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2. Tivicay

Tivicay

Generic name: [dolutegravir](#) [DOE-loo-TEG-ra-vir]

Brand names: Tivicay, [Tivicay PD](#)

Drug class: [Integrase strand transfer inhibitor](#)

Medically reviewed by [Judith Stewart, BPharm](#). Last updated on Mar 12, 2025.

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What is Tivicay?

Tivicay is an antiviral medicine that prevents [human immunodeficiency virus \(HIV\)](#) from multiplying in your body.

Tivicay is used with other antiviral medications to treat HIV, the virus that can cause the [acquired immunodeficiency syndrome](#) (AIDS).

Tivicay is not a cure for HIV or AIDS.

Tivicay tablets are for use in adults and children who can swallow tablets.

Tivicay PD tablets for oral suspension are for use in children and infants aged at least four weeks and weighing at least 6 pounds (3 kilograms).

Warnings

You should not use Tivicay if you are also taking [dofetilide](#) ([Tikosyn](#)).

Taking Tivicay during the first trimester of pregnancy may cause birth defects. Use effective birth control to prevent pregnancy while you are using dolutegravir.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use Tivicay if you are allergic to dolutegravir, or if you are also taking dofetilide ([Tikosyn](#)).

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- liver disease, especially [hepatitis B](#) or C.

You may need to have a negative pregnancy test before starting treatment with Tivicay.

Tivicay may harm an unborn baby if you take the medicine at the time of conception or during the first 12 weeks

of pregnancy. Use effective birth control to prevent pregnancy, and tell your doctor if you become pregnant.

HIV can be passed to your baby if the virus is not controlled during pregnancy. If you are pregnant, your name may be listed on a registry to track any effects of antiviral medicine on the baby. Use your medications properly to control HIV.

Women with HIV or AIDS should not breastfeed a baby. Even if your baby is born without HIV, the virus may be passed to the baby in your breast milk.

 [Tivicay pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (more detail)

How should I take Tivicay?

Take Tivicay exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets.

You may take Tivicay with or without food.

Do not crush or chew a Tivicay PD **dispersible tablet** whole. Swallow the tablet whole, or place it in a small amount of water. Allow the tablet to disperse (it will not dissolve completely). Stir and give the mixture to the child right away. The amount of water needed will depend on the number of tablets needed for your child's dose. Follow the instructions provided with your medicine.

Dolutegravir doses are based on weight in children. Your child's dose needs may change if the child gains or loses weight.

For children taking Tivicay PD tablets for oral suspension, read the Instructions for Use that come with the medicine for detailed instructions on how to prepare a dose.

Tivicay PD may be swallowed whole or dispersed in drinking water and should not be chewed, cut, or crushed.

Tivicay tablets are not the same as Tivicay PD tablets for oral suspension and cannot be substituted for each other. Check to make sure you receive the correct form of Tivicay each time you or your child's prescription is filled to avoid using the wrong medicine.

While using Tivicay, you may need frequent blood tests.

If you've ever had hepatitis B, using dolutegravir can cause this virus to become active or get worse. You may need frequent liver function tests while using this medicine and for several months after you stop.

Use all HIV medications as directed and read all medication guides you receive. Do not change your dose or dosing schedule without your doctor's advice. Every person with HIV should remain under the care of a doctor.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat. Keep the tablets in their original container, along with any packet or canister of moisture-absorbing preservative.

Dosing information

Usual Adult Dose for HIV Infection:

Therapy-naïve or therapy-experienced integrase strand transfer inhibitor (INSTI)-naïve patients or virologically-suppressed (HIV-1 RNA less than 50 copies/mL) patients switching to this drug plus rilpivirine: 50 mg orally once a day

Therapy-naive or therapy-experienced INSTI-naive patients when coadministered with certain UGT1A or CYP450 3A inducers: 50 mg orally twice a day

INSTI-experienced patients with certain INSTI-associated resistance substitutions or clinically suspected INSTI resistance: 50 mg orally twice a day

Comments:

- Rilpivirine dose is 25 mg orally once a day for patients switching to this drug plus rilpivirine.
- The manufacturer product information should be consulted for relevant UGT1A or CYP450 3A inducers.
- In INSTI-experienced patients, alternative combinations that do not include metabolic inducers should be considered where possible.

Uses:

- In combination with other antiretroviral agents, for the treatment of HIV-1 infection in therapy-naive or therapy-experienced adults
- In combination with rilpivirine, as a complete regimen, for the treatment of HIV-1 infection to replace a stable antiretroviral regimen in adults who are virologically-suppressed (HIV-1 RNA less than 50 copies/mL) for at least 6 months with no history of treatment failure and no known substitutions associated with resistance to either drug

Usual Adult Dose for Nonoccupational Exposure:

US CDC Recommendations: 50 mg orally once a day

Duration of therapy: 28 days

Comments:

- This drug plus (emtricitabine-tenofovir disoproxil fumarate [DF] or lamivudine/zidovudine) is recommended as a preferred regimen for nonoccupational postexposure prophylaxis of HIV infection.
- This drug should not be used in nonpregnant females of childbearing potential who are sexually active or have been sexually assaulted and who are not using effective contraception; and,
- This drug should not be used in pregnant women early in pregnancy as the risk of an unborn infant developing a neural tube defect is during the first 28 days.
- Prophylaxis should be started as soon as possible, within 72 hours of exposure.
- Current guidelines should be consulted for additional information.

