

Monitoring hepatitis C treatment uptake in Australia

Issue #1 May 2016

Uptake of new treatment for chronic hepatitis C during March 2016

New treatments for chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) were recently listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS): sofosbuvir/ledipasvir (Harvoni®), sofosbuvir/daclatasvir (Sovaldi®/Daklinza®), sofosbuvir/ribavirin (Sovaldi®/Ibavyr®), and sofosbuvir/pegylated interferon-alfa-2a/ribavirin (Sovaldi®/Pegysus®/ribavirin) in March 2016, and ombitasvir/paritaprevir/ritonavir/dasabuvir (Viekira PAK®) in May 2016.

The data reported by PBS on prescriptions of sofosbuvir/ledipasvir, sofosbuvir and daclatasvir dispensed during March 2016 was used to define the number of individuals initiating treatment during March 2016, by jurisdiction, regimen and PBS schedule. It should be noted, that data was accessed in early May, but there may still be a lag for PBS reporting of prescriptions from March. **Thus, the data presented is a minimum of treatment initiations in March.**

A total of 1,811 individuals initiated chronic HCV therapy, including 37% (n=679) in New South Wales, 27% (n=482) in Victoria, 23% (n=416) in Queensland, 5% (n=94) in South Australia, 4% (n=72) in Western Australia and 4% (n=68) in other jurisdictions.

Most individuals (89%; n=1,613) were prescribed under the General Schedule (S85), 9% (n=167) under S100 HSD Public and 2% (n=31) under S100 HSD Private (Figure 1).

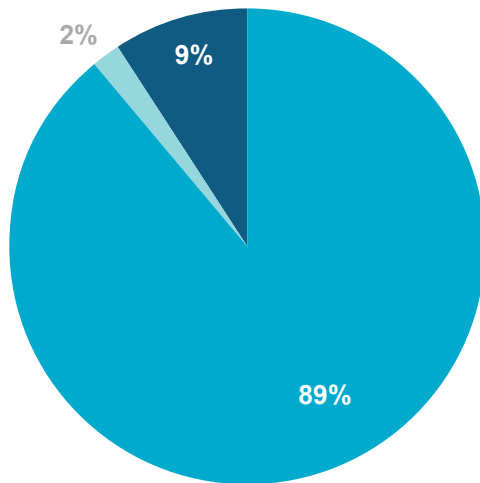
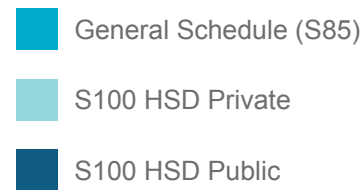


Figure 1: Distribution of PBS schedule of chronic HCV treatment during March 2016 in Australia



The most commonly prescribed regimen was sofosbuvir/ledipasvir, for 64% (n=1,160), followed by sofosbuvir/daclatasvir for 32% (n=581), and

sofosbuvir/other agents for 4% (n=70; Figure 2). Other agents would include ribavirin, or pegylated interferon-alfa-2a/ribavirin.

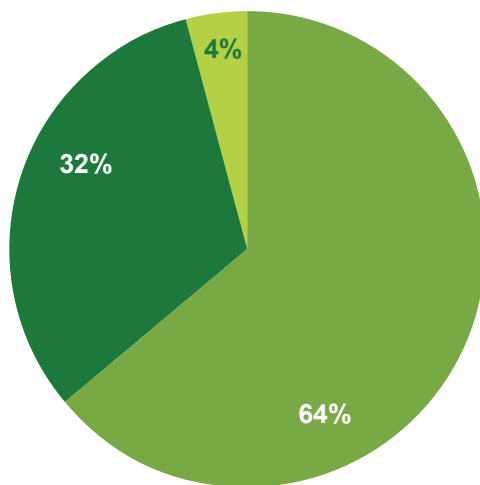
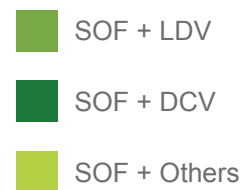


Figure 2: Distribution of regimens used for chronic HCV treatment during March 2016 in Australia



