## MANAGEMENT OF SIDE EFFECTS

- The Hepatitis C Protocol is a guideline. Some patients may need more frequent monitoring based on clinical judgment.
- Present all cases to Hep C CRC within one week of dosage changes.
- E-mail/page/call Hep C Committee chair before prescribing Epogen.
- Standard dosing: Epoetin alfa (Epogen) 40,000 units subcutaneous once weekly

### MANAGEMENT OF ANEMIA

If patient is on Epogen, discontinue immediately if hemoglobin goes above 12 g/dL. Adjust dose of ribavirin in increments of 200 mg to maintain hemoglobin at > 10 g/dL.

- No cardiac disease or equivalent (e.g. DM)
  - Hemoglobin < 10 g/dL: Reduce ribavirin dose to 600 mg a day (200/400)
  - Hemoglobin < 8.5 g/dL: Stop ribavirin
- History of stable CAD
  - ≥ 2 g/dL in any four week period: Reduce ribavirin dose to 600 mg a day (200/400)
  - Hemoglobin < 12 g/dL: Reduce ribavirin dose to 600 mg a day (200/400)
  - Hemoglobin < 12 g/dL after four weeks at reduced dose or < 10 g/dL: Stop ribavirin