

EASY C FACTS

Latinos

Hepatitis C (HCV or Hep C for short) affects some groups of people differently than others. These differences are in the number of people infected with hepatitis C, and how quickly or slowly HCV damages the liver:

- ◆ **More Latinos are infected with hepatitis C** than non-Latino whites – about twice as many Latinos have hepatitis C compared to non-Latino whites.
- ◆ It is also believed that **hepatitis C will advance more quickly** in Latinos as a group than in other populations who have hepatitis C.
- ◆ Treatment of hepatitis C is a combination of 2 or 3 medications—pegylated interferon (injected once a week) plus ribavirin (a pill taken twice a day). **Your doctor may want you to take a third drug** called a protease inhibitor that is usually taken every 7 to 9 hours, and it is very important to take this drug when you doctor tells you to.

Remember to talk with your doctor or nurse.....

- ◆ *About ways to stay healthy – including eating a healthy diet that includes a lot of fruit, vegetables, and lean meat.*
- ◆ *About an exercise program that is right for you.*
- ◆ *About treatment options and what would be the best option for you.*

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