

Composition : Ribavirin 200 mg.

Indications : Ribavirin is used in combination with Interferon /Peg-Interferon and other oral anti-viral drugs such as Sofosbuvir to treat patients with Chronic Hepatitis C (CHC).

Dosage and administration : Ribavirin capsule is taken orally two times daily with food at a consistent manner. These indications are based on achieving unnoticeable HCV-RNA after treatment for 24 or 48 weeks and maintaining a Sustained Virologic Response (SVR) 24 weeks after the last dose. The Recommended dosage of Ribavirin in the combination therapy is given below :

1) The daily dose of Ribavirin + Interferon alpha-2a/Interferon alpha-2b (3 MIU 3 times weekly subcutaneously):

i) ≤ 75 kg = (400+600) mg for 48 weeks (Genotype 1 & 4).

ii) >75 kg = (600+600) mg for 24 weeks (Genotype 2 & 3).

2) Ribavirin daily dose with Peg-Interferon alpha-2a/ Peg-interferon alpha -2b (180 μ gm once weekly subcutaneously).

i) <75 kg = (400+600) mg or ≥ 75 kg = (600+600) mg for 48 weeks (Genotype 1 & 4).

ii) (400+400) mg for 24 weeks (Genotype 2 & 3). Or, as directed by the registered physicians.

Side effects : The most common side effects are fatigue, headache, fever, nausea, vomiting, myalgia and anxiety.

Contraindication : It is contraindicated

Opegus Capsule

in patients having serious hypersensitivity reactions to Ribavirin or hemoglobinopathies or autoimmune hepatitis.

Pregnancy and lactation : Ribavirin must not be used during pregnancy. It is not known whether this drug passes into breast milk. Caution should be advised highly for the administration of Ribavirin to nursing women to avoid any serious adverse reactions in infants.

Precaution : Ribavirin should not be used unless negative pregnancy test has been obtained as it may cause birth defects or fetal death. Female patients & Female partners of male patients should be advised to use two reliable forms of birth control together during treatment and for six months after stopping treatment.

Drug Interactions : It should not be used with Didanosine, Lamivudine, Stavudine, and Zidovudine because of their serious drug interactions to Ribavirin.

Packing : Opegus : 3 x 7's capsules in blister pack.