

## HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use Efavirenz Capsules safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for Efavirenz Capsules.

### Efavirenz Capsules USP for oral use

#### Initial U.S. Approval: 1998

#### ---- RECENT MAJOR CHANGES -----

Dosage and Administration, Adults (2.1) 12/2011

#### ----- INDICATIONS AND USAGE -----

Efavirenz Capsule USP is a non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor indicated in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 infection. (1)

#### ----- DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION -----

- Efavirenz Capsules should be taken orally once daily on an empty stomach, preferably at bedtime. (2)
- Recommended adult dose: 600 mg. (2.1)
- With voriconazole, increase voriconazole maintenance dose to 400 mg every 12 hours and decrease Efavirenz Capsules dose to 300 mg once daily using the capsule formulation. (2.1)
- With rifampin, increase Efavirenz Capsules dose to 800 mg once daily for patients weighing 50 kg or more. (2.1)

Pediatric Patients at Least 3 Years and at Least 10 kg (2.2)					
kg	lbs	dose	kg	lbs	dose
10 - <15	22 - <33	200 mg	25 - <32.5	55 - <71.5	350 mg
15 - <20	33 - <44	250 mg	32.5 - <40	71.5 - <88	400 mg
20 - <25	44 - <55	300 mg	at least 40	at least 88	600 mg

#### ----- DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS -----

- Capsules: 200 mg and 50 mg. (3)

#### ----- CONTRAINDICATIONS -----

- Efavirenz Capsule is contraindicated in patients with previously demonstrated hypersensitivity (eg, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, erythema multiforme, or toxic skin eruptions) to any of the components of this product. (4.1)
- For some drugs, competition for CYP3A by efavirenz could result in inhibition of their metabolism and create the potential for serious and/or life-threatening adverse reactions (eg, cardiac arrhythmias, prolonged sedation, or respiratory depression). (4.2)

#### ----- WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS -----

- Do not use as a single agent or add on as a sole agent to a failing regimen. Consider potential for cross resistance when choosing other agents. (5.2)
- Not recommended with ATRIPLA, which contains efavirenz, emtricitabine, and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate. (5.3)
- *Serious psychiatric symptoms:* Immediate medical evaluation is recommended for serious psychiatric symptoms such as severe depression or suicidal ideation. (5.4, 17.5)
- *Nervous system symptoms (NSS):* NSS are frequent, usually begin 1-2 days after initiating therapy and resolve in 2-4 weeks. Dosing at bedtime may improve tolerability. NSS are not predictive of onset of psychiatric symptoms. (5.5, 6.1, 17.4)
- *Pregnancy:* Fetal harm can occur when administered to a pregnant woman during the first trimester. Women should be apprised of the potential harm to the fetus. (5.6, 17.7)
- *Hepatotoxicity:* Monitor liver function tests before and during treatment in patients with underlying hepatic disease, including hepatitis B or C coinfection, marked transaminase elevations, or who are taking medications associated with liver toxicity. Among reported cases of hepatic failure, a few occurred in patients with no pre-existing hepatic disease. (5.8, 6.1, 8.6)
- *Rash:* Rash usually begins within 1-2 weeks after initiating therapy and resolves within 4 weeks. Discontinue if severe rash develops. (5.7, 6.1, 17.6)
- *Convulsions:* Use caution in patients with a history of seizures. (5.9)
- *Lipids:* Total cholesterol and triglyceride elevations. Monitor before therapy and periodically thereafter. (5.10)
- *Immune reconstitution syndrome:* May necessitate further evaluation and treatment. (5.11)
- *Redistribution/accumulation of body fat:* Observed in patients receiving antiretroviral therapy. (5.12, 17.8)

#### ----- ADVERSE REACTIONS -----

Most common adverse reactions (>5%, moderate-severe) are rash, dizziness, nausea, headache, fatigue, insomnia, and vomiting. (6)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Micro Labs Ltd at 91-80-22370464 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch).

#### ----- DRUG INTERACTIONS -----

Coadministration of efavirenz can alter the concentrations of other drugs and other drugs may alter the concentrations of efavirenz. The potential for drug-drug interactions must be considered before and during therapy. (4.2, 7.1, 12.3)

#### ----- USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS -----

- *Pregnancy:* Women should avoid pregnancy during Efavirenz Capsules therapy and for 12 weeks after discontinuation. (5.6)

- *Nursing mothers:* Women infected with HIV should be instructed not to breast-feed. (8.3)
- *Hepatic impairment:* Efavirenz Capsules are not recommended for patients with moderate or severe hepatic impairment. Use caution in patients with mild hepatic impairment. (8.6)
- *Pediatric patients:* The incidence of rash was higher than in adults. (5.7, 6.1, 6.2, 8.4)

**See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and FDA-approved patient labeling**

**Revised: 12/2011**

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## FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

### 1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Efavirenz Capsules USP in combination with other antiretroviral agents is indicated for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) infection. This indication is based on two clinical trials of at least one year duration that demonstrated prolonged suppression of HIV RNA [see *Clinical Studies (14)*].

### 2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

#### 2.1 Adults

The recommended dosage of Efavirenz Capsules is 600 mg orally, once daily, in combination with a protease inhibitor and/or nucleoside analogue reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs). It is recommended that Efavirenz Capsules be taken on an empty stomach, preferably at bedtime. The increased efavirenz concentrations observed following administration of Efavirenz Capsules with food may lead to an increase in frequency of adverse reactions [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*]. Dosing at bedtime may improve the tolerability of nervous system symptoms [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*, *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*, and *Patient Counseling Information (17.4)*].

#### Concomitant Antiretroviral Therapy

Efavirenz Capsules must be given in combination with other antiretroviral medications [see *Indications and Usage (1)*, *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*, *Drug Interactions (7.1)*, and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

#### Dosage Adjustment

If Efavirenz Capsules is coadministered with voriconazole, the voriconazole maintenance dose should be increased to 400 mg every 12 hours and the Efavirenz Capsules dose should be decreased to 300 mg once daily using the capsule formulation (one 200-mg and two 50-mg capsules or six 50-mg capsules). See *Drug Interactions (7.1, Table 7)* and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3, Tables 8 and 9)*.

If Efavirenz Capsules are coadministered with rifampin to patients weighing 50 kg or more, an increase in the dose of Efavirenz Capsules to 800 mg once daily is recommended [see *Drug Interactions (7.1, Table 7)* and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3, Table 9)*].

