









Currently Approved Drugs for HIV: A Comparative Chart








All-in-One Combination Tablets




Drug	Adult Dosing	Notes
Atripla (efavirenz + tenofovir + emtricitabine), by Gilead Sciences and Bristol-Myers Squibb	 One tablet (contains 600mg efavirenz + 300mg tenofovir + 200mg emtricitabine), once a day.	This is a complete one-pill, once-daily drug regimen. It is recommended that Atripla be taken on an empty stomach. Dose should be taken at bedtime to minimize dizziness, drowsiness and impaired concentration.
Complera* (rilpivirine + tenofovir + emtricitabine), by Janssen Therapeutics and Gilead Sciences * Also sold as Eviplera in some parts of the world.	 One tablet (contains 25 mg rilpivirine + 300 mg tenofovir + 200 mg emtricitabine), once a day.	This is a complete one-pill, once-daily drug regimen. It is recommended that Complera be taken with food (e.g., breakfast or dinner).
Stribild (elvitegravir + cobicistat + tenofovir + emtricitabine), by Gilead Sciences .	 One tablet (contains 150 mg elvitegravir, 150 mg cobicistat, 300 mg tenofovir and 200 mg emtricitabine), once a day.	This is a complete one-pill, once-daily drug regimen. It is recommended that Stribild be taken with food (e.g., breakfast or dinner).
Triumeq (dolutegravir + abacavir + lamivudine), by ViiV Healthcare .	 One tablet (contains 50 mg dolutegravir, 600 mg abacavir, and 300 mg lamivudine), once a day. Triumeq alone is not recommended for people with known HIV resistance to abacavir, lamivudine or any of the approved integrase inhibitors.	This is a complete one-pill, once-daily drug regimen. Triumeq can be taken either with or without food. Contains abacavir and should only be used in patients that are HLA-B*5701 negative.









Protease Inhibitors (PIs)

Drug	Adult Dosing	Notes
Aptivus (tipranavir), by Boehringer Ingelheim	 Two 250mg capsules plus two 100mg Norvir tablets (or capsules), twice a day (a total of 8 pills a day).	Aptivus and Norvir should be taken with food, preferably a full nutritious meal (e.g., breakfast and dinner). Aptivus/Norvir should not be taken with other protease inhibitors. If taken with ddI (Videx or Videx EC), Aptivus/Norvir should be taken at least two hours before or two hours after taking ddI.
Crixivan (indinavir), by Merck & Co.	 Two 400mg capsules, every 8 hours (a total of 6 pills a day), or two 400mg Crixivan capsules with either one or two 100mg Norvir tablets (or capsules) twice a day (preferred dosing).	Without Norvir: Take on an empty stomach (no food two hours before or one hour after dosing), or with a light, low-fat snack. With Norvir: Take with or without food. Drink at least 48 ounces (six 8-oz. glasses) of water daily to prevent kidney stones.
Evotaz (atazanavir + cobicistat) by Bristol-Myers Squibb and Gilead Sciences	One tablet taken once a day. Each tablet contains 300 mg of atazanavir + 150 mg of cobicistat.	Take with a light meal.
Invirase (saquinavir), by Hoffmann-La Roche	 Invirase must be used in combination with Norvir . The approved dose is two 500mg Invirase tablets plus one 100mg Norvir tablet (or capsule), twice a day (a total of 6 pills a day).	Invirase and Norvir should be taken with food, preferably a full nutritious meal (e.g., breakfast and dinner), or within 2 hours after a meal.
Kaletra* (lopinavir + ritonavir), by Abbott Laboratories * Also sold as Aluvia in some	 Two tablets, twice a day, or, four tablets once a day (only for those starting HIV treatment for the first time or treatment-experienced	Can be taken with or without food. Does not need to be refrigerated. Sustiva (efavirenz), Viramune (nevirapine), Lexiva (fosamprenavir), and Viracept (nelfinavir) may lower the amount of Kaletra in the bloodstream.

