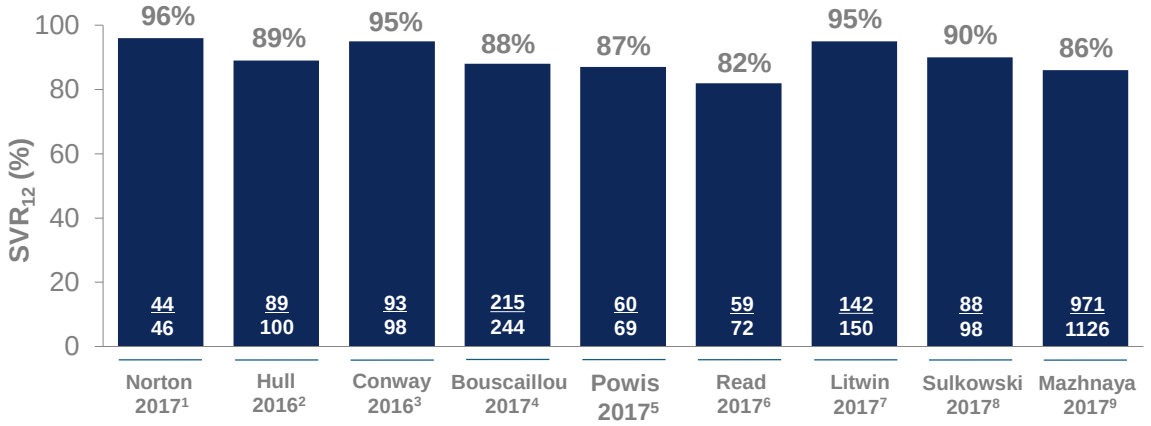
Background/rationale

- DAA therapy is effective in people receiving OST[1-7] and people with a history of injecting drug use (including current/former people who inject)[7-16]
- Ongoing concern from some clinicians regarding DAA efficacy and risk of HCV reinfection among recent PWID
- In some settings in the US[17-18] and Europe (Marshall, FRI Session O)[19], DAA reimbursement restrictions are in place for recent PWID
- Recent PWID excluded from most HCV phase II/III protocols
- There are little data on DAA outcomes among recent PWID

1) Grebely J, ILC 2017, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, April 19-23rd, 2017 (FRI-236). 2) Grebely CID 2016. 3) Grebely CID 2016. 4) Grebely J, ILC 2017, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, April 19-23rd, 2017 (FRI-235). 5) Zeuzem, S. Ann Intern Med 2015. 6) Dore, GJ Ann Intern Med 2016. 7) Grebely, Hajarizadeh, and Dore Nature Rev Gastro Hepatology 2017. 8) Norton B, et al. Int J Drug Policy In Press 2017; 9) Hull M, et al. INHSU 2016. 10) Conway AASLD 2016. 11) Bouscaillou EASL 2017. 12) Powis J. Int J Drug Policy 2017. 13) Read P. Int J Drug Policy 2017; 14) Litwin AL, et al. ILC 2017, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, April 19-23rd, 2017; 15) Sulkowski M, et al. ILC 2017, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, April 19-23rd, 2017. 16) Mazhnaya Int J Drug Policy In Press 2017. 17) Barua Ann Int Med 2017. 18) Ooka Am J Gastroenterol. 2017. 19) Marshall, AD et al. INHSU 2017, New York, United States, Sept 6-8, 2017.

SVR12 among former/recent PWID



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SIMPLIFY: Study Design

- Investigator-initiated, Kirby/UNSW sponsored, international open-label trial
- 19 sites, 7 countries
- Study recruitment conducted through a network of drug and alcohol clinics (n=1), hospital clinics (n=12), and community clinics (n=2)
- Participants enrolled between April 2016 and October 2016