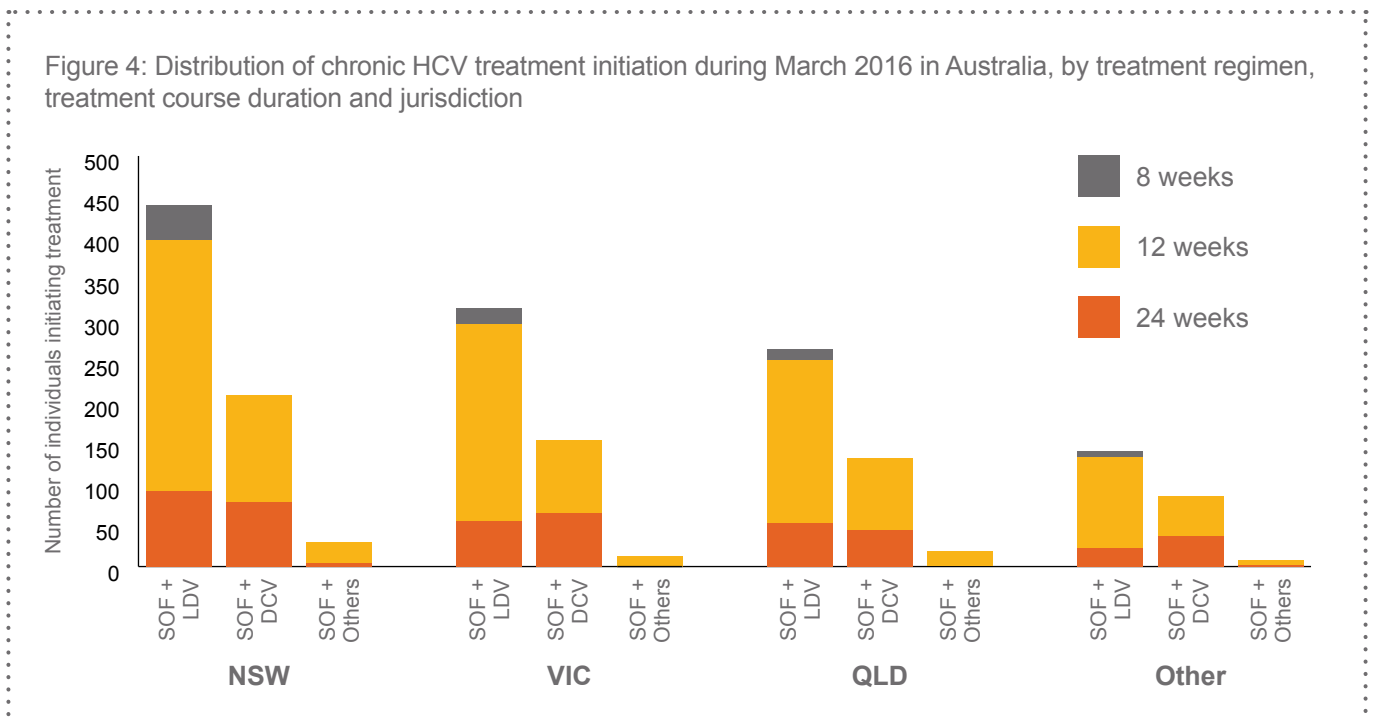
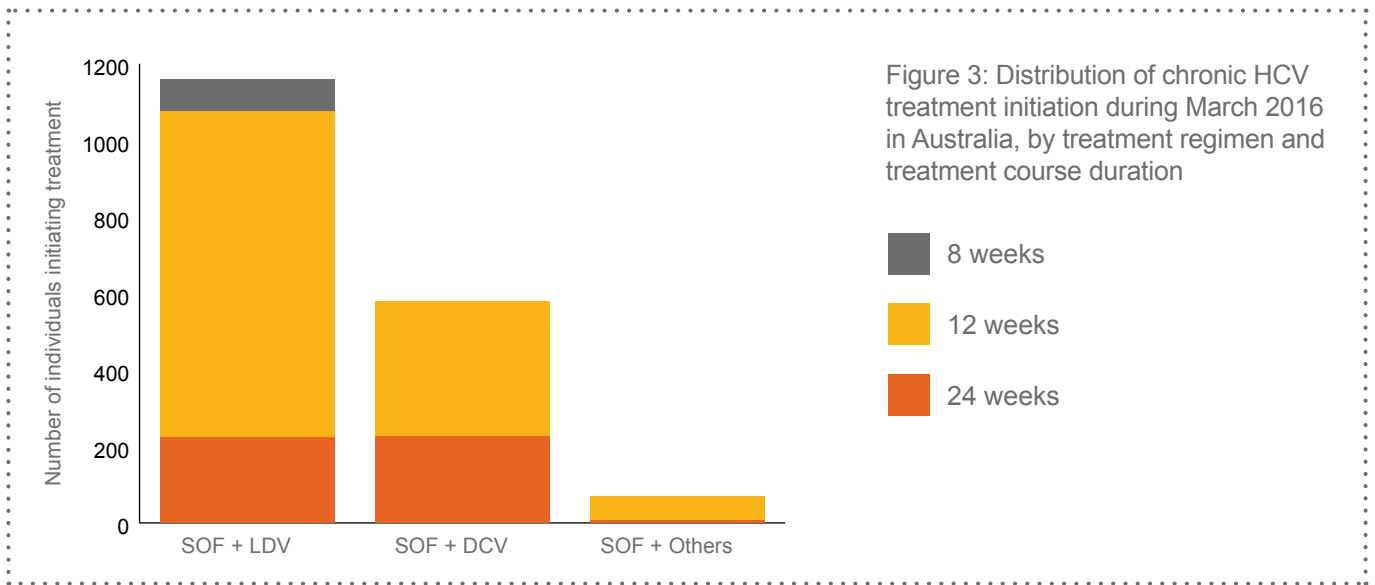
Of individuals initiated on sofosbuvir/ledipasvir (n=1,160), 7% (n=84) were prescribed an 8-week course, 74% (n=853) a 12-week course, and 19% (n=223) a 24-week course.

