Combination Medications

WHAT ARE COMBINATION MEDICATIONS?

Combination medications are pills, tablets, or injections that contain more than one medication to treat HIV. They are listed in the tables below. Pharmaceutical companies have been working hard to make their medications easier to take. Part of this effort has been to combine more than one medication into a single pill. These combinations are referred to as fixed-dose combinations (FDCs). Combination antiretroviral therapy (ART), sometimes called highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), has revolutionized the management of HIV infection and rendered it a chronic manageable disease.

The first FDC to treat HIV was Combivir, manufactured by ViiV Healthcare. Combivir contains two nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs): lamivudine and zidovudine. This was followed by Trizivir, also manufactured by ViiV Healthcare. Trizivir includes three NRTIs: abacavir, lamivudine, and zidovudine. Both Combivir and Trizivir are no longer widely used in the U.S. due to the frequency and severity of side effects.

Be sure that you do not take a combination medication along with any of its components! For example, do not take Truvada (which contains emtricitabine and tenofovir DF) with tenofovir DF (Viread) or emtricitabine (Emtriva). Your healthcare provider will help you decide which HAART regimen is best for you; take your medications exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to.

TABLE OF COMBINATION HIV MEDICATIONS

Brand name	Year Approved	Individual Components	Also Known As	Manufacturer
Kaletra*	2000	lopinavir – PI ritonavir – PI	LPV / RTV	AbbVie Inc.
Epzicom*	2004	abacavir – NRTI lamivudine – NRTI	ABC / 3TC	ViiV Healthcare
Truvada*	2004	emtricitabine – NRTI tenofovir DF – NRTI	FTC / TDF	Gilead Sciences
Atripla*	2006	efavirenz – NNRTI emtricitabine – NRTI tenofovir DF – NRTI	EFV / FTC / TDF	Gilead Sciences

Complera	2011	emtricitabine – NRTI rilpivirine -- NNRTI tenofovir DF – NRTI	FTC / RPV / TDF	Gilead Sciences
Stribild	2012	elvitegravir – Integrase Inhibitor cobicistat – PK Enhancer emtricitabine -- NRTI tenofovir DF – NRTI	QUAD EVG / COBI / FTC / TDF	Gilead Sciences
Triumeq	2014	abacavir – NRTI dolutegravir – Integrase Inhibitor lamivudine – NRTI	ABC / DTG / 3TC	ViiV Healthcare
Prezcobix	2015	darunavir – PI cobicistat – PK Enhancer	DRV / COBI	Janssen Therapeutics
Evotaz	2015	atazanavir – PI cobicistat – PK Enhancer	ATV / COBI	Bristol-Myers Squibb
Genvoya	2015	elvitegravir – Integrase Inhibitor cobicistat – PK Enhancer emtricitabine – NRTI tenofovir AF – NRTI	EVG / COBI / FTC / TAF	Gilead Sciences
Odefsey	2016	emtricitabine – NRTI rilpivirine – NNRTI tenofovir AF – NRTI	FTC / RPV / TAF	Gilead Sciences

Descovy	2016	emtricitabine -- NRTI tenofovir AF – NRTI	FTC/TAF	Gilead Sciences
Juluca	2017	dolutegravir – Integrase Inhibitor rilpivirine – NNRTI	DTG / RPV	ViiV Healthcare
Biktarvy	2018	bictegravir – Integrase Inhibitor emtricitabine – NRTI tenofovir AF – NRTI	BIC / FTC / TAF	Gilead Sciences
Symfi and Symfi Lo*	2018	efavirenz – NNRTI lamivudine – NRTI tenofovir DF – NRTI	EFV / 3TC / TDF	Viatris
Cimduo	2018	lamivudine – NRTI tenofovir DF – NRTI	Temixys 3TC / TDF	Viatris
Delstrigo	2018	doravirine – NNRTI lamivudine – NRTI tenofovir DF – NRTI	DOR / 3TC / TDF	Merck & Co., Inc.
Symtuza	2018	darunavir – PI cobicistat – PK Enhancer emtricitabine – NRTI tenofovir AF – NRTI	DRV / COBI / FTC / TAF	Janssen Therapeutics

Dovato	2019	dolutegravir – Integrase Inhibitor lamivudine – NRTI	DTG / 3TC	ViiV Healthcare
Cabenuva	2021	cabotegravir – Integrase Inhibitor rilpivirine – NNRTI	CAB / RPV	ViiV Healthcare

*Generic versions have been approved under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR).

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