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**Medication Guide**  
**VIDEX<sup>®</sup> EC (VY-dex Ee-see)**  
**(didanosine, also known as ddI)**  
**Delayed-Release Capsules**  
**Enteric-Coated Beadlets**

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Read this Medication Guide before you start taking VIDEX EC and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or your treatment. You and your healthcare provider should talk about your treatment with VIDEX EC before you start taking it and at regular check-ups. You should stay under your healthcare provider's care when taking VIDEX EC.

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**What is the most important information I should know about VIDEX EC?**

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**VIDEX EC may cause serious side effects, including:**

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1. **Swelling of your pancreas (pancreatitis) that may cause death. Pancreatitis can happen at any time during your treatment with VIDEX EC.** Before you start taking VIDEX EC, tell your healthcare provider if you:

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- have had pancreatitis
- have advanced HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) infection
- have kidney problems
- drink alcoholic beverages
- take a medicine called ZERIT<sup>®</sup> (stavudine)

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**It is important to call your healthcare provider right away if you have:**

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- stomach pain
- swelling of your stomach
- nausea and vomiting
- fever

547 2. **Build-up of acid in your blood (lactic acidosis). Lactic acidosis must be treated in the**  
548 **hospital as it may cause death.** Before you start taking VIDEX EC, tell your healthcare  
549 provider if you:

- 550 • have liver problems
- 551 • are pregnant. There have been deaths reported in pregnant women who get lactic acidosis  
552 after taking VIDEX EC and ZERIT (stavudine).
- 553 • are overweight
- 554 • have been treated for a long time with other medicines to treat HIV

555 **It is important to call your healthcare provider right away if you:**

- 556 • feel weak or tired
- 557 • have unusual (not normal) muscle pain
- 558 • have trouble breathing
- 559 • have stomach pain with nausea and vomiting
- 560 • feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
- 561 • feel dizzy or light-headed
- 562 • have a fast or irregular heartbeat

563 3. **Liver problems.** Serious liver problems have happened in some people (including pregnant  
564 women) who take VIDEX EC. These problems include liver enlargement (hepatomegaly), fat  
565 in the liver (steatosis), liver failure, and high blood pressure in the large vein of the liver  
566 (portal hypertension). Severe liver problems can lead to liver transplantation or death in some  
567 people taking VIDEX EC. Your healthcare provider should check your liver function while  
568 you are taking VIDEX EC. You should be especially careful if you have a history of heavy  
569 alcohol use or liver problems.

570 **It is important to call your healthcare provider right away if you have:**

- 571 • yellowing of your skin or the white of your eyes (jaundice)
- 572 • dark urine
- 573 • pain on the right side of your stomach
- 574 • swelling of your stomach
- 575 • easy bruising or bleeding
- 576 • loss of appetite
- 577 • nausea or vomiting
- 578 • vomiting blood or dark colored stools (bowel movements)

579 **What is VIDEX EC?**

580 VIDEX EC is a prescription medicine used with other antiretroviral medicines to treat human  
581 immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection in children and adults. VIDEX EC belongs to a class of  
582 drugs called nucleoside analogues.

583 VIDEX EC will not cure your HIV infection. At present there is no cure for HIV infection. Even  
584 while taking VIDEX EC, you may continue to have HIV-related illnesses, including infections  
585 with other disease-producing organisms. Continue to see your healthcare provider regularly and  
586 report any medical problems that occur.

587 **Who should not take VIDEX EC?**

588 **Do not take VIDEX EC if you take:**

- 589 • ZYLOPRIM<sup>®</sup>, LOPURIN<sup>®</sup>, ALOPRIM<sup>®</sup> (allopurinol)  
590 • COPEGUS<sup>®</sup>, REBETOL<sup>®</sup>, RIBASPHERE<sup>®</sup>, RIBAVIRIN<sup>®</sup>, VIRAZOLE<sup>®</sup> (ribavirin)

591 **What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking VIDEX EC?**

592 Before you take VIDEX EC, tell your healthcare provider if you:

- 593 • have or had kidney problems  
594 • have or had liver problems (such as hepatitis)  
595 • have or had persistent numbness, tingling, or pain in the hands or feet (neuropathy)  
596 • have any other medical conditions  
597 • are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if VIDEX EC will harm your  
598 unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you become pregnant while  
599 taking VIDEX EC. You and your healthcare provider will decide if you should take  
600 VIDEX EC while you are pregnant.

601 Pregnancy Registry: There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiviral  
602 medicines during pregnancy. The purpose of the registry is to collect information about  
603 the health of you and your baby. Talk to your doctor about how you can take part in this  
604 registry.

- 605 • are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed. **Do not breast-feed while you take**  
606 **VIDEX EC.** It is not known if VIDEX EC passes into your breast milk. The Centers for  
607 Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that HIV-infected mothers **not**  
608 breast-feed to avoid the risk of passing HIV infection to your baby.

609 **Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take**, including prescription and  
610 non-prescription medicines, vitamins and herbal supplements. VIDEX EC may affect the way  
611 other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how VIDEX EC works.

