

For inquiries between 8am-10pm and for emergencies 24 hours call: 1-888-511-6222
Ambulatory Care Pharmacists: 604-806-8151. Please call two weeks in advance to book your
pharmacy appointments with the receptionist at 604-806-8060

Etravirine (Intelence®)

What is Etravirine?

- A 2nd generation non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI)
- May be used in patients who have resistance to 1st generation NNRTIs (efavirenz, nevirapine, delavirdine).
- Is always used in combination with other antiretroviral agents (ARVs).
- Available as a 100mg tablet

How do I take it?

- The usual dose is 200mg (2 x100mg tablets) twice daily.
- Take only as prescribed by your physician.
- The medication should be taken with a meal to increase absorption.
- Alcohol is not recommended in the first 4 weeks of therapy and should be used with caution thereafter.

Take Etravirine every day as prescribed as missing doses can lead to the development of drug resistance. If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is close to your next scheduled dose, skip the missed dose and take your next dose at the usual time. Do not take two doses at the same time. Missed doses may lead to the virus becoming resistant to all of the antiretroviral drugs that you are taking, reducing or eliminating the effect of them against the virus.

What should I expect?

- Rash is a common adverse effect with etravirine. The rash can be serious and potentially life threatening. Contact your doctor right away, if you get a rash.
- Other common adverse effects with etravirine include: nausea, diarrhea, headache, abdominal pain, fatigue, peripheral neuropathy (tingling or pain in hands and feet) and vomiting.
- Less common adverse effects with etravirine include: increased blood pressure (dizziness, blurred vision, headache, nausea) and hepatitis (yellowing of eyes, skin, dark urine, fever, abdominal pain).
- Contact your physician or pharmacist if any side effects do not go away or worsen.

Drug Interactions

WARNING:

NNRTIs may interact with other antiretrovirals and other medications by altering the way drugs are metabolized by the liver.

Below is a general list of drugs (and drug classes) that may interact with etravirine: Anti-convulsants, sedatives, anti-tuberculosis medications, anti-fungals, psychiatric medications, transplant/immunosuppressants, anti-arrhythmics, warfarin, cholesterol-lowering agents, sildenafil, oral contraceptives (birth control pill), ergot containing migraine medications, heart/blood-pressure medications, macrolide antibiotics.

The following herbal/natural remedy may also interact with etravirine: St. John's Wort.

Always check with the pharmacist (1-888-511-6222) or your physician before starting any new therapies to ensure the safety of the combination.

How do I store it?

Etravirine should be stored in a cool, dry place at room temperature (15-30 degrees C). Store all medications out of the reach of children.

Labwork to be done:

CBC with differential, liver function tests, plasma viral load, CD4 count