SCHEDULING STATUS

S4

DEZKAV Film-coated tablets

Fixed dose combination of 600 mg abacavir,

50 mg dolutegravir, and 300 mg of lamivudine.

Contains sugar: Mannitol 40 mg per tablet

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking DEZKAV

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have further questions, please ask your doctor, pharmacist, nurse or other healthcare provider.
- DEZKAV has been prescribed for you personally and you should not share your medicine with other people. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.

IMPORTANT – Hypersensitivity reactions

- **DEZKAV contains abacavir. Some people who take abacavir may develop a hypersensitivity reaction** (a serious allergic reaction), which can be life-threatening if they continue to take abacavir.
- **You must carefully read all the information under 'Hypersensitivity reactions' in POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS and 'Take special care with DEZKAV.**

The DEZKAV pack includes an Alert Card to remind you and medical staff about abacavir hypersensitivity. Detach this card and keep it with you at all times.

What is in this leaflet

1. What DEZKAV is and what it is used for.
2. What you need to know before you take DEZKAV.
3. How to take DEZKAV.
4. Possible side effects.
5. How to store DEZKAV.
6. Contents of the pack and other information.

1. What DEZKAV is and what it is used for

DEZKAV is used to treat HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) infections in adults and adolescents aged 18 years and older.

Dolutegravir belongs to a group of antiretroviral medicines called *integrase inhibitors* (INIs).

Abacavir and lamivudine belong to a group of antiretroviral medicines called *nucleoside analogue reverse transcriptase inhibitors* (NRTIs).

DEZKAV does not cure HIV infection; it reduces the amount of virus in your body and keeps it a low level. Not everyone responds to treatment with DEZKAV in the same way. Your doctor or healthcare provider will monitor the effectiveness of your treatment.

2. What you need to know before you take DEZKAV

Do not take DEZKAV:

- If you are allergic (hypersensitive) to abacavir, lamivudine or dolutegravir or any other medicine containing abacavir, lamivudine or dolutegravir or any other ingredients of DEZKAV (listed in section 6).

Carefully read all the information about abacavir and dolutegravir hypersensitivity reactions in POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS and 'Take special care with DEZKAV'.

- If you're taking another medicine called **dofetilide** or **pilsicainide** (to treat hear conditions) or metformin (to treat diabetes).
- If you have moderate to severe liver disease.
- If you are pregnant, intend to become pregnant or if you are breastfeeding your baby.
- If you have moderate to severe kidney disease.

Warnings and precautions

Take special care with DEZKAV:

- If you have mild liver disease or have ever had liver disease, including hepatitis B or C.

Talk to your doctor or healthcare provider if this applies to you. You may need extra check-ups, including blood tests, while you are taking your medication. See POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS for more information.

Hypersensitivity reactions:

Hypersensitivity to abacavir:

DEZKAV contains abacavir. About 5 in every 100 people who take abacavir develop a hypersensitivity reaction (a serious allergic reaction), which can be life-threatening if they continue to take abacavir.

Who gets these reactions?

Anyone taking DEZKAV could develop a hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir. You are more likely to develop such a reaction if you have a gene called HLB-B*5701. You can get a reaction even if you don't have this gene. If possible, you will be tested for this gene before DEZKAV is prescribed for you. If you know you have this gene, tell the doctor or healthcare provider before you take DEZKAV.

What are the symptoms?

The most common symptoms are:

- Fever (high temperature) and skin rash.

Other common symptoms are:

- Nausea (feeling sick) vomiting (being sick), diarrhoea, abdominal (stomach) pain, severe tiredness, shortness of breath, cough, headache, muscle pain and discomfort.

Other less common symptoms can include:

- Pains in the joints, swelling of the neck, serious breathing problems, sore throat.
- Occasionally, conjunctivitis (swelling of the eye), sores in the mouth, low blood pressure, tingling and/or numbness of the hands and/or feet.

If you continue to take DEZKAV, the symptoms will get worse and may be life-threatening.

When do these reactions happen?

Hypersensitivity reactions can start at any time during treatment with DEZKAV but are more likely during the first 6 weeks of treatment.

Occasionally, reactions have developed in people who start taking abacavir again and had only one symptom on the Alert Card before they stopped taking it. Very rarely, reactions have developed in people who start taking abacavir again, but who had no symptoms before they stopped taking it.

