

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use **ABACAVIR AND LAMIVUDINE TABLETS** safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for **ABACAVIR AND LAMIVUDINE TABLETS**.

ABACAVIR AND LAMIVUDINE Tablets, for oral use

Initial U.S. Approval: 2004

WARNING: HYPERSENSITIVITY REACTIONS AND EXACERBATIONS OF HEPATITIS B

See full prescribing information for complete boxed warning.

Hypersensitivity Reactions

- Serious and sometimes fatal hypersensitivity reactions have occurred with abacavir-containing products. (5.1)
- Hypersensitivity to abacavir is a multi-organ clinical syndrome. (5.1)
- Patients who carry the HLA-B*5701 allele are at a higher risk of experiencing a hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir. (5.1)

- Abacavir and lamivudine is contraindicated in patients with a prior hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir and in HLA-B*5701-positive patients. (4)
- Discontinue abacavir and lamivudine as soon as a hypersensitivity reaction is suspected. Regardless of HLA-B*5701 status, permanently discontinue abacavir and lamivudine if hypersensitivity cannot be ruled out, even when other diagnoses are possible. (5.1)

- Following a hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir and lamivudine, NEVER restart abacavir and lamivudine or any other abacavir-containing product. (5.1)
- #### Exacerbations of Hepatitis B
- Severe acute exacerbations of hepatitis B have been reported in patients who are co-infected with hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) and have discontinued lamivudine, a component of abacavir and lamivudine, Monitor hepatic function closely in these patients and, if appropriate, initiate anti-hepatitis B treatment. (5.2)

RECENT MAJOR CHANGES

Disposal and Administration, Not Recommended Due to Lack of Dosage Adjustment (2.4)

12/2021

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Abacavir and lamivudine tablets, a combination of abacavir and lamivudine, both nucleoside analogue HIV-1 reverse transcriptase inhibitors, is indicated in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV-1 infection. (1)

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Abacavir and lamivudine is contraindicated in patients with a prior hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir and in HLA-B*5701-positive patients.

NEVER restart abacavir and lamivudine or any other abacavir-containing product following a hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir, regardless of HLA-B*5701 status.

Discontinue abacavir and lamivudine immediately if a hypersensitivity reaction is suspected, even when other diagnoses are possible (e.g., acute onset respiratory diseases such as pneumonia, bronchitis, pharyngitis, or influenza; gastroenteritis; or reactions to other medications).

If a hypersensitivity reaction is ruled out, patients may restart abacavir and lamivudine. Rarely, patients who have stopped abacavir for reasons other than symptoms of hypersensitivity have also experienced life-threatening reactions within hours of reinitiating abacavir therapy. Therefore, reintroduction of abacavir and lamivudine or any other abacavir-containing product is recommended only if medical care can be readily accessed.

A Medication Guide and Warning Card that provide information about recognition of hypersensitivity reactions should be dispensed with each new prescription and refill.

2.2 Patients with Hepatitis B Virus Co-Infection

Emergence of Lamivudine-Resistant HBV

Safety and efficacy of lamivudine have not been established for treatment of chronic hepatitis B in subjects daily infected with HIV-1 and HBV. Emergence of hepatitis B virus variants associated with resistance to lamivudine has been reported in HIV-1-infected subjects who have received lamivudine-containing antiretroviral regimens in the presence of concurrent infection with hepatitis B virus. See full prescribing information for EPVIR (lamivudine).

5.3 Lactic Acidosis and Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis

Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside analogues, including abacavir and lamivudine (components of abacavir and lamivudine tablets). A majority of these cases have been in women. Female sex and obesity may be risk factors for the development of lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis in patients treated with antiretroviral nucleoside analogues. See full prescribing information for ZIAGEN (abacavir) and EPVIR (lamivudine). Treatment with abacavir and lamivudine should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or pronounced hepatotoxicity, which may include hepatomegaly and steatosis even in the absence of marked transaminase elevations.

5.4 Immune Reconstitution Syndrome

Immune reconstitution syndrome has been reported in patients treated with combination antiretroviral therapy, including

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Before initiating abacavir and lamivudine, screen for the HLA-B*5701 allele because abacavir and lamivudine tablet contains abacavir. (2.1)

Adults: One tablet orally once daily. (2.2)

Pediatric patients weighing at least 25 kg: One tablet daily. (2.3)

Because abacavir and lamivudine is a fixed-dose tablet and cannot be dose adjusted, abacavir and lamivudine is not recommended in patients with creatinine clearance less than 30 mL per minute or patients with hepatic impairment. (2.4, 4)

DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Tablets: 600 mg of abacavir and 300 mg of lamivudine. (3)

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Presence of HLA-B*5701 allele. (4)

Prior hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir or lamivudine. (4)

Moderate or severe hepatic impairment. (4, 8.7)

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside analogues. (5.3)

Immune reconstitution syndrome has been reported in patients treated with combination antiretroviral therapy. (5.4)

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The most commonly reported adverse reactions of at least moderate intensity (incidence greater than 5%) in an adult HIV-1 clinical trial were drug hypersensitivity, insomnia, depression/depressed mood, headache/migraine, fatigue/maaise, dizziness/vertigo, nausea, and diarrhea. (6.1)

SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, CONTACT Cipla Ltd. at 1-866-604-3268 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

Methadone: An increased methadone dose may be required in a small number of patients. (7.1)

Sorbitol: Coadministration of lamivudine and sorbitol may decrease lamivudine concentrations; when possible, avoid chronic coadministration. (7.2)

Ricoglut: The ricoglut dose may need to be reduced. (7.3)

USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

Lactation: Women infected with HIV should be instructed not to breastfeed due to potential for HIV transmission. (8.2)

PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION AND Medication Guide.

Revised: 11/2022

FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

WARNING: HYPERSENSITIVITY REACTIONS AND EXACERBATIONS OF HEPATITIS B

Hypersensitivity Reactions
Serious and sometimes fatal hypersensitivity reactions, with multiple organ involvement, have occurred with abacavir, a component of abacavir and lamivudine tablets. Patients who carry the HLA-B*5701 allele are at a higher risk of a hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir; although, hypersensitivity reactions have occurred in patients who do not carry the HLA-B*5701 allele [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)].

