Be In Charge®

Questions to Ask Your Doctor

My Condition:

- Is there any chance the diagnosis is incorrect?
- What is my virus and genotype?
- Should I be vaccinated against hepatitis A and B?
- Do I need a liver biopsy?
- Do I have any other conditions that will complicate treatment?
- Do I have liver scarring that puts me at risk for liver cancer? If so, how should it be monitored?

My Treatment:

- What is PEG-INTRON® (Peginterferon alfa-2b) Powder for Injection therapy?
- How safe is this treatment?
- How do I take PEG-INTRON® and REBETOL® (Ribavirin, USP) Capsules?
- What are the risks and benefits of pegylated interferons versus non-pegylated interferons?
- Do you recommend that I be treated with a weight-based or fixed dose of pegylated interferon?
- Will this medication impair my ability to drive or operate machinery?
- May I increase the dose?
- What if I forgot to take my medication?
- How do I get refills?
- How often do I need to be seen?
- How long will my treatment last?
- How long must I wait before I can expect relief?
- How will you evaluate whether I am responding to treatment?
- Do I have any other conditions that will complicate therapy?
- What kind of Lab tests should I take during the therapy? Will these tests be repeated? How often?
- What side effects can I expect?
- Whom do I contact if I have any questions or concerns about the treatment therapy?
- What other medications can I take and which should I avoid?
- Can I travel during the therapy?
- Who should I call in an emergency?
- Do I need follow-up appointments and tests?

My Lifestyle:

- What changes should I make in my everyday life?
- What other medications can I take and which should I avoid?
- Should I talk to my friends and family about my condition?