SIMPLIFY: Study Design

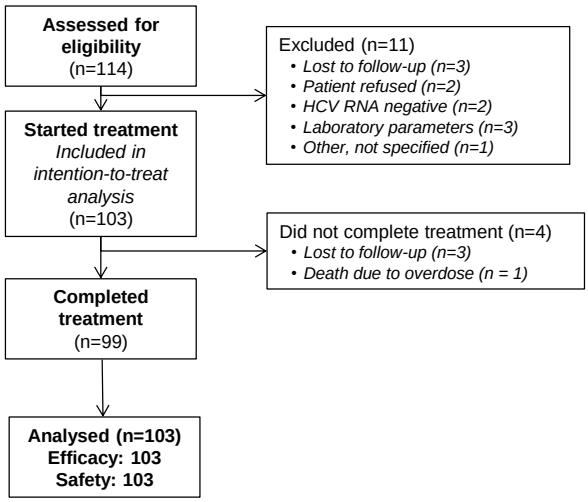
- DAA treatment-naïve patients with GT1-6 chronic HCV infection (F0-4)
- People with recent injecting drug use (past six months)
- Participants with HIV and decompensated liver disease excluded
- Electronic blister packs to monitor adherence

SIMPLIFY: Endpoints and statistical analysis

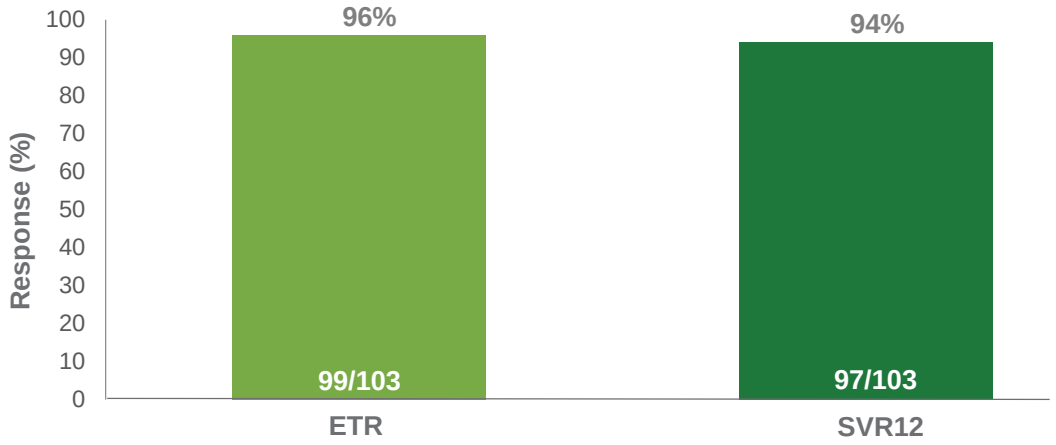
- SVR12 was the primary efficacy endpoint (intent-to-treat)
  - HCV RNA levels measured on local testing
  - Central testing with the Abbott RealTime HCV Viral Load assay (Abbott Molecular, lower limit of quantification of 12 IU/mL) is underway
- Adherence
  - Measured using an electronic blister-pack
  - Calculated by dividing the number of total doses received during therapy by the total expected number of doses
- Participants completed a self-administered questionnaire to collect information on demographics, drug and alcohol use, and injecting risk behaviours
- Detailed information on adverse events

	SOF/VEL (12 weeks) n=103
Age <40 years	25 (24%)
Female sex	29 (28%)
Injecting drug use (in the last month)	
No OST, no injecting	12 (12%)
No OST, injecting	33 (32%)
OST, no injecting	15 (15%)
OST, injecting	43 (42%)
Injecting drug use (in the last month)	
Heroin	57 (55%)
Methamphetamines	31 (30%)
Other opioids	22 (21%)
Cocaine	13 (13%)
≥Daily injecting drug use (in the last month)	27 (26%)
HCV genotype	
1	36 (35)
2	5 (5)
3	60 (58)
4	2 (2)
Fibrosis stage (METAVIR)	
F0-F1	59 (62)
F2-F3	27 (28)
F4	9 (9)