Abacavir and lamivudine is contraindicated in patients with a prior hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir and in HLA-B*5701-positive patients [see *Contraindications* (4), *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)]. All patients should be screened for the HLA-B*5701 allele prior to initiating therapy with abacavir and lamivudine or reinitiation of therapy with abacavir and lamivudine, unless patients have a previously documented HLA-B*5701 allele assessment. Discontinue abacavir and lamivudine immediately if a hypersensitivity reaction is suspected, regardless of HLA-B*5701 status and even when other diagnoses are possible [see *Contraindications* (4), *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)].

Following a hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir and lamivudine, NEVER restart abacavir and lamivudine or any other abacavir-containing product because more severe symptoms, including death, can occur within hours. Similar severe reactions have also occurred rarely following the reintroduction of abacavir-containing products in patients who have no history of abacavir hypersensitivity [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)].

Exacerbations of Hepatitis B

Severe acute exacerbations of hepatitis B have been reported in patients who are co-infected with hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) and have discontinued lamivudine, which is a component of abacavir and lamivudine. Hepatic function should be monitored closely with both clinical and laboratory follow-up for at least several months in patients who discontinue abacavir and lamivudine and are co-infected with HIV-1 and HBV. If appropriate, initiation of anti-hepatitis B therapy may be warranted [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.2)].

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Abacavir and lamivudine tablets, in combination with other antiretroviral agents, are indicated for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) infection.

2.1 Screening for HLA-B*5701 Allele Prior to Starting Abacavir and Lamivudine

Screen for the HLA-B*5701 allele prior to initiating therapy with abacavir and lamivudine [see *Boxed Warning, Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)].

2.2 Recommended Dosage for Adult Patients

The recommended dosage of abacavir and lamivudine for adults is one tablet taken orally once daily, in combination with other antiretroviral agents, with or without food.

2.3 Recommended Dosage for Pediatric Patients

The recommended oral dosage of abacavir and lamivudine for pediatric patients weighing at least 25 kg is one tablet daily in combination with other antiretroviral agents [see *Clinical Studies* (14.2)]. Before prescribing abacavir and lamivudine tablets, pediatric patients should be assessed for the ability to swallow tablets.

2.4 Not Recommended Due to Lack of Dosage Adjustment

Because abacavir and lamivudine tablet is a fixed-dose tablet and cannot be dose adjusted, abacavir and lamivudine tablet is not recommended for:

- patients with creatinine clearance less than 30 mL per minute [see *Use in Specific Populations* (8.6)]
- patients with mild hepatic impairment. Abacavir and lamivudine is contraindicated in patients with moderate or severe hepatic impairment [see *Contraindications* (4), *Use in Specific Populations* (8.7)].

Use of EPVIR (lamivudine) oral solution or tablets and ZIAGEN (abacavir) oral solution may be considered.

3. DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Abacavir and lamivudine tablets USP contain 600 mg of abacavir as abacavir sulfate and 300 mg of lamivudine. The tablets are Orange colored, capsule shaped, biconvex, film coated tablets debossed with "C" on one side and plain on another side.

4. CONTRAINDICATIONS

Abacavir and lamivudine tablets are contraindicated in patients:

- who have the HLA-B*5701 allele [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)];
- with prior hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)] or lamivudine,

with moderate or severe hepatic impairment [see *Use in Specific Populations* (8.7)].

5. WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.1 Hypersensitivity Reactions

Serious and sometimes fatal hypersensitivity reactions have occurred with abacavir, a component of abacavir and lamivudine tablets. These hypersensitivity reactions have included multi-organ failure and anaphylaxis and typically occurred within the first 6 weeks of treatment with abacavir (median time to onset was 9 days), although abacavir hypersensitivity reactions have occurred any time during treatment [see *Adverse Reactions* (6.1)]. Patients who carry the HLA-B*5701 allele are at a higher risk of abacavir hypersensitivity reactions. Although patients who do not carry the HLA-B*5701 allele have developed hypersensitivity reactions, hypersensitivity to abacavir was reported in approximately 206 (8%) of 2,670 patients in 9 clinical trials with abacavir-containing products where HLA-B*5701 screening was not performed. The incidence of suspected abacavir hypersensitivity reactions in clinical trials was 1% when subjects carrying the HLA-B*5701 allele were excluded. In any patient treated with abacavir, the clinical diagnosis of hypersensitivity reaction must remain the basis of clinical decision making.

Due to the potential for severe, serious, and possibly fatal hypersensitivity reactions with abacavir:

- All patients should be screened for the HLA-B*5701 allele prior to initiating therapy with abacavir and lamivudine or reinitiation of therapy with abacavir and lamivudine, unless patients have a previously documented HLA-B*5701 allele assessment;

• Abacavir and lamivudine is contraindicated in patients with a prior hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir and in HLA-B*5701-positive patients.

Before starting abacavir and lamivudine, review medical history for prior exposure to any abacavir-containing product. NEVER restart abacavir and lamivudine or any other abacavir-containing product following a hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir, regardless of HLA-B*5701 status.

To reduce the risk of a life-threatening hypersensitivity reaction, regardless of HLA-B*5701 status, discontinue abacavir and lamivudine immediately if a hypersensitivity reaction is suspected, even when other diagnoses are possible (e.g., acute onset respiratory diseases such as pneumonia, bronchitis, pharyngitis, or influenza; gastroenteritis; or reactions to other medications).

If a hypersensitivity reaction is ruled out, patients may restart abacavir and lamivudine. Rarely, patients who have stopped abacavir for reasons other than symptoms of hypersensitivity have also experienced life-threatening reactions within hours of reinitiating abacavir therapy. Therefore, reintroduction of abacavir and lamivudine or any other abacavir-containing product is recommended only if medical care can be readily accessed.

A Medication Guide and Warning Card that provide information about recognition of hypersensitivity reactions should be dispensed with each new prescription and refill.

5.2 Patients with Hepatitis B Virus Co-Infection

Emergence of Lamivudine-Resistant HBV

Safety and efficacy of lamivudine have not been established for treatment of chronic hepatitis B in subjects daily infected with HIV-1 and HBV. Emergence of hepatitis B virus variants associated with resistance to lamivudine has been reported in HIV-1-infected subjects who have received lamivudine-containing antiretroviral regimens in the presence of concurrent infection with hepatitis B virus. See full prescribing information for EPVIR (lamivudine).

