

Elvucitabine

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What is elvucitabine?

- Elvucitabine is an anti-HIV medication. It is in a category of HIV medicines called nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs). Elvucitabine prevents HIV from entering the nucleus of healthy T-cells. This prevents the cells from producing new virus and decreases the amount of virus in the body.
- Elvucitabine is being developed by Achillion Pharmaceuticals. It has not yet been reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

What is already known about elvucitabine?

- The necessary dose of elvucitabine has not yet been determined. However, early research suggests that it will only need to be taken once a day.
- Like other nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs), elvucitabine might interact with other medications, including those used to treat HIV. It is important that your personal physician and/or the research nurse or study investigator be aware of all drugs you are taking, including those you buy without a prescription.

- According to test tube studies, elvucitabine may be active against strains of the virus already resistant to other NRTIs, including Retrovir® (AZT) and Efavir® (3TC).
- Elvucitabine will likely be studied and used in combination with other drugs, including another NRTI and at least one protease inhibitor (PI) or non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI).
- Elvucitabine also appears to be active against the hepatitis B virus (HBV) and is currently being studied as a possible treatment for chronic hepatitis B.

What do we know from clinical trials of elvucitabine?

- Elvucitabine is now in phase II clinical trials and their results, once released, will be posted here.

What is known about side effects?

- Very little is known about the possible side effects of elvucitabine. Phase II clinical trials will explore its possible side effects.

Who should not take elvucitabine?

- It is not known whether elvucitabine will harm an unborn baby. It is very important to treat HIV/AIDS during pregnancy to reduce the risk of infecting your baby. Talk to your doctor about your treatment options.
- It is not known whether elvucitabine passes into breast milk and what effect it may have on a nursing baby. To prevent transmission of the virus to uninfected babies, it is recommended that HIV-positive mothers not breast-feed.

Where can I learn more about clinical trials of Emtriva?

- If you would like to find out if you are eligible for any clinical trials that include elvucitabine, there is an interactive web site run by ACRIA, the AIDS Community Research Initiative of America.
- Another useful service for finding clinical trials is *AIDSinfo.nih.gov*, a site run by the U.S. National Institutes of Health. They have “health information specialists” you can talk to at their toll-free number at 1-800-HIV-0440 (1-800-448-0440).

a note about this publication

This publication is reprinted here from another source (*www.aidsmeds.com*). We do not always have the resources at Project Inform to produce our own treatment information on every treatment topic. In these cases, we try to provide reliable information from other sources but cannot confirm that every fact in these publications is accurate. References to other materials have been pulled. This information is designed to support, not replace, the relationship that exists between you and your doctor or medical provider.

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