parts of the world.		patients with fewer than three HIV mutations known to cause resistance to the lopinavir in Kaletra). Each tablet contains 200mg lopinavir + 50mg ritonavir. A pediatric formulation is also available.	If you have tried and failed other anti-HIV medications in the past, especially other protease inhibitors, it may be necessary to increase your dose of Kaletra if you are also taking any of these four drugs (<i>three</i> tablets twice a day). Kaletra should not be taken once-daily with these drugs.
Lexiva* (fosamprenavir), by ViiV Healthcare * Also sold as Telzir in some parts of the world.		Two 700mg tablets, twice a day (a total of 4 pills a day), or two 700mg tablets plus one 100mg Norvir tablet (or capsule), once a day (a total of 3 pills a day), or one 700mg tablet plus one 100mg Norvir tablet/capsule twice a day (a total of 4 pills a day). This last dosing option should be used for patients who have tried and failed other protease inhibitors in the past. A pediatric formulation is also available.	Take with or without food. Patients who have previously taken a protease inhibitor should take one 700mg tablet plus one 100mg Norvir capsule twice a day (a total of 4 pills a day).
Norvir (ritonavir), by Abbott Laboratories		Six 100mg tablets, twice a day (a total of 12 pills a day). Start with 3 tablets, twice a day, and increase to full dose over 14 days. Note: the full dose of Norvir is rarely used any more. Norvir is most often used at much lower doses to "boost" the levels of other protease inhibitors in the body. A pediatric formulation is also available.	Take with food. High-fat snacks may reduce side effects. Pediatric oral solution may be stored at room temperature, but should be refrigerated in hot weather. Solution can be mixed with chocolate syrup, chocolate ice cream, or Ensure to mask the taste.
Prezcobix (darunavir + cobicistat) by Janssen Therapeutics and Gilead Sciences * Also sold as RezoIsta in some parts of the world.		One tablet taken once a day. Each tablet contains 800 mg of darunavir + 150 mg of cobicistat.	Take with food.
Prezista (darunavir) by Janssen Therapeutics		Prezista must be used in combination with Norvir . The approved dose is one 800mg Prezista tablet (or two 400mg Prezista tablets) plus one 100mg Norvir tablet (or capsule), once a day (for those starting HIV treatment for the first time and for those without any HIV mutations conferring resistance to Prezista), or one 600mg tablet plus one 100 mg Norvir capsule, twice a day (for people with HIV mutations that may reduce the effectiveness of Prezista).	Prezista and Norvir should be taken with food, although the type and amount of food does not matter. If taken with ddl (Videx or Videx EC), Prezista/Norvir should be taken at least two hours before or one hour after taking ddl. Prezista should not be taken with the protease inhibitors Kaletra (lopinavir/ritonavir) or Invirase (saquinavir).
Reyataz (atazanavir), by Bristol-Myers Squibb		Two 200mg capsules, once a day (a total of 2 pills a day), or one 300mg capsule plus one 100mg Norvir tablet (or capsule), once a day (a total of 2 pills a day).	Take with a light meal. For patients who have taken anti-HIV drugs in the past, the recommended dose is 300mg Reyataz plus 100mg Norvir (all as a single dose with food). This combination of Reyataz and Norvir is also recommended for patients who are using either Viread (tenofovir) or Sustiva (efavirenz) in a drug regimen that involves Reyataz. Reyataz should not be combined with any protease inhibitors other than Norvir; the NNRTIs Viramune (nevirapine) and Intelence (etravirine) should also be avoided while using Reyataz. Additionally, should be taken two hours before or one hour after Videx EC (didanosine).
Viracept (nelfinavir), by ViiV Healthcare		Two 625mg tablets, two times a day (a total of 4 pills a day), or five 250mg tablets, twice a day, or three 250mg tablets, three times a day (a total of 9-10 pills a day). A pediatric formulation is also available.	Take with a meal or light snack. Your body absorbs the drug better with food in your stomach. If you have trouble swallowing the pills, there is a powder formulation that can be dissolved in water for easy drinking.

