Hand-out 9.4: Timeline for HIV-positive people on HCV treatment

(From TAG Guide to hepatitis C for people living with HIV)

Fig. 2: Timeline for HIV-positive people on HCV treatment

- **Week 4**: Check HCV viral load (RNA) for treatment response. This is mainly still a research test.
  - **RVR?**
    - **YES**: Rapid Virological Response: Undetectable HCV viral load after 4 weeks of treatment.
      - Continue treatment. RVR is a good predictor of SVR.
    - **NO**: Continue treatment, it is too soon to predict how you are likely to respond.
  - **EVR?**
    - **YES**: Early Virological Response: 99% drop in HCV viral load or undetectable after 12 weeks of treatment.
      - Continue treatment.
    - **NO**: Stop treatment because SVR is VERY unlikely (94%-100% of people in trials with no EVR had no SVR.) Some doctors may suggest using daily consensus interferon, but there has only been one small study of this in HIV-positive people.

- **Week 24**: Check HCV viral load. If undetectable, continue treatment according to genotype.

- **End of Treatment**:
  - **ETR?**
    - **YES**: End-of-Treatment Response: Undetectable HCV viral load at the end of therapy according to genotype.
      - If HCV is detectable, consider repeating test. Stop treatment if the second result is also detectable.
    - **NO**: Sustained Virological Response: Undetectable HCV viral load 6 months after end of treatment.
      - If HCV is detectable, treatment has not cleared your HCV. It still may have improved the condition of your liver.

- **6 months post treatment**: If you are undetectable, you have cleared your HCV.