



How this medication works ?

Prezista and Norvir are antiretrovirals, darunavir and ritonavir, that work by preventing the multiplication of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Ritonavir is also used to boost the effect of darunavir.

Darunavir and ritonavir are part of a class of drugs called protease inhibitors. They work by inhibiting an enzyme called protease. The virus needs this enzyme to multiply in the body. So Prezista/Norvir, when taken every day and faithfully in combination with other antiretrovirals, keep the viral load undetectable and help 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 these medications ?

Prezista/Norvir must be taken in combination with other antiretrovirals.

Prezista/Norvir 600/100 mg → **1 tablet** of each **twice** daily

Prezista/Norvir 800/100 mg → **1 tablet** of each **once** daily

Darunavir and ritonavir should be taken **with food** at the same time each day, ideally every 12 hours or 24 hours, depending on the dosage prescribed for you.

It is important to stick to the established schedule as closely as possible. Adherence to treatment will prevent the appearance of resistance (ability of the virus to recognize and outsmart the drug) and consequently treatment failure (loss of the effectiveness of anti-retroviral treatment) which would result in an increase in viral load and a decrease in CD4 cells (cells that allow your body to defend itself against infections).

Nearly everyone can experience a drop in adherence to treatment sooner or later. The key to success remains motivation. Do not hesitate to consult your care team so that they can explain the benefits of the therapy. They can also suggest tools to help you maintain your treatment properly.

Never stop or change your treatment without talking to your doctor first.

Can I take Prezista/Norvir with my other medications ?

The following drugs are contraindicated or should be avoided with Prezista/Norvir :

- Alfuzosin, amiodarone, apixaban, colchicine (in patients with renal and/or hepatic insufficiency), dronedarone, elbasvir/grazoprevir, ergoline derivatives (dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine, methyl-ergonovine), everolimus, flecainide, fusidic acid, glecaprevir/pibrentasvir, ibrutinib, ivabradine, lidocaine (systemic), lomitapide, lovastatin, lurasidone, naloxegol, neratinib, pimozide, propafenone, quetiapine, quinidine, ranolazine, rivaroxaban, salmeterol, sildenafil (to treat lung problems), simvastatin, ticagrelor, triazolam (oral), vardenafil and venetoclax because of the risk of serious adverse effects.
- Apalutamide, phenobarbital, phenytoin, rifampicin and products containing St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) as they may affect the effectiveness of Prezista/Norvir.

Other drugs or products interact or may interact with Prezista/Norvir. Consult your doctor or pharmacist before taking a new prescription medication, over the counter medication, natural product, or even a recreational drug. An alternative solution, dose adjustments or closer follow-up will be offered to you if necessary.

What are the side effects of this medication ?

Normal and usually mild effects that will go away over time or can be treated :

- Diarrhea or constipation
- Nausea, vomiting, stomach pain
- Headache

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.

If you are a carrier of the hepatitis B or C virus, you are at a higher risk of liver problems.

Consult your doctor or pharmacist quickly :

- Rash alone
- Dark urine, pale stools

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 forgot to take a dose !

Prezista 600 mg twice daily

If less than 6 hours after the scheduled time :

Take the missed dose as soon as possible and then continue your treatment according to the schedule.



If more than 6 hours after the scheduled time :

Drop the missed dose and continue on schedule.

Prezista 800 mg once daily

If less than 12 hours after the scheduled time :

Take the missed dose as soon as possible and then continue your treatment according to the schedule.

If more than 12 hours after the scheduled time :

Drop the missed dose and continue on schedule.

Do not double up dose.

Can I drink alcohol with Prezista/Norvir ?

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.

Pregnancy and breast feeding

Discuss with your doctor if you want to take Prezista/Norvir 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 Prezista/Norvir tablets at room temperature (15 and 30°C or 59 and 86°F) in the bottles provided by the pharmacist and protect them from high humidity.

Keep out of reach and out of sight of children.

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 : _____