#### 2.2 Pediatric Patients

It is recommended that Efavirenz Capsules be taken on an empty stomach, preferably at bedtime. Table 1 describes the recommended dose of Efavirenz Capsules for pediatric patients 3 years of age or older and weighing between 10 and 40 kg [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*]. The

recommended dosage of Efavirenz Capsules for pediatric patients weighing greater than 40 kg is 600 mg once daily.

**Table 1: Pediatric Dose to be Administered Once Daily**

Body Weight		Efavirenz Capsules Dose (mg)
kg	lbs	
10 to less than 15	22 to less than 33	200
15 to less than 20	33 to less than 44	250
20 to less than 25	44 to less than 55	300
25 to less than 32.5	55 to less than 71.5	350
32.5 to less than 40	71.5 to less than 88	400
at least 40	at least 88	600

### 3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

- Capsules**  
*Capsules 50 mg:* Gold (cap)/ White (body), size ‘4’ hard gelatin capsule imprinted with ‘M’ on cap and ‘01’ on body, filled with white to off-white granular powder.  
*Capsules 200 mg:* Gold (cap)/ Gold (body), size ‘0e1’ hard gelatin capsule imprinted with ‘M’ on cap and ‘03’ on body, filled with white to off-white granular powder.

### 4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

#### 4.1 Hypersensitivity

Efavirenz Capsules is contraindicated in patients with previously demonstrated clinically significant hypersensitivity (eg, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, erythema multiforme, or toxic skin eruptions) to any of the components of this product.

#### 4.2 Contraindicated Drugs

For some drugs, competition for CYP3A by efavirenz could result in inhibition of their metabolism and create the potential for serious and/or life-threatening adverse reactions (eg, cardiac arrhythmias, prolonged sedation, or respiratory depression). Drugs that are contraindicated with Efavirenz Capsules are listed in Table 2.

**Table 2: Drugs That Are Contraindicated or Not Recommended for Use With Efavirenz Capsules**

<b>Drug Class: Drug Name</b>	<b>Clinical Comment</b>
Antimigraine: ergot derivatives (dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine, methylergonovine)	Potential for serious and/or life-threatening reactions such as acute ergot toxicity characterized by peripheral vasospasm and ischemia of the extremities and other tissues.
Benzodiazepines: midazolam, triazolam	Potential for serious and/or life-threatening reactions such as prolonged or increased sedation or respiratory depression.
Calcium channel blocker: bepridil	Potential for serious and/or life-threatening reactions such as cardiac arrhythmias.
GI motility agent: cisapride	Potential for serious and/or life-threatening reactions such as cardiac arrhythmias
Neuroleptic: pimozone	Potential for serious and/or life-threatening reactions such as cardiac arrhythmias.
St. John's wort ( <i>Hypericum perforatum</i> )	May lead to loss of virologic response and possible resistance to efavirenz or to the class of non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTI).

## **5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**

### **5.1 Drug Interactions**

Efavirenz plasma concentrations may be altered by substrates, inhibitors, or inducers of CYP3A. Likewise, efavirenz may alter plasma concentrations of drugs metabolized by CYP3A or CYP2B6 [see *Contraindications* (4.2) and *Drug Interactions* (7.1)]

### **5.2 Resistance**

Efavirenz Capsules must not be used as a single agent to treat HIV-1 infection or added on as a sole agent to a failing regimen. Resistant virus emerges rapidly when efavirenz is administered as monotherapy. The choice of new antiretroviral agents to be used in combination with efavirenz should take into consideration the potential for viral cross-resistance.

### **5.3 Coadministration with Related Products**

Coadministration of Efavirenz Capsules with ATRIPLA (efavirenz 600 mg/emtricitabine 200 mg/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg) is not recommended, since efavirenz is one of its active ingredients.

## 5.4 Psychiatric Symptoms

Serious psychiatric adverse experiences have been reported in patients treated with Efavirenz Capsules. In controlled trials of 1008 patients treated with regimens containing Efavirenz Capsules for a mean of 2.1 years and 635 patients treated with control regimens for a mean of 1.5 years, the frequency (regardless of causality) of specific serious psychiatric events among patients who received Efavirenz Capsules or control regimens, respectively, were severe depression (2.4%, 0.9%), suicidal ideation (0.7%, 0.3%), nonfatal suicide attempts (0.5%, 0), aggressive behavior (0.4%, 0.5%), paranoid reactions (0.4%, 0.3%), and manic reactions (0.2%, 0.3%). When psychiatric symptoms similar to those noted above were combined and evaluated as a group in a multifactorial analysis of data from Study 006, treatment with efavirenz was associated with an increase in the occurrence of these selected psychiatric symptoms. Other factors associated with an increase in the occurrence of these psychiatric symptoms were history of injection drug use, psychiatric history, and receipt of psychiatric medication at study entry; similar associations were observed in both the Efavirenz Capsules and control treatment groups. In Study 006, onset of new serious psychiatric symptoms occurred throughout the study for both Efavirenz Capsules-treated and control-treated patients. One percent of Efavirenz Capsules-treated patients discontinued or interrupted treatment because of one or more of these selected psychiatric symptoms. There have also been occasional post marketing reports of death by suicide, delusions, and psychosis-like behavior, although a causal relationship to the use of Efavirenz Capsules cannot be determined from these reports. Patients with serious psychiatric adverse experiences should seek immediate medical evaluation to assess the possibility that the symptoms may be related to the use of Efavirenz Capsules, and if so, to determine whether the risks of continued therapy outweigh the benefits. See *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*.

## 5.5 Nervous System Symptoms

Fifty-three percent (531/1008) of patients receiving Efavirenz Capsules in controlled trials reported central nervous system symptoms (any grade, regardless of causality) compared to 25% (156/635) of patients receiving control regimens [see *Adverse Reactions (6.1, Table 4)*]. These symptoms included, but were not limited to, dizziness (28.1% of the 1008 patients), insomnia (16.3%), impaired concentration (8.3%), somnolence (7.0%), abnormal dreams (6.2%), and hallucinations (1.2%). These symptoms were severe in 2.0% of patients, and 2.1% of patients discontinued therapy as a result. These symptoms usually begin during the first or second day of therapy and generally resolve after the first 2-4 weeks of therapy. After 4 weeks of therapy, the prevalence of nervous system symptoms of at least moderate severity ranged from 5% to 9% in patients treated with regimens containing Efavirenz Capsules and from 3% to 5% in patients treated with a control regimen. Patients should be informed that these common symptoms were likely to improve with continued therapy and were not predictive of subsequent onset of the less frequent psychiatric symptoms [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*]. Dosing at bedtime may improve the tolerability of these nervous system symptoms [see *Dosage and Administration (2)*].

