









Preferred Terminology for the Media

The information in this factsheet has been provided by Hepatitis Australia to assist media in providing balanced reporting on chronic hepatitis and related issues which is respectful to people affected by chronic hepatitis.

Unfavoured Terminology	Preferred Terminology
 <p>Hepatitis victim, hepatitis sufferer</p> <p>This implies a person with hepatitis C is powerless, and has little control over their condition.</p>	 <p>Person/people with hepatitis</p>
 <p>Junkie/Druggie</p> <p>These terms are stigmatising, as they imply a stereotypical image of someone who injects drugs.</p> <p>Use of these terms further marginalises people who are often disadvantaged.</p>	 <p>People who inject drugs</p>
 <p>Innocent victims</p> <p>This term is sometimes used to describe people with medically acquired chronic hepatitis infection, or children who have acquired chronic hepatitis transmitted from their hepatitis positive mother during pregnancy or at birth.</p> <p>By extension, it incorrectly implies that people infected in other ways are 'guilty'.</p>	 <p>Person/people with chronic hepatitis, people with medically acquired chronic hepatitis, children with chronic hepatitis</p>
 <p>Carrier</p> <p>This term is stigmatising and offensive to many people living with chronic hepatitis, as it portrays them as a public health threat, rather than as a person affected by chronic illness.</p>	 <p>Person/people with chronic hepatitis</p>