Contact you doctor or healthcare provider immediately:

Contact your doctor or healthcare provider immediately:

1. if you get a skin rash, or
2. if you get symptoms from at least 2 of the following groups:

- fever,
- shortness of breath, sore throat or cough,

- nausea or vomiting, diarrhoea or stomach pain,
- severe tiredness of achiness, or generally feeling ill.

Your doctor may advise you to stop taking DEZKAV.

Always carry your Alert Card while you are taking DEZKAV.
If you have stopped taking DEZKAV because of a hypersensitivity reaction, you must NEVER AGAIN take DEZKAV, or any other medicine containing abacavir or dolutegravir.
If you do, within hours, your blood pressure could fall dangerously low, which could result in death.

Hypersensitivity to dolutegravir:

Contact your doctor promptly if you develop a rash. Some people taking dolutegravir, one of the active substances in DEZKAV, have had allergic reactions. See 'Conditions to look out for' in POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS.

Risk of cardiovascular events:

Studies have shown that abacavir, one of the active substances in DEZKAV may increase the risk of having cardiovascular events.

Tell your doctor if you have cardiovascular problems, if you smoke, or have other illnesses that may increase your risk of cardiovascular diseases such as high blood pressure, or diabetes. Do not stop taking DEZKAV unless your doctor advises you to do so.

Symptoms of infection and inflammation (swelling):

People with advanced HIV infection (AIDS) have weak immune systems and are more likely to develop serious infections (opportunistic infections). When they start treatment, the immune system becomes stronger, so the body can fight infections.

Symptoms of infections and swelling may develop, caused by either:

- old, hidden infections flaring up again as the body fights them,
- the immune system attacking healthy body tissue (auto-immune disorders).

The symptoms of auto-immune disorders may develop many months after you start taking medicine to treat your HIV infection. See 'Conditions to look out for' in POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS.

Change in body shape:

People taking combination therapy for HIV may find that their body shape changes, because of changes in fat distribution. See 'Conditions to look out for' in POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS.

Lactic acidosis:

This condition is caused by build-up of lactic acid in the body. It is more likely to develop in people who have liver disease, especially in women. It can be life-threatening, causing failure of internal organs. See 'Conditions to look out for' in POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS.

While you are taking DEZKAV:

You will need regular blood tests:

For as long as you are taking DEZKAV, your doctor or healthcare provider will order regular blood tests to check for side effects. There is more information about these side effects in this leaflet. See 'Conditions to look out for' in POSSIBLE SIDE EFFFECTS.

Stay in regular contact with your doctor or healthcare provider:

DEZKAV helps to control your condition. You need to keep taking it every day to stop your illness getting worse. You may still develop other infections and illnesses linked to HIV infection.

Children and adolescents

Do not give DEZKAV to children younger than 18 years and weighing less than 40 kg.

Protect other people:

HIV infection is spread by sexual contact with someone who has the infection, or by transfer of infected blood (for example by sharing injection needles) DEZKAV will not stop you passing HIV infection on to other people. To protect other people from becoming infected with HIV:

- use a condom when you have oral or penetrative sex,
- do not risk blood transfer – for example, don't share needles,

- keep in touch with your doctor or healthcare provider and do not stop taking DEZKAV without your doctor's advice.

Other medicines and DEZKAV

Always tell your health care provider if you are taking any other medicine. (This includes all complementary or traditional medicines).

Don't take DEZKAV with the following medicines:

- dofetilide or pilsicainide (used to treat heart conditions),
- metformin (used to treat diabetes),
- zalcitabine or emtricitabine (used to treat HIV infection).
- cladribine, used to treat hairy cell leukaemia,

Tell your doctor if you're being treated with either of these.

Methadone and DEZKAV:

If you are taking methadone, your doctor may need to adjust your methadone dose, as abacavir (one of the active substances in DEZKAV) increases the rate at which methadone leaves your body. This is unlikely to affect most methadone leaves your body. This is unlikely to affect most methadone users.