Of individuals initiated on sofosbuvir/daclatasvir (n=581), 61% (n=355) were prescribed a 12-week course, and 39% (n=226) a 24-week course.

Of individuals initiated on sofosbuvir/other agents (n=70), 90% (n=63) were prescribed a 12-week

course, and 10% (n=7) a 24-week course (Figure 3 and Figure 4).

Those prescribed sofosbuvir/daclatasvir for 24 weeks (n=226; 39% of total sofosbuvir/daclatasvir) are likely to represent individuals with genotype 3 and cirrhosis. Those prescribed sofosbuvir/ledipasvir for 24 weeks (n=223; 19% of total sofosbuvir/ledipasvir) are likely to represent individuals with genotype 1, prior treatment and cirrhosis.



*SOF: Sofosbuvir; LDV: Ledipasvir; DCV: Daclatasvir ; NSW: New South Wales; VIC: Victoria; QLD: Queensland

Table 1: Distribution of hepatitis C treatment initiation during March 2016 in Australia, by regimen, jurisdiction and PBS schedule

			NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
SOFOSBUVIR + LEDIPASVIR	General Schedule	24 weeks	79	49	47	7	4	5	0	1	192
SOFOSBUVIR + LEDIPASVIR	S100 HSD Private	24 weeks	1	0	6	0	1	0	0	0	8
SOFOSBUVIR + LEDIPASVIR	S100 HSD Public	24 weeks	12	6	0	0	3	0	0	2	23
SOFOSBUVIR + LEDIPASVIR	General Schedule	12 weeks	279	225	195	42	26	15	3	0	785
SOFOSBUVIR + LEDIPASVIR	S100 HSD Private	12 weeks	0	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	7
SOFOSBUVIR + LEDIPASVIR	S100 HSD Public	12 weeks	26	13	0	2	11	0	7	2	61
SOFOSBUVIR + LEDIPASVIR	General Schedule	8 weeks	40	18	14	2	1	3	0	0	78
SOFOSBUVIR + LEDIPASVIR	S100 HSD Private	8 weeks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SOFOSBUVIR + LEDIPASVIR	S100 HSD Public	8 weeks	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
SOFOSBUVIR + DACLATASVIR	General Schedule	24 weeks	60	59	44	18	4	6	1	0	192
SOFOSBUVIR + DACLATASVIR	S100 HSD Private	24 weeks	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
SOFOSBUVIR + DACLATASVIR	S100 HSD Public	24 weeks	17	4	0	0	5	0	0	3	29
SOFOSBUVIR + DACLATASVIR	General Schedule	12 weeks	103	82	87	19	5	10	3	0	309
SOFOSBUVIR + DACLATASVIR	S100 HSD Private	12 weeks	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
SOFOSBUVIR + DACLATASVIR	S100 HSD Public	12 weeks	22	6	0	0	9	0	2	1	40
SOFOSBUVIR + Others	General Schedule	24 weeks	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	4
SOFOSBUVIR + Others	S100 HSD Private	24 weeks	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
SOFOSBUVIR + Others	S100 HSD Public	24 weeks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SOFOSBUVIR + Others	General Schedule	12 weeks	22	9	18	0	2	0	1	1	53
SOFOSBUVIR + Others	S100 HSD Private	12 weeks	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
SOFOSBUVIR + Others	S100 HSD Public	12 weeks	4	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	8
Total			679	482	416	94	72	40	18	10	1,811

*NSW: New South Wales; VIC: Victoria; QLD: Queensland; SA: South Australia; WA: Western Australia; TAS: Tasmania; ACT: Australian Capital Territory; NT: Northern Territory