Analysis of long-term data from Study 006 (median follow-up 180 weeks, 102 weeks, and 76 weeks for patients treated with Efavirenz Capsules + zidovudine + lamivudine, Efavirenz Capsules + indinavir, and indinavir + zidovudine + lamivudine, respectively) showed that, beyond 24 weeks of therapy, the incidences of new-onset nervous system symptoms among

Efavirenz Capsules-treated patients were generally similar to those in the indinavir-containing control arm.

Patients receiving Efavirenz Capsules should be alerted to the potential for additive central nervous system effects when Efavirenz Capsules is used concomitantly with alcohol or psychoactive drugs.

Patients who experience central nervous system symptoms such as dizziness, impaired concentration, and/or drowsiness should avoid potentially hazardous tasks such as driving or operating machinery.

## 5.6 Reproductive Risk Potential

**Pregnancy Category D.** Efavirenz may cause fetal harm when administered during the first trimester to a pregnant woman. Pregnancy should be avoided in women receiving Efavirenz Capsules. Barrier contraception must always be used in combination with other methods of contraception (eg, oral or other hormonal contraceptives). Because of the long half-life of efavirenz, use of adequate contraceptive measures for 12 weeks after discontinuation of Efavirenz Capsules is recommended. Women of childbearing potential should undergo pregnancy testing before initiation of Efavirenz Capsules. If this drug is used during the first trimester of pregnancy, or if the patient becomes pregnant while taking this drug, the patient should be apprised of the potential harm to the fetus.

There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Efavirenz Capsules should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus, such as in pregnant women without other therapeutic options. [See *Use in Specific Populations* (8.1).]

## 5.7 Rash

In controlled clinical trials, 26% (266/1008) of patients treated with 600 mg Efavirenz Capsules experienced new-onset skin rash compared with 17% (111/635) of patients treated in control groups [see *Adverse Reactions* (6.1, Table 5)]. Rash associated with blistering, moist desquamation, or ulceration occurred in 0.9% (9/1008) of patients treated with Efavirenz Capsules. The incidence of Grade 4 rash (eg, erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome) in patients treated with Efavirenz Capsules in all studies and expanded access was 0.1%. Rashes are usually mild-to-moderate maculopapular skin eruptions that occur within the first 2 weeks of initiating therapy with efavirenz (median time to onset of rash in adults was 11 days) and, in most patients continuing therapy with efavirenz, rash resolves within 1 month (median duration, 16 days). The discontinuation rate for rash in clinical trials was 1.7% (17/1008). Efavirenz Capsules can be reinitiated in patients interrupting therapy because of rash. Efavirenz Capsules should be discontinued in patients developing severe rash associated with blistering, desquamation, mucosal involvement, or fever. Appropriate antihistamines and/or corticosteroids may improve the tolerability and hasten the resolution of rash.

Rash was reported in 26 of 57 pediatric patients (46%) treated with Efavirenz Capsules [see *Adverse Reactions (6.1, 6.2)*]. One pediatric patient experienced Grade 3 rash (confluent rash with fever), and two patients had Grade 4 rash (erythema multiforme). The median time to onset of rash in pediatric patients was 8 days. Prophylaxis with appropriate antihistamines before initiating therapy with Efavirenz Capsules in pediatric patients should be considered.

## **5.8 Hepatotoxicity**

Monitoring of liver enzymes before and during treatment is recommended for patients with underlying hepatic disease, including hepatitis B or C infection; patients with marked transaminase elevations; and patients treated with other medications associated with liver toxicity [see *Adverse Reactions (6.1)* and *Use in Specific Populations (8.6)*]. A few of the postmarketing reports of hepatic failure occurred in patients with no pre-existing hepatic disease or other identifiable risk factors [see *Adverse Reactions (6.3)*]. Liver enzyme monitoring should also be considered for patients without pre-existing hepatic dysfunction or other risk factors. In patients with persistent elevations of serum transaminases to greater than five times the upper limit of the normal range, the benefit of continued therapy with Efavirenz Capsules needs to be weighed against the unknown risks of significant liver toxicity.

## **5.9 Convulsions**

Convulsions have been observed in patients receiving efavirenz, generally in the presence of known medical history of seizures [see *Nonclinical Toxicology (13.2)*]. Caution must be taken in any patient with a history of seizures. Patients who are receiving concomitant anticonvulsant medications primarily metabolized by the liver, such as phenytoin and phenobarbital, may require periodic monitoring of plasma levels [see *Drug Interactions (7.1)*].

## **5.10 Lipid Elevations**

Treatment with Efavirenz Capsules has resulted in increases in the concentration of total cholesterol and triglycerides [see *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*]. Cholesterol and triglyceride testing should be performed before initiating Efavirenz Capsules therapy and at periodic intervals during therapy.

## **5.11 Immune Reconstitution Syndrome**

Immune reconstitution syndrome has been reported in patients treated with combination antiretroviral therapy, including Efavirenz Capsules. During the initial phase of combination antiretroviral treatment, patients whose immune system responds may develop an inflammatory response to indolent or residual opportunistic infections [such as *Mycobacterium avium* infection, cytomegalovirus, *Pneumocystis jiroveci* pneumonia (PCP), or tuberculosis], which may necessitate further evaluation and treatment.



## 5.12 Fat Redistribution

Redistribution/accumulation of body fat including central obesity, dorsocervical fat enlargement (buffalo hump), peripheral wasting, facial wasting, breast enlargement, and "cushingoid appearance" have been observed in patients receiving antiretroviral therapy. The mechanism and long-term consequences of these events are currently unknown. A causal relationship has not been established.

## 6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

The most significant adverse reactions observed in patients treated with Efavirenz Capsules are:

- psychiatric symptoms [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*],
- nervous system symptoms [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*],
- rash [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*].

The most common (>5% in either efavirenz treatment group) adverse reactions of at least moderate severity among patients in Study 006 treated with Efavirenz Capsules in combination with zidovudine/lamivudine or indinavir were rash, dizziness, nausea, headache, fatigue, insomnia, and vomiting.

### 6.1 Clinical Trials Experience in Adults

Because clinical studies are conducted under widely varying conditions, the adverse reaction rates reported cannot be directly compared to rates in other clinical studies and may not reflect the rates observed in clinical practice.

Selected clinical adverse reactions of moderate or severe intensity observed in  $\geq 2\%$  of Efavirenz Capsules-treated patients in two controlled clinical trials are presented in Table 3.

