"What if I do not qualify for the funded treatment?" 1

<u>Personal Importation, NZ Hepatitis Foundation Clinical Director Alex Lampen-</u> Smith discusses:

"In the 2016 Autumn edition of *talkinghepC*, we discussed personal importation as a means of accessing affordable generic versions of the lifesaving DAA's.

Many people in New Zealand have personally imported treatment. In April 2016 Dr James Freeman, of the FixHepC² Tasmanian Buyers' Club, received a long-standing ovation following his presentation at the EASL conference in Barcelona, which presented the high cure rates, (>90 per cent) of cheaper generic medications.

The international liver specialist community recognises the way in which he is helping make generic DAAs available for sufferers of hepatitis C at a fraction of the cost: the approximate cost of 12 weeks of treatment is \$2500 (NZ)³. If you are interested in personally importing treatment please ask your GP to refer you to a specialist for assessment to ensure you import the correct combination and length of treatment".

¹ Full text from *talkinghepC*, Winter edition, P7, published by the New Zealand Hepatitis Foundation: https://issuu.com/hepatitisfoundationofnewzealand/docs/finalfinal

² http://fixhepc.com/getting-treated/how-to-do-it.html

³ The price is cheaper now, although this estimate may include some private medical fees.