612 **Especially tell your healthcare provider if you take:**

- 613 • CYTOVENE<sup>®</sup>, VALCYTE<sup>®</sup> (ganciclovir)
- 614 • DOLOPHINE<sup>®</sup> HYDROCHLORIDE, METHADOSE<sup>®</sup> (methadone)
- 615 • VIRACEPT<sup>®</sup> (nelfinavir)
- 616 • VIREAD<sup>®</sup> (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate)
- 617 • alcoholic beverages

618 Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of your medicines and show it to your healthcare  
619 provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

620 Ask your healthcare provider if you are not sure if you take one of the medicines listed above.

621 **How should I take VIDEX EC?**

- 622 • Take VIDEX EC exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it.
- 623 • Your healthcare provider will tell you how much VIDEX EC to take and when to take it.
- 624 • Your healthcare provider may change your dose. Do not change your dose of VIDEX EC  
625 without talking to your healthcare provider.
- 626 • **Do not take VIDEX EC with food.** Take VIDEX EC on an empty stomach.
- 627 • Take VIDEX EC capsules whole. Do not break, crush, dissolve, or chew VIDEX EC  
628 capsules before swallowing. If you cannot swallow VIDEX EC capsules whole, tell your  
629 healthcare provider. You may need a different medicine.
- 630 • Try not to miss a dose, but if you do, take it as soon as possible. If it is almost time for the  
631 next dose, skip the missed dose and continue your regular dosing schedule.
- 632 • **Some medicines should not be taken at the same time of day that you take VIDEX EC.**  
633 Check with your healthcare provider.
- 634 • If your kidneys are not working well, your healthcare provider will need to do regular blood  
635 and urine tests to check how they are working while you take VIDEX EC. Your healthcare  
636 provider may also lower your dosage of VIDEX EC if your kidneys are not working well.
- 637 • **If you take too much VIDEX EC,** contact a poison control center or emergency room right  
638 away.

639 **What should I avoid while taking VIDEX EC?**

- 640 • **Alcohol.** Do not drink alcohol while taking VIDEX EC. Alcohol may increase your risk of  
641 getting pain and swelling of your pancreas (pancreatitis) or may damage your liver.

642 **What are the possible side effects of VIDEX EC?**

643 VIDEX EC can cause pancreatitis, lactic acidosis, and liver problems. See “**What is the most**  
644 **important information I should know about VIDEX EC?**” at the beginning of this  
645 Medication Guide.

- 646 • **Vision changes.** You should have regular eye exams while taking VIDEX EC.
- 647 • **Peripheral neuropathy. Symptoms include:** numbness, tingling, or pain in your hands or  
648 feet. This condition is more likely to happen in people who have had it before, in patients  
649 taking medicines that affect the nerves, and in people with advanced HIV disease. A child  
650 may not notice these symptoms. Ask the child’s healthcare provider for the signs and  
651 symptoms of peripheral neuropathy in children.
- 652 • **Changes in your immune system (immune reconstitution syndrome).** Your immune  
653 system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for  
654 a long time. Tell your healthcare provider if you start having new or worse symptoms of  
655 infection after you start taking HIV medicine.
- 656 • **Changes in body fat (fat redistribution).** Changes in body fat have been seen in people  
657 who take antiretroviral medicines. These changes may include:
- 658 • more fat in or around your
- 659 – upper back and neck (buffalo hump)
- 660 – breasts or chest
- 661 – trunk
- 662 • less fat in your
- 663 – legs
- 664 – arms
- 665 – face

666 Tell your healthcare provider if you have any of the symptoms listed above.

667 The most common side effects of VIDEX EC include:

- 668 • diarrhea
- 669 • stomach pain
- 670 • nausea
- 671 • vomiting
- 672 • headache

673       • rash

674 Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go  
675 away.

676 These are not all the possible side effects of VIDEX EC. For more information, ask your  
677 healthcare provider or pharmacist.

678 Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at  
679 1-800-FDA-1088.

#### 680 **How should I store VIDEX EC?**

681       • Store VIDEX EC capsules in a tightly closed container between 59° F to 86° F (15° C to  
682       30° C)

683       • Safely throw away any unused VIDEX EC

684 **Keep VIDEX EC and all medicines out of the reach of children and pets.**

#### 685 **General Information about the safe and effective use of VIDEX EC.**

686 VIDEX EC has not been shown to prevent a patient infected with HIV from passing the virus to  
687 other people. To protect others, you must continue to practice safer sex and take precautions to  
688 prevent others from coming in contact with your blood and other body fluids. Medicines are  
689 sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use  
690 VIDEX EC for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give VIDEX EC to other  
691 people, even if they have the same symptoms as you have. It may harm them.

692 Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Dispose of unused medicines  
693 through community take-back disposal programs when available or place VIDEX EC in an  
694 unrecognizable closed container in the household trash.

695 This Medication Guide summarizes the most important information about VIDEX EC. If you  
696 would like more information about VIDEX EC, talk with your healthcare provider. You can ask  
697 your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about VIDEX EC that is written for  
698 health professionals. For more information, go to  
699 [http://packageinserts.bms.com/pi/pi\\_videx\\_ec.pdf](http://packageinserts.bms.com/pi/pi_videx_ec.pdf) or call 1-800-321-1335.

700 **What are the ingredients in VIDEX EC?**

701 **Active Ingredients:** didanosine

702 **Inactive Ingredients:**

703 Carboxymethylcellulose sodium 12, diethyl phthalate, methacrylic acid copolymer, sodium  
704 hydroxide, sodium starch glycolate, talc, gelatin, and titanium dioxide.

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706 trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

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710 This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.