Tell your doctor if you are taking:

- medicines called antacids, to treat indigestion and heartburn. Do not take an antacid during the 6 hours before you take DEZKAV, or for at least 2 hours after you take it (see also 'HOW TO TAKE DEZKAV).
- calcium and iron supplements. Do not take calcium or iron supplements during the 6 hours before you take DEZKAV, or for at least 2 hours after you take it.
- etravirine, efavirenz, fosamprenavir/ritonavir, nevirapine or tipranavir/ritonavir (used to treat HIV infection).
- rifampicin (used to treat tuberculosis (TB) and other bacterial infections).
- co-trimoxazole (an antibiotic used to treat *Pneumocystis iiroveci* (*carinii)* pneumonia or toxoplasmosis).
- Phenytoin and phenobarbitone (used to treat epilepsy).
- oxcarbamazepine and carbamazepine (used to treat epilepsy and bipolar disorder).
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) is an herbal remedy used to treat depression.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any of these. Your doctor may decide to adjust your dose or that you need extra check-ups.

DEZKAV with food and drink:

DEZKAV can be taken with or without food.

Pregnancy, breastfeeding and fertility

DEZKAV is not safe for use during pregnancy or by mothers who are breastfeeding their babies. If you are pregnant or breastfeeding your baby while taking DEZKAV, please consult your doctor, pharmacist or other healthcare professional for advice before taking DEZKAV.

Women of childbearing potential

Women of childbearing potential should be counselled about the potential risk of birth defects of the brain and spine with dolutegravir, including consideration of using effective contraceptive measures.

Perform pregnancy testing before start of DEZKAV in women of childbearing potential to exclude unintentional used of DEZKAV during the first trimester of pregnancy.

If a women plans pregnancy, the benefits and the risks of starting or continuing treatment with dolutegravir versus using another antiretroviral medicine should be discussed with her.

Pregnancy:

Use of dolutegravir during pregnancy was associated with a small increase in the birth defects of the brain and spine.

If pregnancy is confirmed in the first trimester whole on dolutegravir, the benefits and risks of continuing dolutegravir versus switching to another antiretroviral medicine should be discussed with the patient.

Dolutegravir may be used during the second and third trimester of pregnancy when the expected benefit outweighs the potential risk to the foetus.

Breastfeeding:

HIV infected women should not breastfeed their infants in order to avoid transmission of HIV or follow appropriate guidelines.

Dolutegravir is excreted in human breast milk, and there is significant exposure to the neonate/infants due to slow removal. There is insufficient information on the effects of dolutegravir in neonates/infants.

Fertility:

There are not data on the effects of dolutegravir on human male or female fertility.

Driving and using machines

DEZKAV can make you dizzy and have other side effects that make you less alert. Do not drive or use machines unless you are sure you are not affected.

Important information about some of the ingredients of DEZKAV tablets:

DEZKAV tablets contain mannitol, which may have a mild laxative effect. This means that you might get diarrhoea.

3. How to take DEZKAV

Do not share medicines prescribed for you with any other person. Always take DEZKAV exactly as your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are unsure.
The usual dose of DEZKAV in adults and in adolescents weighing more than 40 kg is one tablet (containing 50 mg dolutegravir, 600 mg abacavir, 300 mg lamivudine together in one tablet) once a day every day, at about the same time each day. Swallow the tablet with a sufficient quantity of liquid (e.g. one glass of water).
DEZKAV can be taken with or without food.
If you weigh less than 40 kg, you cannot take DEZKAV. The dose of each component of this medicine cannot be adjusted to your weight. In this case your doctor might prescribe the components as separate medicine for you to take.

Antacid medicines:

Antacids, to treat indigestion and heartburn, can stop DEZKAV being absorbed into your body and make it less effective.
Do not take antacid during the 6 hours before you take DEZKAV, or for at least 2 hours after you take it. Other acid-lowering medicines like ranitidine and omeprazole can be taken at the same time as DEZKAV. Talk to your doctor or healthcare provider provide for further advice on taking acid-lowering medicines with DEZKAV.

Calcium and iron supplements:

Calcium or iron supplements can stop DEZKAV being absorbed into your body and make it less effective. Do not take a calcium or iron supplement during the 6 hours before you take DEZKAV, or for at least 2 hours after you take it.

Your doctor will tell you how long your treatment with DEZKAV will last. Do not stop treatment unless your doctor advises you to.

If you have the impression that the effect of DEZKAV is too strong or too weak, tell your doctor or pharmacist.

