

How does this medication work?

Etravirine is an antiretroviral drug that acts by preventing multiplication of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

Etravirine is used in combination with other antiretroviral drugs to slow the progression of the disease. It helps keeping your immune system strong and reduces the risk of developing infections that occur when the immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

Etravirine does 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.).



What if I forget to take a dose?

If forgotten less than 6 hours after scheduled time:

Take the dose you missed as soon as possible **with food** and then continue with your regular schedule.



If forgotten more than 6 hours after scheduled time:

Do not take the missed dose and just take the following dose **with food** at the usual time.

Do not double up doses.



Be careful mixing medication!

Etravirine can interact with other medication.

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

Can I drink alcohol with Etravirine?

Avoid regular consumption of alcohol which may damage your liver, mostly if you are a hepatitis carrier. Reasonable consumption should not damage your health.

However, do not miss a dose of your medication because you want an alcoholic drink or use drugs.



What if I'm pregnant or breast-feeding?

The effect of etravirine in pregnant women is not yet known. Talk to your doctor if you want to take this medication and are pregnant or want to become pregnant.

Breast-feeding is not recommended in HIV-positive women.



How do I take this medication?

ETRAVIRINE

1 tablets of 200 mg

Twice a day

Etravirine must be taken **with food** and swallowed whole.

Do not chew nor crush. However, you may dissolve the tablets in water. Mix well, drink, rinse the glass you used and drink again.

It is important to take your antiretroviral medicine properly and never forget a dose. Otherwise, the virus can become **resistant**. The medication will lose its supposed effect on the virus and the treatment will fail.



Unless you are experiencing a severe adverse effect, never stop your treatment without first speaking to your doctor.

What are the side effects of this medication?

	Normal reactions which will disappear or can be treated Continue the medication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Headaches, fatigue, sleeping difficulties - Diarrhea, abdominal pains, nausea, heart burns
	Contact your doctor Continue the medication	Rash (redness on the skin) only
	See your doctor IMMEDIATELY	Rash with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fever, ulcers in the mouth (lesions) - Swelling, blistering (bubbles on the skin) - Eye redness - Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea - Muscle and joint pain - Severe fatigue

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

Storage

Not in the bathroom.

Keep etravirine in a dry place at room temperature.

Keep out of sight and reach of children.



General advice

Always keep your appointments with your doctor and the care team, so that your health can be closely monitored, even if you have no symptoms.