**Table 3: Selected Treatment-Emergent<sup>a</sup> Adverse Reactions of Moderate or Severe Intensity Reported in  $\geq 2\%$  of Efavirenz Capsules-Treated Patients in Studies 006 and ACTG 364**

Adverse Reactions	Study 006 LAM-, NNRTI-, and Protease Inhibitor-Naive Patients			Study ACTG 364 NRTI-experienced, NNRTI-, and Protease Inhibitor-Naive Patients		
		Efavirenz Capsules <sup>b</sup> + ZDV/LA M (n=412)  180 weeks <sup>c</sup>	Efavirenz Capsules <sup>b</sup> + Indinavir (n=415)  102 weeks <sup>c</sup>	Indinavi r + ZDV/L AM (n=401)  76 weeks <sup>c</sup>	Efavirenz Capsules <sup>b</sup> + Nelfinavir + NRTIs (n=64)  71.1 weeks <sup>c</sup>	Efavirenz Capsules <sup>b</sup> + NRTIs (n=65)  70.9 weeks <sup>c</sup>

<b>Body as a Whole</b>						
Fatigue	8%	5%	9%	0	2%	3%
Pain	1%	2%	8%	13%	6%	17%
<b>Central and Peripheral Nervous System</b>						
Dizziness	9%	9%	2%	2%	6%	6%
Headache	8%	5%	3%	5%	2%	3%
Insomnia	7%	7%	2%	0	0	2%
Concentration impaired	5%	3%	<1%	0	0	0
Abnormal dreams	3%	1%	0	—	—	—
Somnolence	2%	2%	<1%	0	0	0
Anorexia	1%	<1%	<1%	0	2%	2%
<b>Gastrointestinal</b>						
Nausea	10%	6%	24%	3%	2%	2%
Vomiting	6%	3%	14%	—	—	—
Diarrhea	3%	5%	6%	14%	3%	9%
Dyspepsia	4%	4%	6%	0	0	2%
Abdominal pain	2%	2%	5%	3%	3%	3%
<b>Psychiatric</b>						
Anxiety	2%	4%	<1%	—	—	—
Depression	5%	4%	<1%	3%	0	5%
Nervousness	2%	2%	0	2%	0	2%
<b>Skin &amp; Appendages</b>						
Rash <sup>d</sup>	11%	16%	5%	9%	5%	9%
Pruritus	<1%	1%	1%	9%	5%	9%

<sup>a</sup> Includes adverse events at least possibly related to study drug or of unknown relationship for Study 006. Includes all adverse events regardless of relationship to study drug for Study ACTG 364.

<sup>b</sup> Efavirenz Capsules provided as 600 mg once daily.

<sup>c</sup> Median duration of treatment.

<sup>d</sup> Includes erythema multiforme, rash, rash erythematous, rash follicular, rash maculopapular, rash petechial, rash pustular, and urticaria for Study 006 and macules, papules, rash, erythema, redness, inflammation, allergic rash, urticaria, welts, hives, itchy, and pruritus for ACTG 364.

— = Not Specified.

ZDV = zidovudine, LAM = lamivudine.

Pancreatitis has been reported, although a causal relationship with efavirenz has not been established. Asymptomatic increases in serum amylase levels were observed in a significantly higher number of patients treated with efavirenz 600 mg than in control patients (see *Laboratory Abnormalities*).

### Nervous System Symptoms

For 1008 patients treated with regimens containing Efavirenz Capsules and 635 patients treated with a control regimen in controlled trials, Table 4 lists the frequency of symptoms of different degrees of severity and gives the discontinuation rates for one or more of the following nervous system symptoms: dizziness, insomnia, impaired concentration, somnolence, abnormal dreaming, euphoria, confusion, agitation, amnesia, hallucinations, stupor, abnormal thinking, and depersonalization [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*]. The frequencies of specific central and peripheral nervous system symptoms are provided in Table 3.

**Table 4: Percent of Patients with One or More Selected Nervous System Symptoms<sup>a,b</sup>**

Percent of Patients with:	Efavirenz Capsule 600 mg Once Daily (n=1008) %	Control Groups (n=635) %
Symptoms of any severity	52.7	24.6
Mild symptoms <sup>c</sup>	33.3	15.6
Moderate symptoms <sup>d</sup>	17.4	7.7
Severe symptoms <sup>e</sup>	2.0	1.3
Treatment discontinuation as a result of symptoms	2.1	1.1

<sup>a</sup> Includes events reported regardless of causality.

<sup>b</sup> Data from Study 006 and three Phase 2/3 studies.

<sup>c</sup> "Mild" = Symptoms which do not interfere with patient's daily activities.

<sup>d</sup> "Moderate" = Symptoms which may interfere with daily activities.

<sup>e</sup> "Severe" = Events which interrupt patient's usual daily activities.

### Psychiatric Symptoms

Serious psychiatric adverse experiences have been reported in patients treated with Efavirenz Capsules. In controlled trials, psychiatric symptoms observed at a frequency of >2% among patients treated with Efavirenz Capsules or control regimens, respectively, were depression (19%, 16%), anxiety (13%, 9%), and nervousness (7%, 2%).

### Rash

For 1008 adult and 57 pediatric patients treated with regimens containing Efavirenz Capsules and 635 patients treated with a control regimen in controlled trials, the frequency of rash by NCI

grade and the discontinuation rates as a result of rash in clinical studies are provided in Table 5 [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*].

**Table 5: Percent of Patients with Treatment-Emergent Rash<sup>a,b</sup>**

<b>Percent Patients with:</b>	<b>of Description of Rash Grade<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>Efavirenz Capsule 600 mg Once Daily Adults (n=1008) %</b>	<b>Efavirenz Capsule Pediatric patients (n=57) %</b>	<b>Control Groups Adults (n=635) %</b>
Rash of any grade	—	26.3	45.6	17.5
Grade 1 rash	Erythema, pruritus	10.7	8.8	9.8
Grade 2 rash	Diffuse maculopapular rash, dry desquamation	14.7	31.6	7.4
Grade 3 rash	Vesiculation, moist desquamation, ulceration	0.8	1.8	0.3
Grade 4 rash	Erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis, necrosis requiring surgery, exfoliative dermatitis	0.1	3.5	0.0
Treatment discontinuation as a result of rash	—	1.7	8.8	0.3

<sup>a</sup> Includes events reported regardless of causality.

<sup>b</sup> Data from Study 006 and three Phase 2/3 studies.

<sup>c</sup> NCI Grading System.

As seen in Table 5, rash is more common in pediatric patients and more often of higher grade (ie, more severe) [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*].