SIMPLIFY: Participant disposition



SIMPLIFY: SVR12

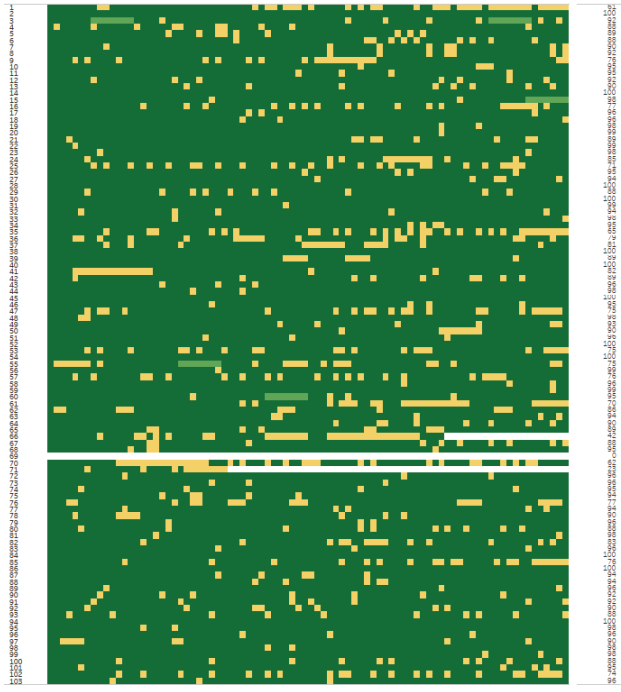


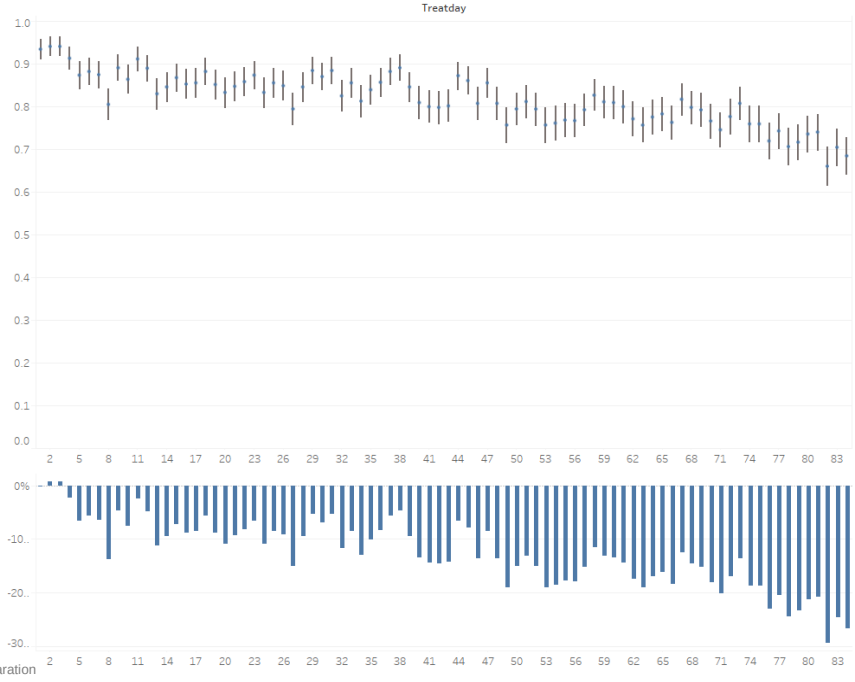
- 3 people lost to follow-up between ETR and SVR12 (no virological failure or viral relapse)
- 1 case of reinfection (1a-1a, % nucleotide: NS5A, 10.1%; NS5B, 4.6%, CoreE1, 12.0%)

SIMPLIFY: Impact of drug use and OST on SVR12

- No difference in SVR12 among people with (95%) and without recent injecting drug use (past month) at baseline (93%, P=0.683)
- No difference in SVR12 among people with (96%) and without recent ≥daily injecting drug use (past month) at baseline (93%, P=0.584)
- No difference in SVR12 among people receiving (93%) and not receiving OST at baseline (96%, P=0.598)

- Median adherence: 94%
- Mean adherence: 89%





Cunningham EB, et al In Preparation

HCV treatment and reinfection among active PWID

- Among recent PWID (past six months) with chronic HCV genotypes 1-4 treated with sofosbuvir and velpatasvir, SVR12 was 94%
- There was no impact of injecting drug use or OST at treatment initiation
  - Analyses are underway to evaluate the impact of on-treatment drug use
- There were no cases of virological failure or viral relapse, but one case of HCV reinfection was observed
- These data provide support for DAA HCV treatment among recent PWID
- Further studies are needed in people with more recent injecting and people with HCV/HIV co-infection

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