

**Reetan Patel**

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**Subject:** FW: HTA Interferon Ribavirin in mild HCV infection

**From:** Kenneth Simpson  
**Sent:** 05 December 2005 21:11  
**To:** Alana Miller  
**Subject:** HTA Interferon Ribavirin in mild HCV infection

Dear Alana

I am replying in response to your letter to Dr Thursz of 8th Nov regarding the HTA report on the treatment of mild HCV infection with interferon and ribavirin. I have taken over from Dr Thursz as secretary of the British Association for the Study of the Liver (BASL).

As you are probably aware 2 members of the committee are members of our Association.

Comments were invited regarding the technical content of the report. In my capacity as BASL secretary we have no specific comments on the technical aspects of the report. We entirely agree with the conclusions that treatment of mild HCV infection with interferon and ribavirin is both efficacious and cost effective. This would also get round one of the problems with the modelling, the need for repeated liver biopsy which can lead to death in a small proportion of patients. Furthermore, clearly there is need for further development of managed clinical networks to deliver this treatment.

I hope these comments are helpful to you and the committee.

Regards Ken Simpson  
Secretary BASL

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Delivered via MessageLabs

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