Experience with Efavirenz Capsules in patients who discontinued other antiretroviral agents of the NNRTI class is limited. Nineteen patients who discontinued nevirapine because of rash have been treated with Efavirenz Capsules. Nine of these patients developed mild-to-moderate rash while receiving therapy with Efavirenz Capsules, and two of these patients discontinued because of rash.

## Laboratory Abnormalities

Selected Grade 3-4 laboratory abnormalities reported in  $\geq 2\%$  of Efavirenz Capsules-treated patients in two clinical trials are presented in Table 6.

**Table 6: Selected Grade 3-4 Laboratory Abnormalities Reported in  $\geq 2\%$  of Efavirenz Capsules-Treated Patients in Studies 006 and ACTG 364**

		Study 006 LAM-, NNRTI-, and Protease Inhibitor-Naive Patients			Study ACTG 364 NRTI-experienced, NNRTI-, and Protease Inhibitor-Naive Patients		
Variable	Limit	Efavirenz Capsules <sup>a</sup> + ZDV/LAM (n=412)	Efavirenz Capsules <sup>a</sup> + Indinavir (n=415)	Indinavir + ZDV/LAM (n=401)	Efavirenz Capsules <sup>a</sup> + Nelfinavir + NRTIs (n=64)	Efavirenz Capsules <sup>a</sup> + NRTIs (n=65)	Nelfinavir + NRTIs (n=66)
		180 weeks <sup>b</sup>	102 weeks <sup>b</sup>	76 weeks <sup>b</sup>	71.1 weeks <sup>b</sup>	70.9 weeks <sup>b</sup>	62.7 weeks <sup>b</sup>
<b>Chemistry</b>							
ALT	>5 x ULN	5%	8%	5%	2%	6%	3%
AST	>5 x ULN	5%	6%	5%	6%	8%	8%
GGT <sup>c</sup>	>5 x ULN	8%	7%	3%	5%	0	5%
Amylase	>2 x ULN	4%	4%	1%	0	6%	2%
Glucose	>250 mg/d L	3%	3%	3%	5%	2%	3%
Triglycerides <sup>d</sup>	$\geq 751$ mg/d L	9%	6%	6%	11%	8%	17%
<b>Hematology</b>							
Neutrophils	<750 / mm <sup>3</sup>	10%	3%	5%	2%	3%	2%

<sup>a</sup> Efavirenz Capsules provided as 600 mg once daily.

<sup>b</sup> Median duration of treatment.

<sup>c</sup> Isolated elevations of GGT in patients receiving Efavirenz Capsules may reflect enzyme induction not associated with liver toxicity.

<sup>d</sup> Nonfasting.

ZDV = zidovudine, LAM = lamivudine, ULN = Upper limit of normal, ALT = alanine aminotransferase, AST = aspartate aminotransferase, GGT = gamma-glutamyltransferase.

### ***Patients Coinfected with Hepatitis B or C***

Liver function tests should be monitored in patients with a history of hepatitis B and/or C. In the long-term data set from Study 006, 137 patients treated with Efavirenz Capsules-containing regimens (median duration of therapy, 68 weeks) and 84 treated with a control regimen (median duration, 56 weeks) were seropositive at screening for hepatitis B (surface antigen positive) and/or C (hepatitis C antibody positive). Among these coinfecting patients, elevations in AST to greater than five times ULN developed in 13% of patients in the Efavirenz Capsules arms and 7% of those in the control arm, and elevations in ALT to greater than five times ULN developed in 20% of patients in the Efavirenz Capsules arms and 7% of patients in the control arm. Among coinfecting patients, 3% of those treated with Efavirenz Capsules-containing regimens and 2% in the control arm discontinued from the study because of liver or biliary system disorders [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.8)].

### ***Lipids***

Increases from baseline in total cholesterol of 10-20% have been observed in some uninfected volunteers receiving Efavirenz Capsules. In patients treated with Efavirenz Capsules + zidovudine + lamivudine, increases from baseline in nonfasting total cholesterol and HDL of approximately 20% and 25%, respectively, were observed. In patients treated with Efavirenz Capsules + indinavir, increases from baseline in nonfasting cholesterol and HDL of approximately 40% and 35%, respectively, were observed. Nonfasting total cholesterol levels  $\geq 240$  mg/dL and  $\geq 300$  mg/dL were reported in 34% and 9%, respectively, of patients treated with Efavirenz Capsules + zidovudine + lamivudine; 54% and 20%, respectively, of patients treated with Efavirenz Capsules + indinavir; and 28% and 4%, respectively, of patients treated with indinavir + zidovudine + lamivudine. The effects of Efavirenz Capsules on triglycerides and LDL in this study were not well characterized since samples were taken from nonfasting patients. The clinical significance of these findings is unknown [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.10)].

## **6.2 Clinical Trial Experience in Pediatric Patients**

Clinical adverse experiences observed in  $\geq 10\%$  of 57 pediatric patients aged 3 to 16 years who received Efavirenz Capsules, nelfinavir, and one or more NRTIs in Study ACTG 382 [see *Use In Specific Populations* (8.4)] were rash (46%), diarrhea/loose stools (39%), fever (21%), cough (16%), dizziness/lightheaded/fainting (16%), ache/pain/discomfort (14%), nausea/vomiting (12%), and headache (11%). The incidence of nervous system symptoms was 18% (10/57). One patient experienced Grade 3 rash, two patients had Grade 4 rash, and five patients (9%) discontinued because of rash [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.7) and *Adverse Reactions* (6.1, Table 5)].

## **6.3 Postmarketing Experience**

The following adverse reactions have been identified during postapproval use of Efavirenz Capsules. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, it

is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

*Body as a Whole:* allergic reactions, asthenia, redistribution/accumulation of body fat [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.12)*]

*Central and Peripheral Nervous System:* abnormal coordination, ataxia, cerebellar coordination and balance disturbances, convulsions, hypoesthesia, paresthesia, neuropathy, tremor, vertigo

*Endocrine:* gynecomastia

*Gastrointestinal:* constipation, malabsorption

*Cardiovascular:* flushing, palpitations

*Liver and Biliary System:* hepatic enzyme increase, hepatic failure, hepatitis. A few of the postmarketing reports of hepatic failure, including cases in patients with no pre-existing hepatic disease or other identifiable risk factors, were characterized by a fulminant course, progressing in some cases to transplantation or death.

