Taking ARVs

NUCLEOSIDE REVERSE TRANSCRIPTASE INHIBITORS (NRTIs)

GENERIC NAME	OTHER NAMES [BRAND NAME]*	DOSAGE (ADULTS)**	HOW TO TAKE	SIDE EFFECTS	CONTRAINDICATIONS
abacavir	abacavir sulfate, ABC [Ziagen]	Prior to initiating therapy, test for the HLA-B*5701 allele. 600 mg by mouth daily, taken as either (1) 300 mg tablet twice daily or (2) 300 mg tablets once daily	Take with or without food.	Drug hypersensitivity, nausea, headaches, malaise, fatigue, sleep disorders	Abacavir is contraindicated in people who have the HLA-B*5701 allele, people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir, and people who have moderate or severe hepatic impairment.
emtricitabine	FTC [Emtriva]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection. 200 mg by mouth daily, taken as (1) 200 mg capsule once daily	Take with or without food.	Headaches, diarrhea, nausea, fatigue, dizziness, depression, insomnia, abnormal dreams, rash, abdominal pain, weakness, increased cough, nasal congestion	Emtricitabine is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to emtricitabine.

lamivudine	3TC [Epivir]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection. 300 mg by mouth daily, taken as either (1) 150 mg tablet twice daily or (1) 300 mg tablet once daily	Take with or without food.	Headaches, nausea, malaise, fatigue, nasal congestion, diarrhea, cough	Lamivudine is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to lamivudine.
tenofovir alafenamide fumarate	tenofovir AF, TAF [Vemlidy]	For HIV treatment, 25 mg by mouth once daily	Tenofovir AF is a component of many HIV combination medications (see below). Tenofovir AF is also used to treat hepatitis B virus and is indicated for the treatment of chronic hepatitis B virus infection in adults with compensated liver disease.		
tenofovir disoproxil fumarate	tenofovir DF, TDF [Viread]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection. 300 mg by mouth daily, taken as (1) 300 mg tablet once daily	Take with or without food.	Rash, diarrhea, nausea, headaches, pain, depression, weakness, decrease in bone mineral density	None

*NON-NUCLEOSIDE REVERSE TRANSCRIPTASE INHIBITORS (NNRTIs)****

GENERIC NAME	OTHER NAMES [BRAND NAME]*	DOSAGE (ADULTS)**	HOW TO TAKE	SIDE EFFECTS	CONTRAINDICATIONS
doravirine	DOR [Pifeltro]	100 mg by mouth daily, taken as (1) 100 mg tablet once daily	Take with or without food.	Nausea, dizziness, headaches, fatigue, diarrhea, abdominal pain, abnormal dreams	Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs that are strong cytochrome P450 (CYP)3A enzyme inducers as significant decreases in doravirine plasma concentrations may occur, which may decrease the effectiveness of doravirine.
efavirenz	EFV [Sustiva]	600 mg by mouth daily, taken as (1) 600 mg tablet once daily	Take on an empty stomach, preferably at bedtime.	Impaired concentration, abnormal dreams, rash, dizziness, nausea, headaches, fatigue, insomnia, vomiting	Efavirenz is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to efavirenz and when co-administered with elbasvir/grazoprevir.
etravirine	ETR [Intelence]	400 mg by mouth daily, taken as either (1) 200 mg tablet twice daily or (2) 100 mg tablets twice daily	Take after food.	Rash, peripheral neuropathy	None

rilpivirine	rilpivirine hcl, RPV [Edurant]	25 mg daily, taken as (1) 25 mg tablet once daily	Take with food.	Depressive disorders, headaches, insomnia, rash	Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs where significant decreases in rilpivirine plasma concentrations may occur, which may result in loss of virologic response and possible resistance and cross-resistance.