If you take more DEZKAV than you should:

In the event of overdosage, consult your doctor or pharmacist. If available, contact the nearest hospital or poison control centre. If possible, show then the DEZKAV pack.

If you forget to take DEZKAV or missed a dose of DEZKAV:

If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember, but if it is within 4 hours of your next dose, skip the dose you missed and take the next one at the usual time. Then continue your treatment as before.

Do not take a double dose to make up for a missed dose.

If you stop taking DEZKAV:

Take DEZKAV for as long as your doctor recommends. Don’t stop unless your doctor advises you to. If you have stopped taking DEZKAV for any reason, particularly because you think you are having side effect or for other illness, it is important that you contact your doctor before restarting. In some cases, your doctor will ask you to restart DEZKAV in a place where you will be able to get ready access to medical care if needed.

If you have hepatitis B infection, don’t stop DEZKAV without your doctor’s advice, ad your hepatitis may come back.

4. Possible side effects

DEZKAV can have side effects.

Not all side effects reported for DEZKAV are included in this leaflet. Should your general health worsen or if you experience any untoward effects while taking DEZKAV, please consult your doctor, pharmacist or other healthcare professional for advice.

When you're being treated for HIV, it can be hard to tell whether a symptom is a side effect of DEZKAV or other medicines you may be taking. If you get any of these effects, and if they are severe, your doctor may advise you to stop taking DEZKAV.

If any of the following happens, stop taking DEZKAV and tell your doctor immediately or go to the casualty department at your nearest hospital:

- A life-threatening allergic reaction referred to as anaphylaxis. Symptoms include, but are not limited to, fast or irregular breathing, puffiness or swelling around the face, shortness of breath, a sudden severe decrease in blood pressure, abdominal pain and cramping, anxiety, confusion, cough, diarrhoea, difficulty in swallowing, fainting, light-headedness, dizziness, hives, itchiness, wheezing and blocked nose.
- A severe skin rash (see below) OR
- One or more symptoms from at least TWO of the following groups:
  - shortness of breath, sore throat or cough, swelling of the face, tongue or throat,
  - nausea or vomiting or diarrhoea or abdominal (stomach) pain,
  - severe tiredness or aches and pains or generally feeling ill.
- skin rash, which may form blisters and looks like small targets known as erythema multiforme (central dark spots surrounded by a paler area, with a dark ring around the edge).
- Widespread rash with blisters and peeling skin, particularly around the mouth, nose, eyes and genitals known as Stevens-Johnson syndrome. As well as a more severe from causing skin peeling in more than 30 % of the body surface known as toxic epidermal necrosis.

These are all very serious side effect. If you have them, you may have had a serious reaction to DEZKAV.
You may need urgent medical attention of hospitalization.

Very serious condition to look out for:
Hypersensitivity reactions:

If you notice any of these symptoms stop takin DEZKAV and contact a doctor immediately or go to the casualty department or the nearest hospital.

Hypersensitivity to abacavir:

About 5 in every 100 people who take abacavir develop a hypersensitivity reaction (a serious allergic reaction) which can be life-threatening. It is very important that you read and understand the information about this serious reaction. See 'Take special care with DEZKAV'.

Hypersensitivity to dolutegravir:

DEZKAV contains dolutegravir, some people taking dolutegravir have allergic reactions.
Signs of a hypersensitivity reaction include:

- skin rash,
- a high temperature (fever).
- lack of energy (fatigue).
- swelling, sometimes of the face or mouth (angioedema), causing difficulty in breathing,
- muscle of joint aches.

See a doctor as soon as possible. Your doctor may decide to carry out tests on your liver, kidneys or blood, and may tell you to stop taking DEZKAV.

Tell your doctor immediately or go to the casualty department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of the following:

Symptoms of infection and inflammation:

Symptoms of infection and inflammation may develop and include:

- muscle weakness and/or muscle pain,
- joint pain or swelling,
- weakness beginning in the hands and feet and moving up towards the trunk of the body,
- palpitations and/or tremor,
- hyperactivity (excessive restlessness and movement).

If you get any symptoms of infection while you're taking DEZKAV:
Tell your doctor immediately. Don't take other medicines for the infection without your doctor's advice.
See 'Take special care with DEZKAV.

