



How this medication works ?

Sovaldi[®] is an NS5B polymerase inhibiting antiviral agent indicated for the treatment of hepatitis C virus infection (HCV).

In combination with other medications, Sovaldi[®] prevents the virus from replicating in order to promote healing.

How to take this medication ?

Sovaldi[®] → 1 tablet **once** daily.

It can be taken **with or without food**.

Sovaldi[®] is always used in combination with other medicines that work against HCV and should not be used alone.

It is important to take Sovaldi[®] regularly, at the same time each day for the duration of the treatment. If you miss doses, it may compromise the success of the treatment and decrease your chances of recovery. Furthermore, the virus responsible for your hepatitis could become resistant and make the medicines less effective or even useless.

Can I take Sovaldi[®] with my other medicines ?

Few drug interactions are expected with Sovaldi[®]. However, the following drugs should not be combined with Sovaldi[®]. Do not take Sovaldi[®] and tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking one or more of these medicines :

- Medicines to control heart failure or heart rate like amiodarone (Cardorone)
- Medicines to prevent seizures like carbamazepine (Tegretol), oxcarbazepine (Trileptal), phenobarbital (Phenobarb), or phenytoine (Dilantin)

- Medicines for the treatment of tuberculosis like rifampin (Rifater, Rifadin, Rofact), rifabutin (Mycobutin), or rifapentine
- Natural product : St. John's Wort (Hypericum perforatum)

Please note that Sovaldi[®] is never prescribed alone and is always used in combination with other medicines. Refer to the information you have been given regarding the drug interactions of your other treatments.

As a precaution, it is always preferable to consult your doctor or pharmacist before taking a new prescription medication, over the counter medication, natural product, or even a recreational drug.

Pregnancy and breast feeding

The effects of Sovaldi[®] on pregnant women are not yet known. You should also refer to the medicines with which it is combined.

For example :

Ribavirin has been associated with birth defects and/or death of the fetus. Thus, when combined with Sovaldi[®] +/- peg-interferon, a minimum of 2 effective methods of contraception should be taken to avoid pregnancy in patients or spouses of patients up to 6 months after the end of treatment.

Discuss this with your doctor.

The presence of sofosbuvir, and its metabolites in breast milk is still unknown. Breastfeeding is therefore not recommended during treatment with Sovaldi[®].

What are the side effects of this medication ?

It is a drug that is well tolerated in general, the main observed side effects of Sovaldi® when combined with ribavirin (Ibavir®) are mild and do not require stopping treatment.

They include among others :

- Fatigue
- Headache
- Difficulty sleeping
- Nausea
- Sad/irritable state
- Anemia (reduced red blood cells)

Vomiting is not frequent. On the other hand, if you vomit :

- **Less than 2 hours after taking Sovaldi®**, take another dose with food.
- **More than 2 hours after taking Sovaldi®**, wait and take the next dose with food at the original scheduled time.

Tell your doctor and pharmacist about any side effect that bothers you or persists. They can advise you to manage them.

Never stop your treatment without first talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

Can I drink alcohol with Sovaldi® ?

Ideally, abstinence from alcohol (beer, wine and spirits) is highly recommended for people infected with HCV to protect the liver.

Storage

Store Sovaldi® tablets at a temperature between 15 and 30°C (59 et 86°F). Avoid damp places such as the bathroom.

Keep this medication in its original container. Keep out of reach and out of sight of children.

General advice

Be faithful to your appointments with the doctor and the treatment team; they will be able to closely monitor your state of health.

If you have any questions about your medication or need help to schedule when to take them, don't hesitate to ask your doctor or pharmacist who is familiar with what you are taking.

Contact person : _____

Telephone : _____

@ February 2020, R. Therrien

I forgot to take a dose !

If less than 12h



Take the missed dose as soon as possible with food and then continue with your regular schedule.

Do not take the missed dose and take only the next dose with food at the usual time.

> 12h

If more than 12h

Do not double up dose