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"New, curative treatments for hepatitis C virus (HCV), called direct-acting antivirals (DAAs), are up to 100% effective in clinical trials. While they are now approved and on the market in some countries, their exorbitant cost prohibits access by most of the world's people living with chronic HCV, most of whom pay for healthcare out of pocket.

Gilead's DAAs, for example, cost upwards of US\$90,000 per treatment course. As if this extortionate pricing weren't enough, Gilead is now forcing both doctors and patients in resource-limited settings to jump through unethical hoops before accessing low-cost versions of these drugs. A restrictive anti-diversion clause in their recent license to Indian generic producers forces clinicians to violate basic medical ethics and patient human rights by revealing confidential patient data. The clause also requires the invasion of patient privacy before allowing people with HCV to access more affordable, generic DAAs.

Access to healthcare, including essential medications like DAAs, is a human right, but Gilead is getting away with murder through these egregious and rights-violating requirements. They should be immediately cut from their licensing agreements, which cover 91 low- and middle-income countries where more than half of people with HCV live."