

### How do this medication work?

Trizivir® is a combination of 3 antiretroviral medications that acts by preventing multiplication of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

Trizivir® is used alone or in combination with other antiretroviral drugs to slow progression of the disease. It helps to keep your immune system strong and reduces the risk of developing infections that occur when the immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

Trizivir® does not cure AIDS nor kill the virus. There is a permanent risk of transmitting HIV either through sexual or blood contact. It is therefore essential that precautions always be taken (use latex condoms, do not share syringes).



### What if I forget taking a dose?

Take the dose you missed as soon as possible and then continue with your regular schedule.

However, if it is nearly time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose and continue with your regular schedule. **Do not double up doses.**



### Can I take Trizivir® with other medications?

Consult your doctor or pharmacist before taking any new prescription or non-prescription medication, natural product or recreational drug.



### Can I drink alcohol if I'm on Trizivir®?

Alcohol can increase the side effects of Trizivir®. Avoid regular alcohol consumption which may damage your liver, especially if you are a hepatitis carrier. Reasonable consumption should not harm your health.

However, do not miss a dose of your medication because you take alcohol or drugs.



### What if I'm pregnant or breast-feeding?

We do not yet know the effects of Trizivir® in pregnant women. Talk to your doctor if you want to take Trizivir® and are pregnant or want to become pregnant. Breast-feeding is not recommended in HIV-positive women.



### How do I take these medications?

#### Trizivir

1 tablet
Twice daily

Trizivir® can be taken **with or without food.**

It is important not to forget to take doses of your antiretroviral medication; otherwise, the virus may become **resistant**. The medication will lose its effect on the virus, and the treatment will no longer be effective.



If you are an hepatitis B carrier and stop Trizivir®, your hepatitis can get worse.

Unless you have serious side effects, *never stop your treatment without first speaking to your doctor.*

### What are the side effects of this medication?

Normal reactions which will disappear or can be treated <b>Continue the medication</b>	- Nausea, headache, muscle pain, insomnia, fatigue
Contact your doctor <b>Continue the medication</b>	- <u>Anemia</u> : fatigue, shortness of breath, palpitations, pale skin
 See your doctor <b>IMMEDIATELY</b> Your doctor may need to <b>permanently stop Trizivir.</b>	- <u>Lactic acidosis</u> : nausea, vomiting, stomach pains, weight loss, severe fatigue, and difficulty breathing - <u>Rash</u> (redness of the skin) alone or symptoms from 2 of the following groups: 1) Fever 2) Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain 3) Severe fatigue, general illness 4) Sore throat, shortness of breath, cough
Never take Trizivir again, or any medication containing abacavir	

If you stop taking Trizivir by yourself due to side effects or a disease, consult your doctor before restarting the treatment. Your doctor will ensure that your symptoms are not related to an allergic reaction.

### Storage

Avoid storage in bathrooms.

Keep Trizivir® in a dry place at room temperature.

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.



### General advice

Always keep your appointments with your doctor and care team, so that your health status can be closely monitored, even if you have no symptoms.

If you think that you may have an allergic reaction to Trizivir®, consult your doctor.

