



HEPATITIS C

Information, advice, testing,
support & training service

GENOTYPES

Not everyone with HCV has the same kind. In fact, there are six different kinds of HCV. These different kinds are called genotypes and are numbered 1 to 6. Some genotypes have further divisions called subtypes (for example, 1a and 1b).

Knowing your HCV **genotype** is important for two reasons:

First: If you decide to go on treatment, **genotype tests** will tell you the chances of getting rid of the virus.

Second: **Genotype tests** will tell your doctor how much medicine to give you and for how long.

REMEMBER: Just because you have this or that genotype does not mean you will become more or less ill.

Genotype information is important because it helps predict treatment response and the length of treatment needed.

The current treatment for genotype 1 is 48 weeks with a 50% chance of success.

For genotypes 2 and 3 treatment is 24 weeks with a success rate of between 60 and 80%

It is important to remember that most people with hepatitis C never develop liver disease no matter which type they have.