Nucleoside/Nucleotide Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors (NRTIs)

Drug	Adult Dosing	Notes
Combivir* (Retrovir + Efavirenz), by ViiV Healthcare * Also sold generically in the United States.	 One tablet (contains 300mg Retrovir + 150mg Epivir), twice a day (a total of 2 pills a day)	Take with or without food, however taking it with food may minimize stomach upset.
Emtriva (emtricitabine), by Gilead Sciences	 One 200mg capsule once a day. A pediatric formulation is also available.	Take with or without food.
Epivir* (lamivudine; 3TC), by ViiV Healthcare * Also sold generically in the United States.	 One 300mg tablet, once a day, or one 150mg tablet, twice a day (a total of 1 or 2 pills a day). A pediatric formulation is also available.	Take with or without food. Epivir is also used to treat patients infected with the Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), but at a different dose. If you are dually infected with HIV and HBV, the dosage indicated for HIV therapy should be used.



<p>Epzicom* (Ziagen + Efavirenz), by ViiV Healthcare</p> <p>* Also sold as Kivexa in some parts of the world.</p>		One tablet (contains 600mg Ziagen + 300mg Epivir), once a day	Take with or without food.
<p>Retrovir (zidovudine; AZT), by ViiV Healthcare</p> <p>* Also sold generically in the United States.</p>		One 300mg tablet, twice a day (a total of 2 pills a day). A pediatric formulation is also available.	Taking with food may minimize stomach discomfort.
<p>Trizivir (Retrovir + Epivir + Ziagen), by ViiV Healthcare</p>		One tablet (contains 300mg Retrovir + 150mg Epivir + 300mg Ziagen), twice a day (a total of 2 pills a day)	Take with or without food. Do not take Trizivir if you weigh less than 90 pounds (40 kg).
<p>Truvada (Viread + Emtriva), by Gilead Sciences</p>		One tablet (contains 300mg Viread + 200mg Emtriva), once a day	Take with or without food.
<p>Videx EC* (didanosine; ddl): delayed-release capsules, by Bristol-Myers Squibb</p> <p>* Also sold generically in the United States.</p>		One 400mg capsule once a day. For patients weighing less than 133 lbs. (60 kg), the dose is one 250mg capsule once a day. A powdered version of Videx, for mixing into an oral solution, is also available.	Take Videx EC on an empty stomach (2 hours after & 1 hour before a meal). Can be taken at the same time as all other anti-HIV medications, with the exception of the protease inhibitor Aptivus (tipranavir) and Reyataz (atazanavir); Videx EC should be taken at least two hours after or two hours before Aptivus or Reyataz. Avoid alcohol.
<p>Viread (tenofovir DF), by Gilead Sciences</p>		One 300mg tablet once a day.	Take with or without food. If taken with ddl (Videx or Videx EC), it can increase ddl levels in the blood by as much as 60%, causing increased ddl side effects.
<p>Zerit (stavudine; d4T), by Bristol-Myers Squibb</p> <p>* Also sold generically in the United States.</p>		One 40mg capsule, every 12 hours (a total of 2 pills a day). For patients weighing less than 133 lbs. (60 kg), click here . A pediatric formulation is also available.	Take with or without food. Do not take with Retrovir (zidovudine) or Combivir (zidovudine + lamivudine).
<p>Ziagen* (abacavir), by ViiV Healthcare</p> <p>* Also sold generically in the United States.</p>		One 300mg tablet twice a day, or two tablets once a day (a total of 2 pills a day). A pediatric formulation is also available.	Take with or without food.

Non-Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors (NNRTIs)