*PROTEASE INHIBITORS (PIs)****

GENERIC NAME	OTHER NAMES [BRAND NAME]*	DOSAGE (ADULTS)**	HOW TO TAKE	SIDE EFFECTS	CONTRAINDICATIONS
atazanavir	atazanavir sulfate, ATV [Reyataz]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for renal function and in people with underlying liver disease, test for hepatic function. 400 mg by mouth daily, taken as (2) 200 mg tablets once daily If taking with ritonavir: 300 mg by mouth daily, taken as (1) 300 mg tablet once daily	Take with food.	Nausea, jaundice/scleral icterus, rash, headaches, abdominal pain, vomiting, insomnia, peripheral neurologic symptoms, dizziness, myalgia, diarrhea, depression, fever	Atazanavir is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to any of the components. Co-administration is contraindicated with alfuzosin, amiodarone (if co-administered with ritonavir), quinidine (if co-administered with ritonavir), triazolam, orally administered midazolam, ergot derivatives, rifampin, irinotecan, lurasidone (if co-administered with ritonavir), lovastatin, simvastatin, lomitapide, indinavir, cisapride, pimozide, St. John's wort, nevirapine, elbasvir/grazoprevir, glecaprevir/ pibrentasvir, and sildenafil.

darunavir	darunavir ethanolate, DRV [Prezista]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatic function and perform genotypic and/or phenotypic testing to assess drug susceptibility to HIV. Take with ritonavir: 800 mg by mouth daily, taken as (1) 800 mg tablet once daily	Take with food.	Diarrhea, nausea, rash, headaches, abdominal pain, vomiting	Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs that are highly dependent on CYP3A for clearance and for which elevated plasma concentrations are associated with serious and/or life-threatening events (narrow therapeutic index).

ENTRY/ATTACHMENT INHIBITORS

GENERIC NAME	OTHER NAMES [BRAND NAME]*	DOSAGE (ADULTS)**	HOW TO TAKE	SIDE EFFECTS	CONTRAINDICATIONS
fostemsavir	fostemsavir tromethamine, FTR [Rukobia]	1,200 mg by mouth daily, taken as (1) 600 mg tablet twice daily	Take with or without food.	Nausea, diarrhea, headaches, abdominal pain, indigestion, fatigue, rash	Fostemsavir is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to fostemsavir or any components of the product.Co-administration is contraindicated with strong cytochrome P450 (CYP)3A inducers as significant decreases in fostemsavir plasma concentrations may occur, which may result in loss of virologic response.
ibalizumab-uiyk	ibalizumab, IBA [Trogarzo]	Single loading dose: 1 intravenous infusion of 2,000 mg (administered by a healthcare provider)Maintenance dose: 1 intravenous infusion of 800 mg every 2 weeks (administered by a healthcare provider)	Take with or without food.	Diarrhea, dizziness, nausea, rash	Ibalizumab-uiyk is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to ibalizumab-uiyk or any components of the product.
maraviroc	MVC [Selzentry]	Prior to initiating therapy, test for hepatic function and for CCR5 tropism using a highly sensitive tropism assay. If taking with potent CYP3A inhibitors: 300 mg by mouth daily, taken as (1) 150 mg tablet twice daily If taking with NRTIs and other drugs that are not potent CYP3A inhibitors or CYP3A inducers: 1,200 mg by mouth daily, taken as (2) 300 mg tablets twice daily If taking with noninteracting medications: 600 mg by mouth daily, taken as (1) 300 mg tablet twice daily	Take with or without food.	Upper respiratory tract infections, cough, fever, rash, dizziness, flatulence, bloating	Maraviroc is contraindicated in patients with severe renal impairment or end-stage renal disease (ESRD) who are concomitantly taking potent CYP3A inhibitors or inducers.