5.3 Lactic Acidosis and Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis

Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside analogues, including abacavir and lamivudine (components of abacavir and lamivudine tablets). A majority of these cases have been in women. Female sex and obesity may be risk factors for the development of lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis in patients treated with antiretroviral nucleoside analogues. See full prescribing information for ZIAGEN (abacavir) and EPVIR (lamivudine). Treatment with abacavir and lamivudine should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or pronounced hepatotoxicity, which may include hepatomegaly and steatosis even in the absence of marked transaminase elevations.

5.4 Immune Reconstitution Syndrome

Immune reconstitution syndrome has been reported in patients treated with combination antiretroviral therapy, including

abacavir and lamivudine. During the initial phase of combination antiretroviral treatment, patients whose immune systems remain may develop an inflammatory response to invariant or residual opportunistic infections (such as *Mycobacterium avium* infection, cytomegalovirus, *Pneumocystis jirovecii* pneumonia (PCP), or tuberculosis), which may necessitate further evaluation and treatment.

Autoimmune disorders (such as Graves' disease, polymyositis, and Guillain-Barré syndrome) have also been reported to occur in patients on immune reconstitution; however, the time to onset is more variable, and can occur many months after initiation of treatment.

5.5 Myocardial Infarction

Several prospective, observational, epidemiological studies have reported an association with the use of abacavir and the risk of myocardial infarction (MI). Meta-analyses of randomized, controlled clinical trials have observed no excess risk of MI in abacavir-treated subjects as compared with control subjects. To date, there is no established biological mechanism to explain the potential increase in risk. In totality, the available data from the observational studies and from controlled clinical trials show inconsistency; therefore, evidence for a causal relationship between abacavir treatment and the risk of MI is inconclusive.

As a precaution, the underlying risk of coronary heart disease should be considered when prescribing antiretroviral therapies, including abacavir, and action taken to minimize all modifiable risk factors (e.g., hypertension, hyperlipidemia, diabetes mellitus, smoking).

6. ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following adverse reactions are discussed in other sections of the labeling:

- Serious and sometimes fatal hypersensitivity reactions [see *Boxed Warning, Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)].
- Exacerbations of hepatitis B [see *Boxed Warning, Warnings and Precautions* (5.2)].
- Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.3)].
- Immune reconstitution syndrome [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.4)].
- Myocardial infarction [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.5)].

6.1 Clinical Trials Experience in Adult Subjects

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared with rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in clinical practice.

Serious and Fatal Abacavir-Associated Hypersensitivity Reactions

In clinical trials, serious and sometimes fatal hypersensitivity reactions have occurred with abacavir, a component of abacavir and lamivudine tablet [see *Boxed Warning, Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)]. These reactions have been characterized by 2 or more of the following signs or symptoms: (1) fever, (2) rash, (3) gastrointestinal symptoms (including nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal pain), (4) constitutional symptoms (including generalized malaise, fatigue, or achiness), (5) respiratory symptoms (including dyspnea, cough, or pharyngitis). Almost all abacavir hypersensitivity reactions include fever and/or rash as part of the syndrome.

Other signs and symptoms have included lethargy, headache, myalgia, edema, arthralgia, and paresthesia. Anaphylaxis, liver failure, renal failure, hypotension, adult respiratory distress syndrome, respiratory failure, myelitis, and death have occurred in association with these hypersensitivity reactions. Physical findings have included lymphadenopathy, mucous membrane lesions (conjunctivitis and mouth ulcers), and maculopapular or urticarial rash (including some patients had other types of rashes and others did not have a rash). There were reports of erythema multiforme. Laboratory abnormalities included elevated liver chemistries, elevated creatine phosphokinase, elevated creatinine, and lymphopenia and abnormal chest x-ray findings (pneumonia, infiltrates, which were coughed).

Additional Adverse Reactions with Use of Abacavir and Lamivudine Therapy—Avea Adults: Treatment-emergent clinical adverse reactions (rated by the investigator as moderate or severe) with greater than or equal to 5% frequency during therapy with ZIAGEN 600 mg once daily or ZIAGEN 300 mg twice daily, both in combination with lamivudine 300 mg once daily and efavirenz 600 mg once daily, are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Treatment-Emergent (All Causality) Adverse Reactions of at Least Moderate Intensity (Grade 2–4, Greater than or Equal to 5% Frequency in Therapy-Naive Adults (CNA30021) through 48 Weeks of Treatment

Adverse Event	ZIAGEN 600 mg q.d. plus EPVIR plus Efavirenz (n = 384)		ZIAGEN 300 mg b.i.d. plus EPVIR plus Efavirenz (n = 386)	
	%	n	%	n
Drug hypersensitivity ^a	9%	7%	7%	6%
Insomnia	7%	9%	7%	7%
Depression/Depressed mood	7%	7%	7%	7%
Headache/Migraine	7%	7%	6%	6%
Fatigue/Malaise	6%	8%	6%	8%
Dizziness/Vertigo	6%	6%	6%	6%
Nausea	5%	6%	6%	6%
Cough	5%	6%	6%	6%
Rash	5%	5%	5%	5%
Pyrexia	5%	3%	5%	3%
Abdominal pain/gastritis	4%	5%	5%	5%
Abnormal dreams	4%	5%	5%	5%
Anxiety	3%	5%	5%	5%

^a Subjects receiving ZIAGEN 600 mg once daily, experienced a significantly higher incidence of severe drug hypersensitivity reactions and severe diarrhea compared with subjects who received ZIAGEN 300 mg twice daily. Five percent (5%) of subjects receiving ZIAGEN 600 mg once daily had severe drug hypersensitivity reactions compared with 2% of subjects receiving ZIAGEN 300 mg twice daily. Two percent (2%) of subjects receiving ZIAGEN 600 mg once daily had severe diarrhea while none of the subjects receiving ZIAGEN 300 mg twice daily had this event.