Drug	Adult Dosing	Notes
<p>Edurant (rilpivirine), by Janssen Therapeutics</p>	One tablet, once a day.	Edurant should be taken following a meal (e.g., breakfast or dinner). It is only approved for HIV-positive people starting treatment for the first time. It should not be taken with other NNRTIs.
<p>Intence (etravirine), by Janssen Therapeutics</p>	One 200mg tablet, twice a day (a total of 2 pills a day)	Intence should be taken following a meal (e.g., breakfast and dinner). It should not be combined with the following: Norvir (ritonavir)-boosted Aptivus (tipranavir), Norvir-boosted Lexiva (fosamprenavir) or Norvir-boosted Reyataz (atazanavir); any protease inhibitors given without a boosting dose of Norvir; or any of the other approved NNRTIs.
<p>Rescriptor (delavirdine), by ViiV Healthcare</p>	Two 200mg tablets, three times a day (a total of 6 pills a day)	Take with or without food. Rescriptor can increase the blood levels of all of the available protease inhibitors . In turn, the dose of the protease inhibitor being used may need to be decreased. You should not take buffered Videx (ddl) tablets—or anything containing an antacid—within one hour of a dose of Rescriptor. Both antacids and Videx tablets (which contain an antacid) can block Rescriptor from being absorbed into the bloodstream.
<p>Sustiva* (efavirenz), by Bristol-Myers Squibb</p> <p>* Also sold as Stocrin in some parts of the world.</p>	One 600mg tablet once a day (just 1 pill a day)	It is recommended that Sustiva be taken on an empty stomach. Dose should be taken at bedtime to minimize dizziness, drowsiness and impaired concentration. If Sustiva is taken with the protease inhibitors Reyataz, Invirase, Kaletra, Crixivan, Agenerase, or Lexiva, their doses may need to be increased or they may need to be combined with a low dose of Norvir (e.g., 100 mg) to help maintain necessary drug levels in the bloodstream.
<p>Viramune XR* (nevirapine), by Boehringer Ingelheim</p> <p>*A generic version of Viramune is available in 200 mg dosing strengths.</p>	One 200mg Viramune tablet per day for 14 days, then one 400mg Viramune XR tablet once a day (a total of 1 pill a day). A pediatric formulation is also available.	Take with or without food. Once daily dosing recommendation based on limited clinical data. If Viramune is taken with the protease inhibitors Reyataz, Invirase, Kaletra, Crixivan, Agenerase, or Lexiva, their doses may need to be increased or they may need to be combined with a low dose of Norvir (e.g., 100 mg) to help maintain necessary drug levels in the bloodstream.

Entry Inhibitors (including Fusion Inhibitors)

Drug	Adult Dosing	Notes
------	--------------	-------

<p>Fuzeon (T-20), by Trimeris and Hoffmann-La Roche</p>		<p>Two 90mg (in 1-ml solution) subcutaneous (under the skin) injections a day.</p>	<p>Fuzeon comes as a white powder that must be carefully mixed with in a vial with sterile water each day—a complicated process called "reconstitution".</p>
<p>Selzentry* (maraviroc), by ViiV Healthcare</p> <p>* Also sold as Celsenti outside the U.S.</p>		<p>Because of drug interactions, the dose will depend on the other medications being used at the same time as Selzentry. The correct dose will either be 150mg, 300mg, or 600mg, twice a day (a total of 2 or 4 pills a day).</p>	<p>Selzentry is only effective against CCR5-tropic HIV (virus that uses the CCR5 receptor on CD4 cells). It will not be effective against virus targeting CXCR4 (and will have a limited effect against HIV with the ability to target both receptors). A tropism assay, such as Monogram Bioscience's Trofile, will be necessary before Selzentry is used to determine if treatment with the drug will be useful.</p>

Integrase Inhibitors

Drug	Adult Dosing	Notes
<p>ISENTRESS (raltegravir), by Merck & Co.</p>	 <p>One 400mg tablet twice a day (two pills a day).</p>	<p>Take with or without food. Because Isentress is metabolized differently than most other antiretrovirals and many other medications, it can be combined safely with PIs, NNRTIs, methadone, opioid pain relievers, statins, antifungals, proton pump inhibitors, oral contraceptives, and erectile dysfunction drugs.</p>
<p>TIVICAY (dolutegravir), by ViiV Healthcare.</p>	 <p>One 50mg tablet, once a day for those starting antiretroviral therapy for the first time, or for those who have not used an integrase inhibitor in the past. For treatment-experienced individuals who have HIV that is resistant to the first-generation integrase inhibitors, the approved dose is one 50mg tablet twice a day. Tivicay must also be taken twice a day by people who are using certain medications.</p>	<p>Take with or without food. Tivicay should be taken two hours before or six hours after taking antacids or laxatives containing aluminum, magnesium or calcium; sucralfate (Carafate); oral iron supplements; calcium supplements; or buffered medications.</p>

Last Revised: 2/3/15



[[about AIDSmeds](#) | [AIDSmeds advisory board](#) | [our staff](#) | [advertising policy](#) | [advertise/contact us](#)]



© 2015 Smart + Strong. All Rights Reserved. Terms of use and Your privacy.
 Smart + Strong® is a registered trademark of CDM Publishing, LLC.