*Metabolic and Nutritional:* hypercholesterolemia, hypertriglyceridemia

*Musculoskeletal:* arthralgia, myalgia, myopathy

*Psychiatric:* aggressive reactions, agitation, delusions, emotional lability, mania, neurosis, paranoia, psychosis, suicide

*Respiratory:* dyspnea

*Skin and Appendages:* erythema multiforme, photoallergic dermatitis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome

*Special Senses:* abnormal vision, tinnitus

## **7 DRUG INTERACTIONS**

### **7.1 Drug-Drug Interactions**

Efavirenz has been shown *in vivo* to induce CYP3A and CYP2B6. Other compounds that are substrates of CYP3A or CYP2B6 may have decreased plasma concentrations when coadministered with Efavirenz Capsules. *In vitro* studies have demonstrated that efavirenz inhibits CYP2C9, 2C19, and 3A4 isozymes in the range of observed efavirenz plasma concentrations. Coadministration of efavirenz with drugs primarily metabolized by these isozymes may result in altered plasma concentrations of the coadministered drug. Therefore, appropriate dose adjustments may be necessary for these drugs.

Drugs that induce CYP3A activity (eg, phenobarbital, rifampin, rifabutin) would be expected to increase the clearance of efavirenz resulting in lowered plasma concentrations. Drug interactions with Efavirenz Capsule are summarized in Tables 2 and 7 [for pharmacokinetics data see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.3, Tables 8 and 9)]. The tables include potentially significant interactions, but are not all inclusive.

**Table 7: Established<sup>a</sup> and Other Potentially Significant<sup>b</sup> Drug Interactions: Alteration in Dose or Regimen May Be Recommended Based on Drug Interaction Studies or Predicted Interaction**

Concomitant Drug Class: Drug Name	Effect	Clinical Comment
<i>Antiretroviral agents</i>		
Protease inhibitor: Fosamprenavir calcium	↓ amprenavir	Fosamprenavir (unboosted): Appropriate doses of the combinations with respect to safety and efficacy have not been established. Fosamprenavir/ritonavir: An additional 100 mg/day (300 mg total) of ritonavir is recommended when Efavirenz Capsules is administered with fosamprenavir/ritonavir once daily. No change in the ritonavir dose is required when Efavirenz Capsules is administered with fosamprenavir plus ritonavir twice daily.
Protease inhibitor: Atazanavir	↓ atazanavir <sup>a</sup>	<i>Treatment-naive patients:</i> When coadministered with Efavirenz Capsules, the recommended dose of atazanavir is 400 mg with ritonavir 100 mg (together once daily with food) and Efavirenz Capsule 600 mg (once daily on an empty stomach, preferably at bedtime). <i>Treatment-experienced patients:</i> Coadministration of Efavirenz Capsules and atazanavir is not recommended.
Protease inhibitor: Indinavir	↓ indinavir <sup>a</sup>	The optimal dose of indinavir, when given in combination with Efavirenz Capsules, is not known. Increasing the indinavir dose to 1000 mg every 8 hours does not compensate for the increased indinavir metabolism due to Efavirenz Capsules. When indinavir at an increased dose (1000 mg every 8



		hours) was given with Efavirenz Capsule (600 mg once daily), the indinavir AUC and C <sub>min</sub> were decreased on average by 33-46% and 39-57%, respectively, compared to when indinavir (800 mg every 8 hours) was given alone.
Protease inhibitor: Lopinavir/ritonavir	↓ lopinavir <sup>a</sup>	Lopinavir/ritonavir tablets should not be administered once daily in combination with Efavirenz Capsules. In antiretroviral-naive patients, lopinavir/ ritonavir tablets can be used twice daily in combination with Efavirenz Capsules with no dose adjustment. A dose increase of lopinavir/ritonavir tablets to 600/150 mg (3 tablets) twice daily may be considered when used in combination with Efavirenz Capsules in treatment-experienced patients where decreased susceptibility to lopinavir is clinically suspected (by treatment history or laboratory evidence). A dose increase of lopinavir/ritonavir oral solution to 533/133 mg (6.5 mL) twice daily taken with food is recommended when used in combination with Efavirenz Capsules.
Protease inhibitor: Ritonavir	↑ ritonavir <sup>a</sup> ↑ efavirenz <sup>a</sup>	When ritonavir 500 mg q12h was coadministered with Efavirenz Capsule 600 mg once daily, the combination was associated with a higher frequency of adverse clinical experiences (eg, dizziness, nausea, paresthesia) and laboratory abnormalities (elevated liver enzymes). Monitoring of liver enzymes is recommended when Efavirenz Capsules is used in combination with ritonavir.
Protease inhibitor: Saquinavir	↓ saquinavir <sup>a</sup>	Should not be used as sole protease inhibitor in combination with Efavirenz Capsules.
CCR5 co-receptor antagonist: Maraviroc	↓ maraviroc <sup>a</sup>	Refer to the full prescribing information for maraviroc for guidance on coadministration with efavirenz.

<i>Other agents</i>		
Anticoagulant: Warfarin	↑ or ↓ warfarin	Plasma concentrations and effects potentially increased or decreased by Efavirenz Capsules.
Anticonvulsants: Carbamazepine  Phenytoin Phenobarbital	↓ carbamazepine <sup>a</sup> ↓ efavirenz <sup>a</sup>  ↓ anticonvulsant ↓ efavirenz	There are insufficient data to make a dose recommendation for efavirenz. Alternative anticonvulsant treatment should be used. Potential for reduction in anticonvulsant and/or efavirenz plasma levels; periodic monitoring of anticonvulsant plasma levels should be conducted.
Antidepressant: Bupropion  Sertraline	↓ bupropion <sup>a</sup>  ↓ sertraline <sup>a</sup>	The effect of efavirenz on bupropion exposure is thought to be due to the induction of bupropion metabolism. Increases in bupropion dosage should be guided by clinical response, but the maximum recommended dose of bupropion should not be exceeded. Increases in sertraline dosage should be guided by clinical response.
Antifungals: Voriconazole	↓ voriconazole <sup>a</sup> ↑ efavirenz <sup>a</sup>	Efavirenz Capsules and voriconazole must not be coadministered at standard doses. Efavirenz significantly decreases voriconazole plasma concentrations, and coadministration may decrease the therapeutic effectiveness of voriconazole. Also, voriconazole significantly increases efavirenz plasma concentrations, which may increase the risk of Efavirenz Capsules-associated side effects. When voriconazole is coadministered with Efavirenz Capsules, voriconazole maintenance dose should be increased to 400 mg every 12 hours and Efavirenz Capsules dose should be decreased to 300 mg once daily using the capsule formulation. [See <i>Dosage and Administration (2.1)</i> and <i>Clinical</i>