INTEGRASE INHIBITORS

GENERIC NAME	OTHER NAMES [BRAND NAME]*	DOSAGE (ADULTS)**	HOW TO TAKE	SIDE EFFECTS	CONTRAINDICATIONS
cabotegravir	cabotegravir sodium, CAB [Vocabria]	Take with rilpivirine: 30 mg by mouth daily, taken as (1) 30 mg tablet once daily	Take with food.	Headaches, nausea, abnormal dreams, anxiety, insomnia	Cabotegravir is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to cabotegravir.Co-administration is contraindicated with carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine, phenobarbital, phenytoin, rifampin, and rifapentine.
dolutegravir	dolutegravir sodium, DTG [Tivicay,Tivicay PD]	Prior to initiating therapy, test for pregnancy in people of childbearing potential. Take with rilpivirine: 50 mg by mouth daily, taken as (1) 50 mg tablet once daily	Take with or without food.	Insomnia, fatigue, headaches	Dolutegravir is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to dolutegravir.Co-administration is contraindicated with dofetilide.
elvitegravir	[Vitekta]	Elvitegravir as a single-tablet regimen was withdrawn from the market by Gilead Sciences in 2017. Elvitegravir is now only available as a component of two HIV combination medications: Genvoya and Stribild (see below).			
raltegravir	raltegravir potassium, RAL [Isentress, Isentress HD]	1,200 mg by mouth daily, taken as (2) 600 mg tablets once daily **OR** 800 mg by mouth daily, taken as (1) 400 mg tablet twice daily	Take with or without food.	Insomnia, headaches, dizziness, nausea, fatigue.Elevated levels of creatine kinase (relates to muscle problems).	None
bictegravir	Bictarvy	One tablet daily containing 50 mg bictegravir, 200 mg emtricitabine, and 25 mg tenofovir alafenamide	Take with or without food	The most common side effects reported in clinical trials include headache, diarrhea, nausea, fatigue, and insomnia.	Bictegravir is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to bictegravir .Co-administration is contraindicated with Rifampin, Rifapentine, St. John's Wort

PHARMACOKINETIC ENHANCERS (PK ENHANCERS)

GENERIC NAME	OTHER NAMES [BRAND NAME]*	DOSAGE (ADULTS)**	HOW TO TAKE	SIDE EFFECTS	CONTRAINDICATIONS
cobicistat	COBI [Tybost]	Prior to initiating therapy, assess estimated creatinine clearance. Take with atazanavir or darunavir: 150 mg by mouth daily, taken as (1) 150 mg tablet once daily	Take with food.	Jaundice, rash, nausea, diarrhea	Co-administration is contraindicated with certain drugs for which altered plasma concentrations are associated with serious and/or life-threatening events or loss of therapeutic effect.
ritonavir	RTV [Norvir]	1,200 mg by mouth daily, taken as (6) 100 mg tablets twice daily	Take with food.	Diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, paresthesia and oral paresthesia, rash, fatigue/asthenia	Ritonavir is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction.Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs highly dependent on CYP3A for clearance and for which elevated plasma concentrations may be associated with serious and/or life-threatening events.Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs that significantly reduce ritonavir.

COMBINATION HIV MEDICINES

COMPONENT MEDICATIONS	[BRAND NAME]*	DOSAGE (ADULTS)**	HOW TO TAKE	SIDE EFFECTS	CONTRAINDICATIONS
abacavir dolutegravir lamivudine	[Triumeq]	Prior to initiating therapy, test for the HLA-B*5701 allele. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 600 mg abacavir + 50 mg dolutegravir + 300 mg lamivudine	Take with or without food.	Insomnia, headaches, fatigue	Triumeq is contraindicated in people who have the HLA-B*5701 allele, people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir, dolutegravir, or lamivudine, people who also take dofetilide, and people who have moderate or severe hepatic impairment.
abacavir lamivudine	[Epzicom]	Prior to initiating therapy, test for the HLA-B*5701 allele. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 600 mg abacavir + 300 mg lamivudine	Take with or without food.	Drug hypersensitivity, insomnia, depression/ depressed mood, headaches, fatigue, malaise, dizziness, vertigo, nausea, diarrhea	Epzicom is contraindicated in people who have the HLA-B*5701 allele, people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir or lamivudine, and people who have moderate or severe hepatic impairment.
atazanavir cobicistat	[Evotaz]	Prior to initiating therapy, test for renal and hepatic function. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 300 mg atazanavir + 150 mg cobicistat	Take with food.	Jaundice, rash	Evotaz is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to atazanavir or cobicistat.Co-administration is contraindicated with certain drugs for which altered plasma concentrations are associated with serious and/or life-threatening events or loss of therapeutic effect.