Your body shape may change:

People taking combination therapy for HIV may find that their body shape changes, because of changes in fat distribution:

- Fat may be lost from the legs, arms or face.
- Extra fat may build up around the stomach, on the breasts or internal organs.
- Fatty lumps (sometimes called buffalo hump) may appear on the back of the neck.

If you notice change in your body shape, tell your doctor immediately.

Lactic acidosis is a serious side effect:

Some people taking DEZKAV, develop a condition called lactic acidosis, together with an enlarged liver.

Signs of lactic acidosis include:

- deep, rapid difficult breathing,
- drowsiness,
- numbness or weakness in the limbs,
- feeling sick (nausea), being sick (vomiting)
- stomach pain.

During your treatment, your doctor will monitor you for signs of lactic acidosis. If you have any of the symptoms listed above or any other symptoms that worry you:

- see your doctor immediately.

As well as the conditions listed above, other side effects can develop:

Tell your doctor if you notice any of the following:

Frequent side effects:

- abacavir hypersensitivity reaction (see 'Take special care with DEZKAV),
- high temperature (fever),
- skin rash, itching (pruritus),
- joint pain, muscle pain and/or discomfort,
- headache
- diarrhoea, feeling sick (nausea), being sick (vomiting), stomach pains (abdominal pain) and bloating (abdominal distention), stomach (abdominal) discomfort, wind (flatulence), indigestion (dyspepsia), gastro-oesophageal reflux disease, loss of appetite,
- feeling drowsy, tiredness, lack of energy, general feeling of being unwell,

- dizziness,
- nightmares and abnormal dreams, sleep disorder, difficulty in sleeping (insomnia), depression,
- hair loss,
- weight gain.

Frequent side effects that may show up in blood tests are:

- increase in triglycerides (type of fat) shown in blood tests,
- increase in glucose (sugar) shown in blood tests.

Less frequent side effects:

- dolutegravir allergic reaction (see 'Hypersensitivity reactions' earlier in this section),
- inflammation of the liver (hepatitis),
- lactic acidosis (see 'Lactic acidosis is a serious side effect' earlier in this section),
- inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis),
- breakdown of muscle tissue,
- tingling and/or numbness of the hands and/or feet (paraesthesia),
- numbness, tingling and/or weakness of the arms and/or legs (peripheral neuropathy),
- suicide (particularly in patients who have had depression or mental health problems before).

If you notice any of these symptoms contact a doctor immediately.

Less frequent side effects that may show up in blood test are:

- a low red blood cell count (anaemia) or low white blood cell count (neutropenia),
- a decrease in the number of cells involved in blood clotting (thrombocytopaenia),
- an increase in the level of liver enzymes,
- increase in an enzyme called amylase,
- failure of the bone marrow to produce new red blood cell (pure red cell aplasia).

If you notice any side effects not mentioned in this leaflet, please inform your doctor or pharmacist.

Reporting of side effects

If you get side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

5. How to store DEZKAV

Store all medicines out of reach of children.

Store at or below 25 C.

Store in the original package to protect from moisture.

Keep the bottle tightly closed.

Do not remove the desiccant.

Do not use after the expiry date stated on the packaging.

Do not store in the bathroom.

Return all unused medicine to your pharmacist.

Do not dispose of unused medicine in drains or sewerage systems (e.g. toilet)

6. Contents of the pack and other information

The active substances are abacavir, dolutegravir and lamivudine.

Each DEZKAV film coated tablet contains 600 mg of abacavir, 50 mg of dolutegravir and 300 mg of lamivudine.

Contains sugar (mannitol)

The other ingredients are: microcrystalline cellulose, mannitol, croscarmellose sodium, colloidal silicon dioxide, magnesium stearate, sodium starch glycolate, Opadry II brown (polyvinyl alcohol, titanium dioxide, macrogol, talc, iron oxide red, black iron oxide).

What DEZKAV looks like and contents of the pack

A peach brown, film-coated, oval, biconvex, bevelled edge tablets, debossed with M on one side of the table and ADL on the other side.

DEZKAV will be packed in a blue round HDPE bottle with a blue child resistant closure and silica gel sachet. Pack sizes of 30's and/or 90's.

7 Holder of Certificate of Registration

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