



**How does this medication work?**

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

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

Rilpivirine 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 (use latex condoms, do not share syringes).



**What if I forget to take a dose?**

If forgotten less than 12 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 12 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!**

Rilpivirine may interact with other medications. Consult your doctor or pharmacist before taking any new prescription or non-prescription medication, natural product or recreational drug.



**Can I drink alcohol with Rilpivirine?**

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

However, do not miss a dose of your medication because you want to have an alcoholic drink.



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

The effect of Rilpivirine 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.



**How do I take this medication?**

Rilpivirine	
	1 tablet of 25 mg
	Once daily

Rilpivirine should be taken with normal caloric meal (about 533 calories). Taking Rilpivirine with a high protein nutritional drink (Boost, Ensure, etc.) does not replace a meal and is not sufficient to promote the absorption of Rilpivirine.

It is important to take Rilpivirine regularly, at the same time each day, and to keep to this schedule as closely as possible. Adherence to therapy will help prevent resistance and avoid treatment failure.



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

**What are the side effects of this medication?**

Rilpivirine is generally well tolerated but some side effects have been observed :

Normal reactions which will disappear or can be treated <b>Continue the medication</b>	- Headache, difficulty sleeping, abnormal dreams, fatigue
Contact your doctor <b>Continue the medication</b>	- <b>Rash</b> alone (redness on the skin) - Persistent change in mood or depressed mood
See your doctor <b>IMMEDIATELY</b>	<b>Rash WITH:</b> - Fever, ulcers in the mouth - Swelling, blistering (bubbles on the skin) - Eye redness - Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea - Muscle and joint pain - Severe fatigue, general illness



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

**Storage**

Keep Rilpivirine in a dry place at room temperature.

Avoid storage in bathroom. 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.