^b CNA30024 was a multi-center, double-blind, controlled trial in which 648 HIV-1-infected, therapy-naive adults were randomized and received either ZIAGEN (300 mg twice daily), EPVIR (150 mg twice daily), and efavirenz (600 mg once daily), or zidovudine (300 mg twice daily), EPVIR (150 mg twice daily), and efavirenz (600 mg once daily). CNA30024 used double-blind ascertainment of suspected hypersensitivity reactions. During the blinded portion of the trial, suspected hypersensitivity to abacavir was reported by investigators in 9% of 324 subjects in the abacavir group and 3% of 325 subjects in the zidovudine group.

Laboratory Abnormalities: Laboratory abnormalities observed in clinical trials of ZIAGEN were anemia, neutropenia, liver function test abnormalities, and elevations of CPK, blood glucose, and triglycerides. Additional laboratory abnormalities observed in clinical trials of EPVIR were thrombocytopenia and elevated levels of bilirubin, amylase, and lipase.

The frequencies of treatment-emergent laboratory abnormalities were comparable between treatment groups in CNA30021.

Other Adverse Events: In addition to adverse reactions listed above, other adverse events observed in the expanded access program for abacavir were pancreatitis and increased GGT.

6.2 Clinical Trials Experience in Pediatric Subjects

The safety of once-daily compared with twice-daily dosing of abacavir and lamivudine, administered as either single products or as abacavir and lamivudine, was assessed in the ARROW trial (N= 536). Primary safety assessment in the ARROW (CO1105677) trial was based on Grade 3 and Grade 4 adverse events. The frequency of Grade 3 and 4 adverse events was similar among subjects randomized to once-daily dosing compared with subjects randomized to twice-daily dosing. One event of Grade 4 hepatitis in the once-daily cohort was considered as uncertain causality by the investigator and all other Grade 3 or 4 adverse events were considered not related by the investigator. No additional safety issues were identified in pediatric subjects receiving abacavir and lamivudine once-daily compared with historical data in adults [see *Adverse Reactions* (6.1)].

6.3 Postmarketing Experience

The following adverse reactions have been identified during postmarketing use. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

Abacavir

Cardiovascular: Myocardial infarction.

Skin: Suspected Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) have been reported in patients receiving abacavir primarily in combination with medications known to be associated with SJS and TEN, respectively. Because of the overlap of clinical signs and symptoms between hypersensitivity to abacavir and SJS and TEN, and the possibility of multiple drug sensitivities in some patients, abacavir should be discontinued and not restarted in such cases. There have also been reports of erythema multiforme with abacavir use [see *Adverse Reactions* (6.1)].

Abacavir and Lamivudine

Body as a Whole: Redistribution/accumulation of body fat.

Digestive: Stomatitis.

Endocrine and Metabolic: Hyperlipidemia.

General: Weakness.

Hemic and Lymphatic: Aplastic anemia, anemia (including pure red cell aplasia and severe anemia progressing on therapy), lymphadenopathy, splenomegaly.

Hepatic: Lactic acidosis and severe steatosis [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.3)], posttreatment exacerbations of hepatitis B [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.2)].

Hypersensitivity: Sensitization reactions (including anaphylaxis), urticaria.

Musculoskeletal: Muscle weakness, creatinine phosphokinase (CPK) elevation, rhabdomyolysis.

Nervous/Paresthesia, peripheral neuropathy, seizures.

Respiratory: Abnormal breath sounds/wheezing.

Skin: Acute toxic epidermal necrolysis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome.

7. DRUG INTERACTIONS

7.1 Methadone

In a trial of 11 HIV-1-infected subjects receiving methadone-maintenance therapy with 600 mg of ZIAGEN twice daily (twice the currently recommended dose), oral methadone clearance increased [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.3)]. This alteration will not result in a methadone dose modification in the majority of patients; however, an increased methadone dose may be required in a small number of patients.

7.2 Sorbitol

Coadministration of single doses of lamivudine and sorbitol resulted in a sorbitol dose-dependent reduction in lamivudine exposures. When possible, avoid use of sorbitol-containing products with lamivudine-containing medicines [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.3)].

7.3 Ricoglut

Coadministration with fixed-dose abacavir/ritonavir/lamivudine resulted in increased ricoglut exposure, which may increase the risk of ricoglut adverse reactions [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.3)]. The ricoglut dose may need to be reduced. See full prescribing information for ADEMPAS (ricoglut).

8. USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

8.1 Pregnancy

Pregnancy Exposure Registry
There is a pregnancy exposure registry that monitors pregnancy outcomes in women exposed to abacavir and lamivudine tablets during pregnancy. Healthcare providers are encouraged to register patients by calling the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry (APR) at 1-800-253-4633.

Risk Summary

Available data from the APR show no difference in the overall risk of birth defects for abacavir or lamivudine compared with the background rate for birth defects of 2.7% in the Metropolitan Atlanta Congenital Defects Program (MACDP) reference population (see Data). The APR uses the MACDP as the U.S. reference population for birth defects in the general population. The MACDP evaluates women and infants from a limited geographic area and does not include outcomes for births that occurred at less than 20 weeks' gestation. The rate of miscarriage is not reported in the APR. The estimated background rate

abacavir and lamivudine tablets.

- Do not run out of abacavir and lamivudine tablets. The virus in your blood may increase and the virus may become harder to treat. When your supply starts to run low, get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy.
- If you take too much abacavir and lamivudine tablets, call your healthcare provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.

What are the possible side effects of abacavir and lamivudine tablets?

- Abacavir and lamivudine tablets can cause serious side effects including:**
- See "What is the most important information I should know about abacavir and lamivudine tablets?"**
- Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis).** Lactic acidosis is a serious medical emergency that can cause death. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms that could be signs of lactic acidosis:**
 - feel very weak or tired
 - feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
 - feel dizzy or light-headed
 - trouble breathing
 - have a fast or irregular heartbeat
 - stomach pain with nausea and vomiting
- Severe liver problems.** In some cases, severe liver problems can lead to death. Your liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and you may develop fat in your liver (steatosis). **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following signs or symptoms of liver problems:**
 - your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice)
 - dark or "tea-colored" urine
 - light-colored stools (bowel movements)
 - loss of appetite for several days or longer
 - nausea
 - pain, aching, or tenderness on the right side of your stomach area

You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or serious liver problems if you are female or very overweight (obese).

Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome) can happen when you start taking HIV-1 medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you start having new symptoms after you start taking abacavir and lamivudine tablets.