Itraconazole	↓ itraconazole <sup>a</sup> ↓ hydroxyitraconazole <sup>a</sup>	<i>Pharmacology (12.3, Tables 8 and 9).]</i> Since no dose recommendation for itraconazole can be made, alternative antifungal treatment should be considered.
Ketoconazole	↓ ketoconazole	Drug interaction studies with Efavirenz Capsules and ketoconazole have not been conducted. Efavirenz Capsules has the potential to decrease plasma concentrations of ketoconazole.
Posaconazole	↓ posaconazole <sup>a</sup>	Avoid concomitant use unless the benefit outweighs the risks.
Anti-infective: Clarithromycin	↓ clarithromycin <sup>a</sup> ↑ 14-OH metabolite <sup>a</sup>	Plasma concentrations decreased by Efavirenz Capsules; clinical significance unknown. In uninfected volunteers, 46% developed rash while receiving Efavirenz Capsules and clarithromycin. No dose adjustment of Efavirenz Capsules is recommended when given with clarithromycin. Alternatives to clarithromycin, such as azithromycin, should be considered (see <i>Other Drugs</i> , following table). Other macrolide antibiotics, such as erythromycin, have not been studied in combination with Efavirenz Capsules.
Antimycobacterial: Rifabutin	↓ rifabutin <sup>a</sup>	Increase daily dose of rifabutin by 50%. Consider doubling the rifabutin dose in regimens where rifabutin is given 2 or 3 times a week.
Rifampin	↓ efavirenz <sup>a</sup>	If Efavirenz Capsules are coadministered with rifampin to patients weighing 50 kg or more, an increase in the dose of Efavirenz Capsules to 800 mg once daily is recommended.
Calcium channel blockers: Diltiazem	↓ diltiazem <sup>a</sup>	Diltiazem dose adjustments should be

<p>Others (eg, felodipine, nicardipine, nifedipine, verapamil)</p>	<p>↓ desacetyl diltiazem<sup>a</sup> ↓ N-monodesmethyl diltiazem<sup>a</sup></p> <p>↓ calcium channel blocker</p>	<p>guided by clinical response (refer to the full prescribing information for diltiazem). No dose adjustment of efavirenz is necessary when administered with diltiazem.</p> <p>No data are available on the potential interactions of efavirenz with other calcium channel blockers that are substrates of CYP3A. The potential exists for reduction in plasma concentrations of the calcium channel blocker. Dose adjustments should be guided by clinical response (refer to the full prescribing information for the calcium channel blocker).</p>
<p>HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors:</p> <p>Atorvastatin Pravastatin Simvastatin</p>	<p>↓ atorvastatin<sup>a</sup> ↓ pravastatin<sup>a</sup> ↓ simvastatin<sup>a</sup></p>	<p>Plasma concentrations of atorvastatin, pravastatin, and simvastatin decreased. Consult the full prescribing information for the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor for guidance on individualizing the dose.</p>
<p>Hormonal contraceptives:</p> <p>Oral Ethinyl estradiol/ Norgestimate</p> <p>Implant Etonogestrel</p>	<p>↓ active metabolites of norgestimate<sup>a</sup></p> <p>↓ etonogestrel</p>	<p>A reliable method of barrier contraception must be used in addition to hormonal contraceptives. Efavirenz had no effect on ethinyl estradiol concentrations, but progestin levels (norelgestromin and levonorgestrel) were markedly decreased. No effect of ethinyl estradiol/norgestimate on efavirenz plasma concentrations was observed.</p> <p>A reliable method of barrier contraception must be used in addition to hormonal contraceptives. The interaction between etonogestrel and efavirenz has not been studied. Decreased exposure of etonogestrel may be expected. There have been postmarketing reports of contraceptive failure with etonogestrel in efavirenz-exposed patients.</p>
<p>Immunosuppressants: Cyclosporine,</p>	<p>↓ immunosuppressant</p>	<p>Decreased exposure of the</p>

tacrolimus, sirolimus, and others metabolized by CYP3A		immunosuppressant may be expected due to CYP3A induction. These immunosuppressants are not anticipated to affect exposure of efavirenz. Dose adjustments of the immunosuppressant may be required. Close monitoring of immunosuppressant concentrations for at least 2 weeks (until stable concentrations are reached) is recommended when starting or stopping treatment with efavirenz.
Narcotic analgesic: Methadone	↓ methadone <sup>a</sup>	Coadministration in HIV-infected individuals with a history of injection drug use resulted in decreased plasma levels of methadone and signs of opiate withdrawal. Methadone dose was increased by a mean of 22% to alleviate withdrawal symptoms. Patients should be monitored for signs of withdrawal and their methadone dose increased as required to alleviate withdrawal symptoms.

<sup>a</sup> See *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3, Tables 8 and 9)* for magnitude of established interactions.

<sup>b</sup> This table is not all-inclusive.

## Other Drugs

Based on the results of drug interaction studies [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3, Tables 8 and 9)*], no dosage adjustment is recommended when Efavirenz Capsules is given with the following: aluminum/magnesium hydroxide antacids, azithromycin, cetirizine, famotidine, fluconazole, lamivudine, lorazepam, nelfinavir, paroxetine, tenofovir disoproxil fumarate, and zidovudine.

Specific drug interaction studies have not been performed with Efavirenz Capsules and NRTIs other than lamivudine and zidovudine. Clinically significant interactions would not be expected since the NRTIs are metabolized via a different route than efavirenz and would be unlikely to compete for the same metabolic enzymes and elimination pathways.

## 7.2 Cannabinoid Test Interaction

Efavirenz does not bind to cannabinoid receptors. False-positive urine cannabinoid test results have been observed in non-HIV-infected volunteers receiving Efavirenz Capsules when the Microgenics CEDIA DAU Multi-Level THC assay was used for screening. Negative results were obtained when more specific confirmatory testing was performed with gas chromatography/mass spectrometry.

Of the three assays analyzed (Microgenics CEDIA DAU Multi-Level THC assay, Cannabinoid Enzyme Immunoassay [Diagnostic Reagents, Inc], and AxSYM Cannabinoid Assay), only the Microgenics CEDIA DAU Multi-Level THC assay showed false-positive results. The other two assays provided true-negative results. The effects of Efavirenz Capsules on cannabinoid screening tests other than these three are unknown. The manufacturers of cannabinoid assays should be contacted for additional information regarding the use of their assays with patients receiving efavirenz.

## **8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS**

### **8.1 Pregnancy**

Pregnancy Category D: See *Warnings and Precautions* (5.6).