Usual Pediatric Dose for HIV Infection:

4 WEEKS OR OLDER:

Tablets for Oral Suspension:

- Weight 3 to less than 6 kg: 5 mg orally once a day
- Weight 6 to less than 10 kg: 15 mg orally once a day
- Weight 10 to less than 14 kg: 20 mg orally once a day
- Weight 14 to less than 20 kg: 25 mg orally once a day
- Weight at least 20 kg: 30 mg orally once a day

Tablets:

- Weight 14 to less than 20 kg: 40 mg orally once a day
- Weight at least 20 kg: 50 mg orally once a day

Comments:

- If switching from the tablet formulation to the tablets for oral suspension formulation, the recommended dosage for Tablets for Oral Suspension should be followed.
- If switching from the tablets for oral suspension formulation to the tablet formulation, the recommended dosage for Tablets should be followed.
- The tablet formulation should not be used in patients weighing 3 to 14 kg; the tablets for oral suspension formulation is preferred in patients weighing less than 20 kg.
- If certain UGT1A or CYP450 3A inducers are coadministered, the recommended dose should be administered twice a day; the manufacturer product information should be consulted for relevant inducers.
- Safety and efficacy not established in INSTI-experienced patients with documented/clinically suspected resistance to other INSTIs (e.g., raltegravir, elvitegravir).

Use: In combination with other antiretroviral agents, for the treatment of HIV-1 infection in therapy-naïve or therapy-experienced but INSTI-naïve pediatric patients

Usual Pediatric Dose for Nonoccupational Exposure:

US CDC Recommendations:

13 years or older and weighing at least 40 kg: 50 mg orally once a day

Duration of therapy: 28 days

Comments:

- This drug plus (emtricitabine-tenofovir DF or lamivudine/zidovudine) is recommended as a preferred regimen for nonoccupational postexposure prophylaxis of HIV infection.
- This drug should not be used in nonpregnant females of childbearing potential who are sexually active or have been sexually assaulted and who are not using effective contraception; and,
- This drug should not be used in pregnant women early in pregnancy as the risk of an unborn infant developing a neural tube defect is during the first 28 days.
- Prophylaxis should be started as soon as possible, within 72 hours of exposure.
- Current guidelines should be consulted for additional information.

 [Detailed Tivicay dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Take the medicine as soon as you can, but skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next dose. Do not take two doses at one time.

Get your prescription refilled before you run out of medicine completely.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

Tivicay side effects

Stop taking this medicine and get emergency medical help if you have signs of an allergic reaction to Tivicay:

fever, general ill feeling, trouble breathing, tiredness; joint or muscle pain, blisters or mouth sores, redness or swelling in

your eyes; blistering or peeling skin; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Call your doctor at once if you have:

- the first sign of any [skin rash](#), no matter how mild; or
- **liver problems** - [nausea](#), [vomiting](#), loss of appetite, upper stomach pain, dark urine, clay-colored stools, [jaundice](#) (yellowing of the skin or eyes).

Dolutegravir affects your immune system, which may cause certain side effects (even weeks or months after you've taken this medicine). Tell your doctor if you have:

- **signs of a new infection** - fever, night sweats, swollen glands, [cold sores](#), cough, wheezing, [diarrhea](#), [weight loss](#);
- trouble speaking or swallowing, problems with balance or eye movement, weakness or prickly feeling; or
- swelling in your neck or throat (enlarged thyroid), menstrual changes, [impotence](#).

Common Tivicay side effects may include:

- [headache](#);
- tiredness; or
- sleep problems ([insomnia](#)).

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Tivicay side effects](#) (more detail)

Related/similar drugs

Descovy

Descovy is used to treat and prevent HIV infection in adults and adolescents. When used for HIV-1 ...

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Learn ...

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What other drugs will affect Tivicay?

Some medicines can make dolutegravir much less effective when taken at the same time. **If you take any of the following medicines, take your Tivicay dose 2 hours before or 6 hours after you take the other medicine.**

- [antacids](#) or [laxatives](#) that contain calcium, magnesium, or aluminum (such as [Amphojel](#), Di-Gel Maalox, [Milk of Magnesia](#), Mylanta, [Pepcid Complete](#), [Rolaids](#), [Rulox](#), Tums, and others), or the ulcer medicine [sucralfate](#) ([Carafate](#));
- buffered medicine; or
- vitamin or mineral supplements that contain calcium or iron (but if you take Tivicay with food, you can take these supplements at the same time).

Tell your doctor about all your other medicines, especially:

- oral diabetes medication that contains [metformin](#);
- [tuberculosis](#) medication that contains [rifampin](#);
- [St. John's wort](#);
- **other HIV or AIDS medicines** - [efavirenz](#), [etravirine](#), [fosamprenavir/ritonavir](#), [nevirapine](#), [tipranavir/ritonavir](#); or
- **seizure medication** - [carbamazepine](#), [oxcarbazepine](#), [phenobarbital](#), [phenytoin](#).

This list is not complete. Other drugs may interact with dolutegravir, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#). Not all possible drug interactions are listed here.

 [Tivicay drug interactions](#) (more detail)

Does Tivicay interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

Tivicay

+

Enter a drug name

Add

Frequently asked questions

- [What drugs are contained in HIV treatment Juluca?](#)

References

1. [Tivicay Product Label](#)

More about Tivicay (dolutegravir)

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Patient resources

Other brands

[Tivicay PD](#)

Professional resources

- [Tivicay prescribing information](#)

- [Dolutegravir \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

Related treatment guides

- [HIV Infection](#)

Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use Tivicay only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

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DRUG STATUS

Availability

Rx Prescription only

[Pregnancy & Lactation](#)

 Risk data available

CSA Schedule*

N/A Not a controlled drug



Approval History

10+ years FDA approved 2013



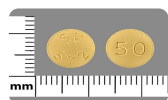
User Reviews & Ratings

6.6 / 10

[19 Reviews](#)

Images

[Tivicay 50 mg \(SV 572 50\)](#)



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