

# Hepatitis Basics



Keeping  
Your Liver  
Healthy

## How to Find Free or Low-Cost Hepatitis B Medications *HBV Patient Assistance Programs*

Written By: Christine M. Kukka, HBV Project Manager

**M**any hepatitis B medications are very expensive. Your doctor may write a prescription for a drug you may not be able to afford. Patient Assistance Programs (called PAPs) help low-income, uninsured, or underinsured patients get free or low-cost medications.

You do not have to be very poor to qualify; a single person who makes \$32,000 may receive assistance. Each program looks at your income, the number of prescriptions you have, where you live, your age, and your current insurance coverage.

To find a PAP, you can visit any of the websites listed on this fact sheet. Your doctor can

also help you apply. You can go online and fill out a questionnaire to see if you qualify. In many cases, you can fill out the application form online, print it out, and then take the form to your doctor's office. The doctor signs the form and attaches the prescription. Either you or the doctor will mail the form to the PAP.

The drugs are either sent to your home or doctor's office. Some PAPs send a pharmacy card that you use to get the free or low-cost drugs at your local pharmacy.

There are PAP programs available for all hepatitis B drugs approved for treatment. The information below will help you find a PAP for the drug you need.

### **Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPARx):**

<http://www.pparx.org>

Once you provide basic information PPARx will be able to tell you what patient assistance programs you may be eligible for.

### **NeedyMeds**

<http://www.needymeds.org>:

You can search the website by the name of your medicine (either generic or brand name), and it gives you instructions on how to apply, and what the income qualifications are.

*(Over: contact information for patient assistance programs provided by the pharmaceutical companies, listed by HBV medication.)*



## Contact Information for Pharmaceutical Company Patient Assistance Programs

Antivirals	Phone	Website
<b>Adefovir (Hepsera):</b> Gilead Advancing Access Program	800-226-2056	<a href="http://www.gilead.com/us_advancing_access">www.gilead.com/us_advancing_access</a>
<b>Entecavir (Baraclude):</b> Bristol-Myers Squibb Patience Assistance Foundation	800-736-0003	<a href="http://www.bmspaf.org">www.bmspaf.org</a>
<b>Lamivudine (Epivir HBV):</b> GlaxoSmithKline's Bridges to Access Program	866-265-6491 or 866-518-4357	<a href="http://www.bridgestoaccess.com">www.bridgestoaccess.com</a>
<b>Telbivudine (Tyzeka):</b> Novartis Patient Assistance Now: Phone 800-245-5356	800-245-5356	<a href="http://www.patientassistancenow.com/index.jsp">www.patientassistancenow.com/index.jsp</a>
<b>Tenofovir (Viread):</b> Gilead Advancing Access Program	800-226-2056	<a href="http://www.gilead.com/us_advancing_access">www.gilead.com/us_advancing_access</a>
Interferons	Phone	Website
<b>Intron A (conventional interferon):</b> Merck Patient Assistance Program	800-727-5400	<a href="http://www.merck.com/merckhelps/">www.merck.com/merckhelps/</a>
<b>Pegasys (pegylated interferon):</b> Roche Patient Assistance Program	877-757-6243	<a href="http://www.pegassist.com/">www.pegassist.com/</a>



The information in this fact sheet is designed to help you understand and manage HBV and is not intended as medical advice. All persons with HBV should consult a medical practitioner for diagnosis and treatment of HBV.

*Executive Director,  
Editor-in-Chief, HCSP Publications*  
**Alan Franciscus**

*Managing Editor / Webmaster*  
**C.D. Mazoff, PhD**



**HBV ADVOCATE**  
[www.hbvadvocate.org](http://www.hbvadvocate.org)