bictegravir emtricitabine tenofovir AF	[Biktarvy]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection and renal and hepatic function. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 50 mg bictegravir + 200 mg emtricitabine + 25 mg tenofovir AF	Take with or without food.	Diarrhea, nausea, headaches	Co-administration is contraindicated with dofetilide or rifampin.
cabotegravir rilpivirine	[Cabenuva]	Month 1: Oral lead-in (1) 30 mg cabetogravir tablet by mouth daily, (1) 25 mg rilpivirine tablet by mouth dailyMonth 2: Initiation injections 1 intramuscular injection of 600 mg cabotegravir + 1 intramuscular injection of 900 mg rilpivirine monthly (administered by a healthcare provider)Month 3 onwards: Continuation injections 1 intramuscular injection of 400 mg cabotegravir + 1 intramuscular injection of 600 mg rilpivirine monthly (administered by a healthcare provider)	Take oral lead-in tablets with food. Injections are administered without regard to food.	Injection site reactions, fever, fatigue, headaches, musculoskeletal pain, nausea, sleep disorders, dizziness, rash	Cabenuva is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to cabotegravir or rilpivirine.Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs where significant decreases in cabotegravir and/or rilpivirine plasma concentrations may occur, which may result in loss of virologic response.

darunavir cobicistat	[Prezcobix]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for HIV genotype and creatinine clearance. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 800 mg darunavir + 150 mg cobicistat	Take with food.	Diarrhea, nausea, rash, headaches, abdominal pain, vomiting	Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs for which altered plasma concentrations are associated with serious and/or life-threatening events or loss of therapeutic effect.
darunavir cobicistat emtricitabine tenofovir AF	[Symtuza]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection and renal function. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 800 mg darunavir + 150 mg cobicistat + 200 mg emtricitabine + 10 mg tenofovir AF	Take with food.	Diarrhea, rash, nausea, fatigue, headaches, abdominal discomfort, flatulence	Co-administration is contraindicated with certain drugs for which altered plasma concentrations are associated with serious and/or life-threatening events or which may lead to loss of therapeutic effect of Symtuza and development of resistance.
dolutegravir lamivudine	[Dovato]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection and pregnancy in people of childbearing potential. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 50 mg dolutegravir + 300 mg lamivudine	Take with or without food.	Headaches, nausea, diarrhea, insomnia, fatigue, anxiety	Dovato is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to dolutegravir or lamivudine.

dolutegravir rilpivirine	[Juluca]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for pregnancy in people of childbearing potential. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 50 mg dolutegravir + 25 mg rilpivirine	Take with food.	Diarrhea, headaches	Juluca is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to dolutegravir or rilpivirine, who also take dofetilide, and who also take drugs where significant decreases in rilpivirine plasma concentrations may occur, which may result in loss of virologic response.
doravirine lamivudine tenofovir DF	[Delstrigo]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection and renal function. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 100 mg doravirine + 300 mg lamivudine + 300 mg tenofovir DF	Take with or without food.	Dizziness, nausea, abnormal dreams	Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs that are strong cytochrome P450 (CYP)3A enzyme inducers as significant decreases in doravirine plasma concentrations may occur, which may decrease the effectiveness of Delstrigo.Delstrigo is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to lamivudine.
efavirenz emtricitabine tenofovir DF	[Atripla]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection, renal and hepatic function, and pregnancy in people of childbearing potential. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 600 mg efavirenz + 200 mg emtricitabine + 300 mg tenofovir DF	Take on an empty stomach, preferably at bedtime.	Diarrhea, nausea, fatigue, headaches, dizziness, depression, insomnia, abnormal dreams, rash	Atripla is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to efavirenz and people who also take voriconazole or elbasvir/grazoprevir.

efavirenz lamivudine tenofovir DF	[Symfi, Symfi Lo]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection and renal function. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 600 mg efavirenz + 300 mg lamivudine + 300 mg tenofovir DF	Take on an empty stomach, preferably at bedtime.	Impaired concentration, abnormal dreams, headaches, nausea, malaise, fatigue, nasal signs and symptoms, diarrhea, rash, dizziness, insomnia, pain, depression, weakness, cough	Symfi is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to efavirenz, lamivudine, or tenofovir DF, and people who also take elbasvir/grazoprevir.
elvitegravir cobicistat emtricitabine tenofovir AF	[Genvoya]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection and renal function. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 150 mg elvitegravir + 150 mg cobicistat + 200 mg emtricitabine + 10 mg tenofovir AF	Take with food.	Nausea, diarrhea, headaches, fatigue	Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs that are highly dependent on CYP3A for clearance and for which elevated plasma concentrations are associated with serious adverse events.Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs that strongly induce CYP3A, which may lead to lower exposure of one or more components and loss of efficacy of Genvoya and possible resistance.

