

## Tipranavir (Aptivus®)



Capsule: 250 mg

## Ritonavir (Norvir®)



Tablet: 100 mg

### How do these medications work?

Tipranavir and ritonavir are antiretroviral drugs that act by preventing multiplication of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Tipranavir and ritonavir are viral protease inhibitors. They act by strongly inhibiting the development of new viral particles.

Tipranavir is used in combination with ritonavir and other antiretroviral drugs to slow the progression of the disease and reduce the risk of opportunistic infections (AIDS-related infections).

Tipranavir and ritonavir do not cure AIDS nor kill the virus. There is a permanent risk of transmitting HIV either through sexual or blood contact. It is therefore essential that precautions always be taken (latex condoms, clean syringes, etc.).

Fertile women must use an effective means of birth control.

### How do I take this medication?

Tipranavir	Ritonavir
2 capsules of 250 mg	1 tablet of 100 mg
Twice a day	

Tipranavir and ritonavir must be taken together, **with food**, at the same time every day, about every 12 hours. Food intake could prevent gastrointestinal effect associated with these drugs.

Swallow the whole capsules of tipranavir and ritonavir with water. Do not break, chew or crush them.

It is important to take your antiretroviral medicine properly - i.e. never forget a dose, follow the instructions on how to take the medicine, and always keep on with your treatment.

It is important to take tipranavir and ritonavir regularly, at the same time each day, and to keep to this schedule as closely as possible. Adherence to therapy will help prevent resistance (HIV's ability to recognize and defeat the effect of the medication) and avoid treatment failure (loss of efficacy of the antiretroviral treatment), which would result in an increased viral load and a lower number of CD4 cells, which are the ones that help your body fight infection.

Nearly everyone tends to relax their compliance with the treatment at some point. The key to success is motivation. Don't hesitate to consult members of your care team so that they can explain the benefits of the treatment you are having. They can also suggest ways that will help you maintain it properly.

*Unless you are having serious side effects, never stop your treatment without first speaking to your doctor.*

### Can I take tipranavir and ritonavir with my other medications?

- **Antacids such as Maalox®, Diovol® and Gaviscon®**  
Take tipranavir 2 hours before or 1 hour after antacids.

- **Sildenafil (Viagra®), tadalafil (Cialis®), vardenafil (Levitra®)**

Tipranavir and ritonavir can increase the risk of side effects associated with these drugs, and the dosage of these drugs should be reduced.

- **St. John's wort (Millpertuis)**  
St. John's wort can decrease the efficacy of the medications. Do not take St. John's wort while you are taking tipranavir.

- **Oral contraceptives ("the pill")**  
Ritonavir can decrease the efficacy of oral contraceptives. Additional protective measures, such as latex condoms, are recommended.

Tipranavir and ritonavir may interact with a number of prescription and street drugs (e.g., Valium®, Demerol®, "Ecstasy", etc.). The list of medications you should avoid is long and subject to change.

Consult your doctor or pharmacist before taking any new prescription or non-prescription medication, natural product or recreational drug.



## What are the side effects of this medication?

Normal reactions which will disappear or can be treated. **Continue the medication**



- Diarrhea, gas
- Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pains
- Loss of appetite
- Tingling sensation around the mouth

Contact your doctor  
**Continue the medication**



- Rash (redness on the skin) only

See your doctor  
**IMMEDIATELY**



Rash combined with one or many of the following symptoms: fever, ulcers in the mouth, swelling, blistering, redness in the eyes, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pains, muscle and joint pains, severe fatigue.

### Hepatitis symptoms (liver inflammation)

- Pale or fatty stools, abdominal or stomach pains, loss of appetite
- Dark urine, jaundice (yellow skin and eyes)
- Fatigue, weakness
- Severe itchiness

If you are a carrier of hepatitis B or C, you are at higher risk of liver problems.

### Medical follow-up

Through regular blood tests your doctor will monitor the effects of this medication on your liver, levels of fat (cholesterol, triglycerides) and sugar (glycemia).

Keep your doctor or pharmacist informed of any side effect causing discomfort so they can help you deal with it.

## What if I forget to take a dose ?

If forgotten less than 5 hours after scheduled time:  
Take the dose you missed as soon as possible and then continue with your regular schedule.

If forgotten more than 5 hours after scheduled time:

Do not take the missed dose and just take the following dose at the usual time. **Do not double up doses.**



## Can I drink alcohol if I'm on tipranavir and ritonavir ?

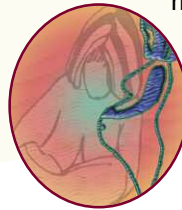
Avoid excessive or regular consumption of alcohol (beer, wine or hard liquor), which can increase the risk of hepatitis (liver inflammation) or interact with some of your medications.



However, do not miss a dose of your medication because you want to have an alcoholic drink. Unless your doctor tells you otherwise, reasonable (social) consumption should not damage your health.

## What if I'm pregnant or breast-feeding ?

The effect of tipranavir and ritonavir in pregnant women is not yet known. Talk to your doctor if you want to take these medications and are pregnant or want to become pregnant.



Since the virus can be transmitted through maternal milk, breast-feeding is not recommended in HIV-positive women.

## General Advice

Always keep your appointments with your doctor and the care team, so that your health can be closely monitored.

If you have any questions about your medications or need help to schedule when to take them, please contact your doctor or pharmacist, who is familiar with what you are taking.

Contact person : \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone : \_\_\_\_\_

## Storage

Keep tipranavir and ritonavir capsules refrigerated (2 to 8°C or 36 to 46°F). They can also be kept at room temperature (less than 25°C or 77°F) for no more than 60 days for tipranavir. Ritonavir tablets can be stored at room temperature.



Avoid storage in bathroom.

Keep this medication in a secure container and out of reach from children.