

Raltegravir 600mg tablets | (generic)

This leaflet is designed to give you a general idea of the most important things you need to know about your new medicine. It is not supposed to replace the manufacturer's leaflet that comes with the medicine but is intended to be read alongside it. After reading this leaflet if you have any questions please ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

Clinic contact details:

What is raltegravir?

Raltegravir is a tablet. The colour and shape may vary depending on the manufacturer as it is a generic medicine.

Raltegravir is used in combination with other medicines for the treatment of HIV and must **not** be taken by itself as it will not be effective.

Please speak to your clinic team if you would like more information about how these drugs work.

How should I take raltegravir?


- The recommended dose is: TWO tablets (1200mg) taken at the same time ONCE a day, with or without food.
- If you vomit within 2 hours take another dose. If you continue to vomit please contact your clinic.
- Please do not crush, if you have trouble swallowing this tablet please contact your clinic team.
- Please ensure you bring a supply of your HIV medicines if you are being admitted to hospital to ensure you are prescribed the correct medication and that you do not miss any doses.

What if I miss a dose?

HIV medicines work best if there is a constant amount of the medicine in your body. If you are worried about forgetting to take your medicines, speak to your clinic team.

Occasionally you may forget a dose. If this happens, please follow the guidance below and speak with your clinic as soon as possible for advice.

- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember.
- If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and take your next dose at your usual time. Speak to your clinic if you are missing multiple doses as they may be able to support you.

 Never take a double dose to make up for the missed one.

What are the common side effects with raltegravir?

If you experience any side effects, and either they are troubling you or you develop any new symptoms after you start raltegravir, do not stop taking your medication, instead please contact your clinic team so they can discuss other treatment options with you and/or advise you how to stop safely.

Some examples of the most common side effects are listed below (for a full list of side effects please check the manufacturer information leaflet):



'Head' side effects: headache, trouble sleeping (insomnia), abnormal dreams, dizziness.



'Stomach' side effects: stomach discomfort and pain, reduced appetite, wind (flatulence), nausea, vomiting.



Blood test changes: changes in some of your liver tests



Other: rash, weakness, tiredness.

Raltegravir 1,200 mg is **not** recommended during pregnancy. If you are planning to get pregnant or become pregnant, speak to your clinic team. They will be able to give you advice, which may include changing your dose of raltegravir if that is the best option for you.

What medicines should I avoid with Raltegravir?

It is important that you tell anyone prescribing you medication about any medicines you are taking. This includes prescribed medicines, recreational or party drugs, and/or supplements you buy over the counter. Always tell your clinic team if you are taking (note this is not an exhaustive list of medicines):

Medicine	Why this is important
Calcium, magnesium or aluminium, supplements (including multivitamins and antacids)	Medicines or supplements containing calcium, magnesium or aluminium can stop you from absorbing raltegravir properly. These should not be taken together.
Iron and zinc supplements (including multivitamins)	Raltegravir can be taken at least 2 hours before or 2 hours after iron or zinc supplements.
Rifampicin	Rifampicin can reduce the amount of raltegravir in your blood and therefore this dose of raltegravir is not recommended. Your medicine will need to be changed by your clinic team.