Heart attack. Some HIV-1 medicines including abacavir and lamivudine tablets may increase your risk of heart attack.

The most common side effects of abacavir and lamivudine tablets include:

- allergic reactions
- trouble sleeping
- depression
- headache or migraine
- tiredness or weakness
- dizziness
- nausea
- diarrhea

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all the possible side effects of abacavir and lamivudine tablets. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

How should I store abacavir and lamivudine tablets?

Store abacavir and lamivudine tablets at room temperature.

Keep abacavir and lamivudine tablets and all medicines out of the reach of children.

General information for safe and effective use of abacavir and lamivudine tablets.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use abacavir and lamivudine

tablets for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give abacavir and lamivudine tablets to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them. You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for the information about abacavir and lamivudine tablets that is written for health professionals.

For more information go to www.ciplausa.com or call 1-866-604-3268.

What are the ingredients in abacavir and lamivudine tablets?

Active ingredients: abacavir and lamivudine

Inactive ingredients: Each film-coated abacavir and lamivudine tablet contains the inactive ingredients microcrystalline cellulose, sodium starch glycolate, hypromellose, corn starch, colloidal silicon dioxide, magnesium stearate. The tablets are coated with a film (Opadry orange 14B53805) that is made of hypromellose 15CP, titanium dioxide, PEG 400, FD&C Yellow No 6, polyorbate 80.

Disclaimer: Other brands listed are the registered trademarks of their respective owners and are not trademarks of Cipla Limited. This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

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Revised: 1/2022

Parfiterion

8.5 Geriatric Use

Clinical trials of abacavir and lamivudine did not include sufficient numbers of subjects aged 65 and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger subjects. In general, caution should be exercised in the administration of abacavir and lamivudine in elderly patients reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function, and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy [See Dosage and Administration (2.4), Use in Specific Populations (8.6 & 7)].

8.6 Patients with Impaired Renal Function

Abacavir and lamivudine is not recommended for patients with creatinine clearance less than 30 mL per min because abacavir and lamivudine is a fixed-dose combination and the dosage of the individual components cannot be adjusted. If a dose reduction of lamivudine, a component of abacavir and lamivudine, is required for patients with creatinine clearance less than 30 mL per min, then the individual components should be used [see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)].

Patients with a creatinine clearance between 30 and 49 mL per min receiving abacavir and lamivudine may experience a 1.6- to 2.3-fold higher lamivudine exposure (AUC) than patients with a creatinine clearance ≥50 mL per min. There are no safety data from randomized, controlled trials comparing abacavir and lamivudine to the individual components in patients with a creatinine clearance between 30 and 49 mL per min who received dose-adjusted lamivudine. In the original lamivudine registration trials in combination with zidovudine, higher lamivudine exposures were associated with higher rates of hematologic toxicities (neutropenia and anemia), although discontinuations due to neutropenia or anemia each occurred in <1% of subjects. Patients with a sustained creatinine clearance between 30 and 49 mL per min who receive abacavir and lamivudine should be monitored for hematologic toxicities. If new or worsening neutropenia or anemia develops, dose adjustment of lamivudine, per lamivudine prescribing information, is recommended. If lamivudine dose adjustment is indicated, abacavir and lamivudine should be discontinued and the individual components should be used to reconstruct the treatment regimen.

8.7 Patients with Impaired Hepatic Function

Abacavir and lamivudine is a fixed-dose combination and the dosage of the individual components cannot be adjusted. If a dose reduction of abacavir, a component of abacavir and lamivudine, is required for patients with mild hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class A), then the individual components should be used [see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)].

The safety, efficacy, and pharmacokinetic properties of abacavir have not been established in patients with moderate (Child-Pugh Class B) or severe (Child-Pugh Class C) hepatic impairment; therefore, abacavir and lamivudine is contraindicated in these patients [see Contraindications (4)].

10 OVERDOSAGE

There is no known specific treatment for overdose with abacavir and lamivudine. If overdose occurs, the patient should be monitored closely for adverse reactions (see Contraindications (4)).

Abacavir: It is not known whether abacavir can be removed by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

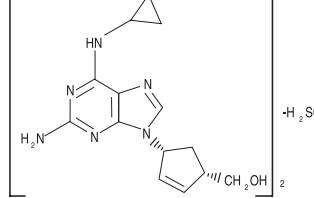
Lamivudine: Because a negligible amount of lamivudine was removed via (4-hour) hemodialysis, continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis, and automated peritoneal dialysis, it is not known if continuous hemodialysis would provide clinical benefit in these patients [see Contraindications (4)].

11 DESCRIPTION

Abacavir and lamivudine tablets USP contain the following 2 synthetic nucleoside analogues: abacavir (ZIAGEN, also a component of TRIZENIV) and lamivudine (also known as EPVIR or 3TC) with inhibitory activity against HIV-1.

Abacavir and lamivudine tablets USP are for oral administration. Each orange, film-coated tablet contains the active ingredients 600 mg of abacavir as abacavir sulfate and 300 mg of lamivudine, and the inactive ingredients microcrystalline cellulose, sodium starch glycolate, hypromellose, corn starch, colloidal silicon dioxide, magnesium stearate. The tablets are coated with a film (Opadry orange 14B53803) that is made of hypromellose 15CP, titanium dioxide, PEG 400, FD&C Yellow No 6, polyorbate 80.

Abacavir Sulfate
The chemical name of abacavir sulfate is (1Z,5c)-4-[2-amino-6-(cyclopropylamino)-9H-purin-9-yl]-2-cytopentene-1-methanol sulfate (salt) (2:1). Abacavir sulfate is the enantiomer with *RS*. 4R absolute configuration on the cyclopentene ring. It has a molecular formula of (C₁₂H₁₄N₆O₄·H₂SO₄) and a molecular weight of 670.76 g per mol. It has the following structural formula:

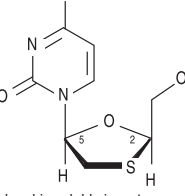


Abacavir sulfate is a white to off-white solid and is soluble in water.

In abacavir sulfate disoposates to its free base, abacavir. Dosages are expressed in terms of abacavir.

