# Treatment: Hep C Horizons

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Gilead Sciences' hepatitis C virus (HCV) combo tablet regimen of Sovaldi (sofosbuvir) and velpatasvir, which will likely be approved in June, can be combined safely with most "boosted" antiretroviral (ARV) treatments for HIV. Researchers studied five sets of 24 to 30 HIV- and HCV-coinfected individuals who took Sovaldi/velpatasvir along with one of five ARV regimens that included either Norvir (ritonavir) or Tybost (cobicistat), which are drugs known as boosters that up ARV levels in the body. The HIV/HCV drug combinations were generally safe and well tolerated and by and large did not raise the need for dose adjusting. The researchers concluded that Sovaldi/velpatasvir is safe to combine with many HIV meds in the nucleoside/nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitor, non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor, protease inhibitor and integrase inhibitor classes, as well as with Norvir and Tybost. More research is needed to determine the effects of pairing the hep C treatment with Sustiva (efavirenz).

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