elvitegravir cobicistat emtricitabine tenofovir DF	[Stribild]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection and renal function. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 150 mg elvitegravir + 150 mg cobicistat + 200 mg emtricitabine + 300 mg tenofovir DF	Take with food.	Nausea, diarrhea, abnormal dreams, headaches, fatigue, rash	Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs that are highly dependent on CYP3A for clearance and for which elevated plasma concentrations are associated with serious adverse events.Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs that strongly induce CYP3A, which may lead to lower exposure of one or more components and loss of efficacy of Stribild and possible resistance.
emtricitabine rilpivirine tenofovir DF	[Complera]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection and renal function. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 200 mg emtricitabine + 25 mg rilpivirine + 300 mg tenofovir DF	Take with food.	Depressive disorders, insomnia, headaches, diarrhea, nausea, fatigue, dizziness, abnormal dreams, rash	Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs which may result in loss of virologic response and possible resistance to Complera.

emtricitabine tenofovir AF	[Descovy]	HIV treatment: Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection and renal function. HIV PrEP: Prior to initiating therapy, test for HIV infection and test again every 3 months while taking and upon diagnosis of any other STIs For both: 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 200 mg emtricitabine + 25 mg tenofovir AF	Take with or without food.	Diarrhea, nausea, headaches, fatigue, abdominal pain	Descovy for HIV PrEP is contraindicated in individuals with unknown or positive HIV status.

emtricitabine tenofovir DF	[Truvada]	HIV treatment: Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection and renal function. HIV PrEP: Prior to initiating therapy, test for HIV infection and test again every 3 months while taking and upon diagnosis of any other STIs For both: 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 200 mg emtricitabine + 300 mg tenofovir DF	Take with or without food.	Diarrhea, nausea, fatigue, headaches, dizziness, depression, insomnia, abnormal dreams, rash, abdominal pain, weight loss	Truvada for HIV PrEP is contraindicated in individuals with unknown or positive HIV status.
lamivudine tenofovir DF	[Cimduo]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection and renal function. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 200 mg emtricitabine + 300 mg tenofovir DF	Take with or without food.	Headaches, pain, depression, diarrhea, rash	Cimduo is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to lamivudine or tenofovir DF.

lopinavir ritonavir	[Kaletra]	800/200 mg by mouth daily, taken as (4) 200/50 mg tablets once daily **OR** (2) 200/50 mg tablets twice daily	Take tablets with or without food. Take oral solution with food.	Diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, increased fats in blood (triglycerides or cholesterol)	Kaletra is contraindicated in people with previous hypersensitivity reaction to lopinavir or ritonavir.Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs where significant decreases in lopinavir plasma concentrations may occur, which may result in loss of virologic response and possible resistance and cross-resistance.
rilpivirine emtricitabine tenofovir AF	[Odefsey]	Prior to or when initiating therapy, test for hepatitis B virus infection and renal function. 1 tablet by mouth once daily, containing 200 mg emtricitabine + 25 mg rilpivirine + 25 mg tenofovir AF	Take with food.	Headaches, sleep disturbances	Co-administration is contraindicated with drugs where significant decreases in rilpivirine plasma concentrations may occur, which may result in loss of virologic response and possible resistance and cross-resistance.

*Many of these medications are taken in combination with other ARVs. Talk with your healthcare provider about the treatment regimen that will work best for you.

**Dosages reflect normal use of each drug. However, ARVs are constantly being combined in new ways. Dosages may be higher or lower in the new combinations. Always talk with your healthcare provider before adjusting your medication dosages.

***NNRTIs and PIs are metabolized by the liver, as are many other drugs. Drug interactions can cause under doses that are ineffective or overdoses that can be fatal. Make sure your healthcare provider knows about all medications and supplements you are taking.

Reviewed June 2025