Lamivudine

The chemical name of lamivudine is (2R,5c)-4-amino-1-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1,3-oxathiol-5-yl-(1H)-pyrimidin-2-one. Lamivudine is the (S)-enantiomer of a dideoxy analog of cytidine. Lamivudine has also been referred to as (2'-D'-deoxyribo-5'-thiacytosine. It has a molecular formula of C₈H₁₀N₂O₃ and a molecular weight of 225.3 g per mol. It has the following structural formula:



Lamivudine is a white to off-white crystalline solid and is soluble in water.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Abacavir and lamivudine is an antiretroviral agent with activity against HIV-1 [see Microbiology (12.4)].

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

Pharmacokinetics in Adults

In a single-dose, 3-way crossover bioavailability trial of 1 abacavir and lamivudine tablet versus 2 ZIAGEN tablets (2 x 300 mg) and 2 EPVIR tablets (2 x 150 mg) administered simultaneously in healthy subjects (n = 25), there was no difference in the extent of absorption, as measured by the area under the plasma concentration-time curve (AUC) and maximal peak concentration (C_{max}), at each component.

Abacavir: Following oral administration, abacavir is rapidly absorbed and extensively distributed. After oral administration of a single dose of 600 mg of abacavir in 20 subjects, C_{max} was 4.26 ± 1.19 mcg per mL (mean ± SD) and AUC_{0-∞} was 11.95 ± 2.51 mcg•hour per mL. Binding of abacavir to human plasma proteins is approximately 50% and was independent of concentration. Total blood and plasma drug-related radioactivity concentrations are identical, demonstrating that abacavir readily distributes into erythrocytes. The primary routes of elimination of abacavir are metabolism by alcohol dehydrogenase to form the 5'-carboxylic acid and glucuronid transferase to form the 5'-glucuronide.

Lamivudine: Following oral administration, lamivudine is rapidly absorbed and extensively distributed. After multiple-dose oral administration of lamivudine 300 mg once daily for 7 days to 60 healthy subjects, steady-state C_{max} (C_{max}) was 2.04 ± 0.54 mcg per mL (mean ± SD) and the 24-hour steady-state AUC₀₋₂₄ (AUC₀₋₂₄) was 8.97 ± 1.63 mcg•hour per mL. Binding to plasma protein is low. Approximately 70% of an intravenous dose of lamivudine is recovered as unchanged drug in the urine. Metabolism of lamivudine is a minor route of elimination. In humans, the only known metabolite is the trans-sulfoxide metabolite (approximately 5% of an oral dose after 12 hours).

In humans, abacavir and lamivudine are not significantly metabolized by cytochrome P450 (CYP) enzymes. The pharmacokinetic properties of abacavir and lamivudine in fasting subjects are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. Pharmacokinetic Parameters for Abacavir and Lamivudine in Adults

Parameter	Abacavir	Lamivudine		
Oral bioavailability (%)	86 ± 25	n = 6	86 ± 16	n = 12
Apparent volume of distribution (L/kg)	0.86 ± 0.15	n = 6	1.3 ± 0.4	n = 20
Systemic clearance (L/h/kg)	0.80 ± 0.24	n = 6	0.33 ± 0.06	n = 20
Renal clearance (L/h/kg)	0.007 ± 0.008	n = 6	0.22 ± 0.06	n = 20
Elimination half-life (h)	1.45 ± 0.32	n = 20	13 to 19 ^a	

^a Data presented as mean ± standard deviation except where noted.

^b Approximate range.

Effect of Food on Absorption of Abacavir and Lamivudine

Abacavir and lamivudine may be administered with or without food. Administration with a high-fat meal in a single-dose bioavailability trial resulted in no change in AUC_{0-∞}, C_{max}, and C₁₂ for lamivudine. Food did not alter the extent of systemic exposure to abacavir (AUC_{0-∞}), but the rate of absorption (C_{max}) was decreased approximately 24% compared with fasted conditions (n = 25). These results are similar to those from previous trials of the effect of food on abacavir and lamivudine tablets administered separately.

Specific Populations

Patients with Renal Impairment: The pharmacokinetics for the individual lamivudine component of abacavir and lamivudine has been evaluated in patients with renal impairment (see the U.S. prescribing information for the individual lamivudine component).

Patients with Hepatic Impairment: The pharmacokinetics for the individual components of abacavir and lamivudine have been evaluated in patients with varying degrees of hepatic impairment (see the U.S. prescribing information for the individual abacavir and lamivudine components).

Pregnant Women: Abacavir and lamivudine were studied in 25 pregnant women during the last trimester of pregnancy receiving abacavir 300 mg twice daily. Abacavir exposure (AUC) during pregnancy was similar to those in postpartum and in HIV-uninfected non-pregnant historical controls. Consistent with passive diffusion of abacavir across the placenta, abacavir concentrations in neonatal plasma cord samples at birth were essentially equal to those in maternal plasma at delivery.

Lamivudine: Lamivudine pharmacokinetics were studied in 36 pregnant women during 2 clinical trials conducted in South Africa. Lamivudine pharmacokinetics in pregnant women were similar to those seen in non-pregnant adults and in postpartum women. Lamivudine concentrations were generally similar in maternal, neonatal, and umbilical cord serum samples.

Pediatric Patients: Abacavir and Lamivudine: The pharmacokinetic data for abacavir and lamivudine following administration of abacavir and lamivudine is pediatric subjects weighing 25 kg and above are limited. The dosing recommendations in this population are based on the safety and efficacy established in a controlled trial conducted using either the combination of EPVIR and ZIAGEN or abacavir and lamivudine. Refer to the EPVIR and ZIAGEN USPI for pharmacokinetic information on the individual products in pediatric patients. (2,3), Adverse Reactions (6.2), Clinical Studies (14.2).

Geriatric Patients:

The pharmacokinetics of abacavir and lamivudine have not been studied in subjects over 65 years of age. Male and Female Patients: There are no significant or clinically relevant gender differences in the pharmacokinetics of the individual components (abacavir or lamivudine) based on the available information that was analyzed for each of the individual components.

Racial Groups: There are no significant or clinically relevant racial differences in pharmacokinetics of the individual components (abacavir or lamivudine) based on the available information that was analyzed for each of the individual components.

