

High HCV cure rates in HIV coinfection cases at urban clinic

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(HealthDay)—For patients in an urban clinic with hepatitis C virus

(HCV) with HIV coinfection, HCV treatment is effective with standardized nurse/pharmacist support, according to a study published online June 13 in *Hepatology*.

Oluwaseun Falade-Nwulia, M.B.B.S., M.P.H., from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, and colleagues examined HCV treatment outcomes among 255 HCV coinfecting patients (88 percent black) initiating direct-acting antivirals between February 2014 and March 2016 in an urban clinic. Patients received standardized HIV nurse/pharmacist support, which included telephone calls and nurse visits.

The researchers found that 60 percent of participants had significant fibrosis and 30 percent had received treatment for HCV. Ninety-one percent of patients received ledipasvir/sofosbuvir with or without ribavirin and received 12 weeks of treatment. The sustained virologic response rate was 97 percent, with no variation by race (black and non-black, 96 and 97 percent, respectively), history of drug use, alcohol use, or psychiatric diagnosis.

"HCV treatment was highly effective among HIV-infected patients who received care within an integrated [nurse/pharmacist](#) adherence support program," the authors write. "These results suggest that race and psychosocial comorbidity may not be barriers to HCV elimination."

More information: [Abstract](#)
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