



How this medication works ?

Cabenuva[®] is a combination of 2 antiretrovirals : cabotegravir and rilpivirine. These are antiretrovirals that work by preventing the multiplication of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

Rilpivirine belongs to a class of medications called non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase enzyme inhibitors, and it works by inhibiting this enzyme. Cabotegravir is an antiretroviral that acts on another enzyme called integrase. The virus needs these enzymes to multiply in the body. So the combination of these antiretrovirals, when taken every day and faithfully, keeps the viral load undetectable and helps to stay healthy.

U = U

In the presence of an undetectable load, you are not at risk of transmitting HIV. Undetectable = Untransmissible (U = U). On the other hand, in the presence of a detectable viral load, you are still at risk of transmitting HIV, either through sexual contact or through blood. You must therefore take the necessary precautions (use of latex condoms, clean syringes, etc.).

How to take this medication ?

Cabenuva[®] will be administered by your healthcare professional as two injections into each of the gluteal muscles.

Before starting the Cabenuva[®] injections, **optionally** a preliminary oral treatment with Vocabria[®] and Edurant[®] for at least 28 days, including the day of the first injection, will be prescribed.

Cabenuva → given **once a month** the first two months and usually **once every two months** from the fourth month.

Your healthcare professional will determine which dosing regimen is best for you.

The date of the first initial injection becomes the target treatment date for the administration of subsequent injections. Subsequent doses may be given 7 days before or 7 days after the date of target treatment regardless of when the injection was previously made. It is important to attend scheduled appointments to receive the injections.

Can I take Cabenuva[®] with my other medications ?

The following drugs are contraindicated and should not be taken with Cabenuva[®] :

- Carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine, phenytoin or phenobarbital to prevent seizures.
- Rifampicin, rifabutin or rifapentin to treat certain bacterial infections such as tuberculosis.
- Dexamethasone (more than one dose) to treat inflammation and allergic reactions.
- Natural products containing St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) to treat depression.

The following drugs may also interact with Cabenuva[®] :

- Clarithromycin, erythromycin and methadone.

You should discuss this with your doctor before taking them. Dose adjustments or follow-up may be suggested if necessary.

Other drugs may also interact with Cabenuva[®], you should tell your doctor about all the health products you take. Consult your doctor or pharmacist before taking a new prescription medication, over the counter medication, natural product, or even a recreational drug.

What are the side effects of this medication ?

Injection site reactions : pain and discomfort, hard lump or lump, swelling, redness, itching, bruising and feeling hot.

These effects are usually mild in intensity but may be more severe for some individuals. The duration of these effects would be approximately three days following the injection. With time and subsequent doses the onset and duration of these reactions tends to decrease.

Tell your doctor and pharmacist about any side effect that bothers you or any symptom not listed in this document or worsening of a symptom that prevents you from going about your daily activities. They will be able to advise you on how to manage them.

Stop the drug and go **IMMEDIATELY** to a medical clinic or the emergencies

Severe rash with or without :

- Fever
- Lack of energy (fatigue)
- Muscle or joint pain



Medical follow-up : With regular blood tests and other tests if needed, your doctor will monitor the effects of the medicine on your system.

I missed an injection !

If you have to skip, or have skipped, an injection :

Tell your doctor or healthcare professional as soon as possible.



Your doctor may recommend that you take Vocabria® and Edurant® tablets until you can receive Cabenuva® injections again.

Do not change your dosing regimen without discussing it with your healthcare professional.

Pregnancy and breast feeding

Discuss with your doctor if you want to take Cabenuva® and you are pregnant or wish to be pregnant.

The virus can be transmitted through breast milk. Breastfeeding is therefore not recommended for women with HIV infection.

Storage

Store Cabenuva® in its original box in the refrigerator between 2 and 8°C until use. Don't freeze it.

Keep this medication out of reach and out of sight of children.

Can I drink alcohol with Cabenuva® ?

Avoid excessive or regular consumption of alcoholic beverages (beer, wine and spirits) which may increase the risk of hepatitis (inflammation of the liver) or interact with some of your medicines.

However, avoid "skipping" a dose of medication because you want to have an alcoholic drink. Unless your doctor tells you otherwise, reasonable (social) and occasional consumption of alcohol should not be detrimental to your health.

General advice

Be faithful to your appointments with the doctor and care team; they will be able to closely monitor your state of health.

If you have any questions about your medication or need help to schedule when to take them, don't hesitate to ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice as they know your medication well.

Contact person : _____

Telephone number : _____