Drug Interactions Studies: The drug interactions described are based on trials conducted with abacavir or lamivudine as single entities; no drug interaction trials have been conducted with abacavir and lamivudine.

Effect of Abacavir and Lamivudine on the Pharmacokinetics of Other Agents: In vitro studies have shown that abacavir has potential to inhibit CYP1A1 and limited potential to inhibit metabolism mediated by CYP3A4. Lamivudine does not inhibit or induce CYP3A4. Abacavir and lamivudine do not inhibit or induce other CYP enzymes (such as CYP2C9 or CYP2D6). Based on in vitro study results, abacavir and lamivudine at therapeutic drug exposures are not expected to affect the pharmacokinetics of drugs that are substrates of the following transporters: organic anion transporter polypeptide (OATP1)B1/B3, breast cancer resistance protein (BCRP) or P-glycoprotein (P-gp), organic cation transporter (OCT1), OCT2, OCT3 (lamivudine only), or multidrug and toxic extrusion protein (MATE1) and MATE2-K. Abacavir is a substrate of BCRP and P-gp in vitro; however, considering its absolute bioavailability (83%), modulators of these transporters are unlikely to result in a clinically relevant impact on abacavir concentrations. Lamivudine is a substrate of MATE1, MATE2-K, and OCT2 in vitro. Trimethoprim (an inhibitor of these drug transporters) has been shown to increase lamivudine plasma concentrations. This interaction is not considered clinically significant as no dose adjustment of lamivudine is required.

Effect of Other Agents on the Pharmacokinetics of Abacavir or Lamivudine: Abacavir and lamivudine are not significantly metabolized by CYP enzymes; therefore, CYP enzyme inhibitors or inducers are not expected to affect their concentrations. In vivo, abacavir is not a substrate of OATP1B1, OATP1B3, OCT1, OCT2, OAT1, MATE1, MATE2-K, multidrug resistance-associated protein 2 (MRP2) or MRP4; therefore, drugs that modulate these transporters are not expected to affect abacavir plasma concentrations. Abacavir is a substrate of BCRP and P-gp in vitro; however, considering its absolute bioavailability (83%), modulators of these transporters are unlikely to result in a clinically relevant impact on abacavir concentrations. Lamivudine is a substrate of MATE1, MATE2-K, and OCT2 in vitro. Trimethoprim (an inhibitor of these drug transporters) has been shown to increase lamivudine plasma concentrations. This interaction is not considered clinically significant as no dose adjustment of lamivudine is required.

Lamivudine is a substrate of P-gp and BCRP; however, considering its absolute bioavailability (87%), it is unlikely that these transporters play a significant role in the absorption of lamivudine. Therefore, coadministration of drugs that are inhibitors of these efflux transporters is unlikely to affect the disposition and elimination of lamivudine.

Abacavir: Lamivudine and/or Zidovudine: Fifteen HIV-1-infected subjects were enrolled in a crossover-designed drug interaction trial evaluating single doses of abacavir (600 mg), lamivudine (150 mg), and zidovudine (300 mg) alone or in combination. Analysis showed no clinically relevant changes in the pharmacokinetics of abacavir with the addition of lamivudine or zidovudine or the combination of lamivudine and zidovudine. Lamivudine exposure (AUC decreased 15%) and zidovudine exposure (AUC increased 10%) did not show clinically relevant changes with concurrent abacavir.

Lamivudine: Zidovudine: No clinically significant alterations in lamivudine or zidovudine pharmacokinetics were observed in 12 asymptomatic HIV-1-infected adult subjects given a single dose of zidovudine (200 mg) in combination with multiple doses of lamivudine (300 mg every 12 h).

Other Interactions

Ethanol: Abacavir has no effect on the pharmacokinetic properties of ethanol. Ethanol decreases the elimination of abacavir causing an increase in overall exposure.

Interferon Alfa: There was no significant pharmacokinetic interaction between lamivudine and interferon alfa in a trial of 19 healthy male subjects.

Methadone: In a trial of 11 HIV-1-infected subjects receiving methadone-maintenance therapy (40 mg and 90 mg daily), with 600 mg of ZIAGEN twice daily (twice the currently recommended dose), oral methadone clearance increased 22% (90% CI: 6% to 42%) [see Drug Interactions (7)]. The addition of methadone has no clinically significant effect on the pharmacokinetic properties of abacavir.

Ribavirin: In vitro data indicate ribavirin reduces phosphorylation of lamivudine, stavudine, and zidovudine. However, no pharmacokinetic (e.g., plasma concentrations or intracellular triphosphorylated active metabolite concentrations) or pharmacodynamic (e.g., loss of HIV-1-HIV virologic suppression) interaction was observed when ribavirin and lamivudine (n = 18), stavudine (n = 10), or zidovudine (n = 6) were coadministered as part of a multi-drug regimen to HIV-1-HIV co-infected subjects.

Sorbitol (Excipient): Lamivudine and sorbitol solutions were coadministered to 16 healthy adult subjects in an open-label, randomized-sequence, 4-period, crossover trial. Each subject received a single 300-mg dose of lamivudine oral solution alone or coadministered with a single dose of 3.2 grams, 10.2 grams, or 13.4 grams of sorbitol in solution. Coadministration of lamivudine with sorbitol resulted in dose-dependent decreases of 20%, 36%, and 44% in the AUC_{0-∞}, 14%, 32%, and 36% in the AUC₀₋₁₂ and 28%, and 52%, and 55% in the C_{max} of lamivudine, respectively.

The effects of other coadministered drugs on abacavir or lamivudine are provided in Table 3.

Coadministered Drug and Dose	Drug and Dose	n	Concentration of Abacavir or Lamivudine		Concentration of Coadministered Drug
			AUC	Variability	
Ethanol (0.7 kg), 300 mg	Abacavir Single 600 mg	24	74% increase	90% CI: 55% to 48%	↔ ^a
Mefenivir 750 mg every 8 h x 10 days	Lamivudine Single 150 mg	11	710% increase	95% CI: 1% to 20%	↔
Trimethoprim 160 mg	Lamivudine Single 300 mg	14	743% increase	90% CI: 32% to 90%	↔

^a ↑ = Increase; ↔ = No significant change; AUC = Area under the concentration versus time curve; CI = Confidence interval.

