

MARKET REPORT



Physician Views: Sovaldi revolutionises hepatitis C in the US, but what about uptake in the EU5?

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Physician Views: Sovaldi revolutionises hepatitis C in the US, but what about uptake in the EU5?

Scope

Uptake and usage of Gilead Sciences' Sovaldi (sofosbuvir) in the US market has been closely tracked since FDA approval last December – but how are physicians based in the EU5 utilising the product?

FirstWord is polling gastroenterologists/hepatologists and infectious disease specialists based in France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the UK this week to ascertain how easily physicians are able to access Sovaldi and in what patients/treatment regimens they are most frequently using Gilead's product.

While both strong uptake for Sovaldi and vocal opposition from payers has shaped the launch narrative for this drug in the US (see also - Physician Views Poll Results: Gilead's all-oral hepatitis C combo launch poised to better Sovaldi US debut despite payer scrutiny) its European performance has been less focused on.

The potential significance of the European market was highlighted late last week when Bristol-Myers Squibb's daclatasvir was recommended for approval in the region. Due to become available some months ahead of Gilead's own Sovaldi/ledipasvir combination, Merck's product is likely to benefit from some uptake in combination with Sovaldi, argue analysts at Bloomberg Industries.

Whether this is sustainable once Gilead's fixed-dose combination, or AbbVie's all-oral offering, launches is conjecture. However, more nuanced access challenges in Europe are likely to shape the competitive environment for next-generation hepatitis C therapies over the next few years.

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With this in mind, FirstWord's latest Physician Views poll looks to provide greater insight into the launch of Sovaldi to date in the EU5. Specifically we are asking physicians...

What percentage of hepatitis C patients (irrespective of genotype) they are currently warehousing for treatment with an all-oral and interferon/ribavirin- sparing regimen?Additional Details

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