^b The drug-drug interaction was only evaluated in males.

12.4 Microbiology

Mechanism of Action

Abacavir: Abacavir is a carbocyclic synthetic nucleoside analogue. Abacavir is converted by cellular enzymes to the active metabolite, carboxy triphosphate (CBV-TP), an analogue of deoxyguanosine-5'-triphosphate (dGTP). CBV-TP inhibits the activity of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase (RT) both by competing with the natural substrate dGTP and by its incorporation into viral DNA.

Lamivudine: Lamivudine is a synthetic nucleoside analogue. Intracellularly lamivudine is phosphorylated to its active 5'-triphosphate metabolite, lamivudine triphosphate (3TC-TP). The principal mode of action of 3TC-TP is inhibition of RT via DNA chain termination after incorporation of the nucleoside analogue.

Antiviral Activity

Abacavir: The antiviral activity of abacavir against HIV-1 was assessed in a number of cell lines including primary monocytes/macrophages and peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs). EC₅₀ values ranged from 3.760 to 5.800 nM (1 nM = 0.28 ng per mL) and 70 to 1,000 nM against HIV-1_{AD8} and HIV-1_{92UG07}, respectively, and the mean EC₅₀ value was 202 ± 190 nM against 8 clinical isolates. The median EC₅₀ values of abacavir were 344 nM (range: 14.8 to 676 nM), 16.9 nM (range: 5.9 to 27.9 nM), 8.1 nM (range: 1.5 to 16.7 nM), 256 nM (range: 25.7 to 266 nM), 165 nM (range: 28.1 to 168 nM), 47.6 nM (range: 5.2 to 200 nM), 51.4 nM (range: 7.1 to 177 nM), and 282 nM (range: 22.4 to 598 nM) against HIV-1 clades A-G and group O viruses (n = 3 except n = 2 for clade B), respectively. The EC₅₀ values against HIV-2 isolates (n = 4) ranged from 24 to 490 nM.

Lamivudine: The antiviral activity of lamivudine against HIV-1 was assessed in a number of cell lines including monocytes and PBMCs using standard susceptibility assays. EC₅₀ values were in the range of 0.5 to 15,000 nM (1 nM = 0.23 ng per mL). The median EC₅₀ values of lamivudine were 60 nM (range: 20 to 70 nM), 35 nM (range: 30 to 40 nM), 30 nM (range: 20 to 90 nM), 20 nM (range: 3 to 40 nM), 30 nM (range: 1 to 60 nM), 30 nM (range: 20 to 70 nM), 30 nM (range: 3 to 70 nM), and 30 nM (range: 20 to 90 nM) against HIV-1 clades A-G and group O viruses (n = 3 except n = 2 for clade B), respectively. The EC₅₀ values against HIV-2 isolates (n = 4) ranged from 3 to 120 nM in PBMCs. Ribavirin (50,000 nM) used in the treatment of chronic HIV infection decreased the anti-HIV-1 activity of lamivudine by 3.5-fold in MT-4 cells.

The combination of abacavir and lamivudine has demonstrated antiviral activity in cell culture against non-subtype B isolates and HIV-2 isolates with equivalent antiviral activity as for subtype B isolates. Neither abacavir, nor lamivudine, were antagonistic to all tested anti-HIV agents. See full prescribing information for ZIAGEN (abacavir and lamivudine), Ribavirin, used in the treatment of HIV infection, decreased the anti-HIV-1 potency of abacavir/lamivudine reproducibly by 2- to 16-fold in cell culture.

Resistance

HIV-1 isolates with reduced susceptibility to the combination of abacavir and lamivudine have been selected in cell culture with amino acid substitutions K66R, L74V, Y115F, and M184V emerging in HIV-1 RT. M184V or substitutions resulted in high-level resistance to lamivudine and to zidovudine and to susceptibility to abacavir. Substitutions K66R, L74M, or Y115F with M184V or conferred a 7- to 8-fold reduction in abacavir susceptibility, and combinations of three substitutions were required to confer more than an 8-fold reduction in susceptibility.

Cross-resistance: Abacavir has been observed among nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs). The combination of abacavir/lamivudine has demonstrated decreased susceptibility to viruses with a K66R substitution with or without an M184V substitution, viruses with L74V plus the M184V substitution, and viruses with thymidine analog mutation substitutions (TAMs: M41L, D67N, K70R, L210V, Y215YF, K219E/R/H/Q/N) plus M184V. An increasing number of TAMs is associated with a progressive reduction in abacavir susceptibility.

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Carcinogenicity: Abacavir was administered orally at 3 dosage levels to separate groups of mice and rats in 2-year carcinogenicity studies. Results showed an increase in the incidence of malignant and non-malignant tumors. Malignant tumors occurred in the preputial gland of males and the colonic gland of females of both species, and in the liver of female rats. In addition, non-malignant tumors also occurred in the liver and thyroid gland of female rats. These observations were made at systemic exposures in the range of 0.5 to 32 times the human exposure at the recommended dose of 600 mg.

Lamivudine: Long-term carcinogenicity studies with lamivudine in mice and rats showed no evidence of carcinogenic potential at exposures up to 10 times (mice) and 58 times (rats) the human exposure at the recommended dose of 300 mg.

Abacavir: Abacavir induced chromosomal aberrations both in the presence and absence of metabolic activation in an in vitro cytogenetic study in human lymphocytes. Abacavir was mutagenic in the absence of metabolic activation, although it was not mutagenic in the presence of metabolic activation in an L5178Y mouse lymphoma assay. Abacavir was clastogenic in males and not clastogenic in females in an in vivo mouse bone marrow micronucleus assay. Abacavir was not mutagenic in bacterial mutagenicity assays in the presence and absence of metabolic activation.

Lamivudine: Lamivudine was mutagenic in an L5178Y mouse lymphoma assay and clastogenic in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes. Lamivudine was not mutagenic in a microbial mutagenicity assay, in an in vitro cell transformation assay, in a rat micronucleus test, in a rat bone marrow cytogenetic assay, and in an assay for unscheduled DNA synthesis in rat liver.

Impairment of Fertility

Abacavir: Abacavir did not affect male or female fertility in rats at a dose associated with exposures (AUC) approximately 3.3 times (male) or 4.1 times (female)