As of July 2010, the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has received prospective reports of 792 pregnancies exposed to efavirenz-containing regimens, nearly all of which were first-trimester exposures (718 pregnancies). Birth defects occurred in 17 of 604 live births (first-trimester exposure) and 2 of 69 live births (second/third-trimester exposure). One of these prospectively reported defects with first-trimester exposure was a neural tube defect. A single case of anophthalmia with first-trimester exposure to efavirenz has also been prospectively reported; however, this case included severe oblique facial clefts and amniotic banding, a known association with anophthalmia. There have been six retrospective reports of findings consistent with neural tube defects, including meningocele. All mothers were exposed to efavirenz-containing regimens in the first trimester. Although a causal relationship of these events to the use of Efavirenz Capsule has not been established, similar defects have been observed in preclinical studies of efavirenz.

### **Animal Data**

Effects of efavirenz on embryo-fetal development have been studied in three nonclinical species (cynomolgus monkeys, rats, and rabbits). In monkeys, efavirenz 60 mg/kg/day was administered to pregnant females throughout pregnancy (gestation days 20 through 150). The maternal systemic drug exposures (AUC) were 1.3 times the exposure in humans at the recommended clinical dose (600 mg/day), with fetal umbilical venous drug concentrations approximately 0.7 times the maternal values. Three fetuses of 20 fetuses/infants had one or more malformations; there were no malformed fetuses or infants from placebo-treated mothers. The malformations that occurred in these three monkey fetuses included anencephaly and unilateral anophthalmia in one fetus, microphthalmia in a second, and cleft palate in the third. There was no NOAEL (no observable adverse effect level) established for this study because only one dosage was evaluated. In rats, efavirenz was administered either during organogenesis (gestation days 7 to 18) or from gestation day 7 through lactation day 21 at 50, 100, or 200 mg/kg/day. Administration of 200 mg/kg/day in rats was associated with increase in the incidence of early resorptions; and doses 100 mg/kg/day and greater were associated with early neonatal mortality. The AUC at the NOAEL (50 mg/kg/day) in this rat study was 0.1 times that in humans at the recommended clinical dose. Drug concentrations in the milk on lactation day 10 were

approximately 8 times higher than those in maternal plasma. In pregnant rabbits, efavirenz was neither embryo lethal nor teratogenic when administered at doses of 25, 50, and 75 mg/kg/day over the period of organogenesis (gestation days 6 through 18). The AUC at the NOAEL (75 mg/kg/day) in rabbits was 0.4 times that in humans at the recommended clinical dose.

### **8.3 Nursing Mothers**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV. Although it is not known if efavirenz is secreted in human milk, efavirenz is secreted into the milk of lactating rats. Because of the potential for HIV transmission and the potential for serious adverse effects in nursing infants, mothers should be instructed not to breast-feed if they are receiving Efavirenz Capsules.

### **8.4 Pediatric Use**

ACTG 382 is an ongoing, open-label study in 57 NRTI-experienced pediatric patients to characterize the safety, pharmacokinetics, and antiviral activity of Efavirenz Capsules in combination with nelfinavir (20-30 mg/kg three times daily) and NRTIs. Mean age was 8 years (range 3-16). Efavirenz Capsules has not been studied in pediatric patients below 3 years of age or who weigh less than 13 kg. At 48 weeks, the type and frequency of adverse experiences was generally similar to that of adult patients with the exception of a higher incidence of rash, which was reported in 46% (26/57) of pediatric patients compared to 26% of adults, and a higher frequency of Grade 3 or 4 rash reported in 5% (3/57) of pediatric patients compared to 0.9% of adults [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.7) and *Adverse Reactions* (6.1, Table 5; 6.2)].

The starting dose of Efavirenz Capsules was 600 mg once daily adjusted to body size, based on weight, targeting AUC levels in the range of 190-380  $\mu\text{M}\cdot\text{h}$  [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.2)]. The pharmacokinetics of efavirenz in pediatric patients were similar to the pharmacokinetics in adults who received 600-mg daily doses of Efavirenz Capsules. In 48 pediatric patients receiving the equivalent of a 600- mg dose of Efavirenz Capsules, steady-state  $C_{\text{max}}$  was  $14.2 \pm 5.8 \mu\text{M}$  (mean  $\pm$  SD), steady-state  $C_{\text{min}}$  was  $5.6 \pm 4.1 \mu\text{M}$ , and AUC was  $218 \pm 104 \mu\text{M}\cdot\text{h}$ .

### **8.5 Geriatric Use**

Clinical studies of Efavirenz Capsules did not include sufficient numbers of subjects aged 65 years and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger subjects. In general, dose selection for an elderly patient should be cautious, reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function and of concomitant disease or other therapy.

### **8.6 Hepatic Impairment**

Efavirenz Capsules is not recommended for patients with moderate or severe hepatic impairment because there are insufficient data to determine whether dose adjustment is necessary. Patients with mild hepatic impairment may be treated with efavirenz without any adjustment in dose.

Because of the extensive cytochrome P450-mediated metabolism of efavirenz and limited clinical experience in patients with hepatic impairment, caution should be exercised in administering Efavirenz Capsules to these patients [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.8) and *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.3)].

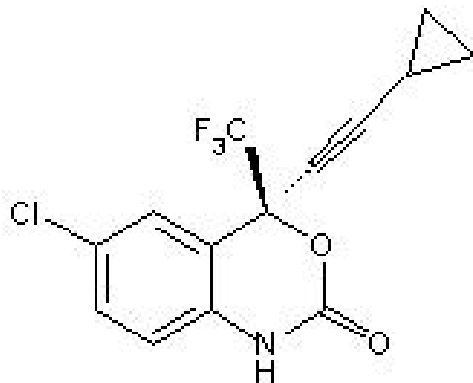
## 10 OVERDOSAGE

Some patients accidentally taking 600 mg twice daily have reported increased nervous system symptoms. One patient experienced involuntary muscle contractions.

Treatment of overdose with Efavirenz Capsules should consist of general supportive measures, including monitoring of vital signs and observation of the patient's clinical status. Administration of activated charcoal may be used to aid removal of unabsorbed drug. There is no specific antidote for overdose with Efavirenz Capsules. Since efavirenz is highly protein bound, dialysis is unlikely to significantly remove the drug from blood.

## 11 DESCRIPTION

Efavirenz Capsules USP is an HIV-1 specific, non-nucleoside, reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI). Efavirenz is chemically described as (S)-6-chloro-4-(cyclopropylethynyl)-1,4-dihydro-4-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-3,1-benzoxazin-2-one. Its empirical formula is  $C_{14}H_9ClF_3NO_2$  and its structural formula is:



Efavirenz is a white to slightly pink crystalline powder with a molecular mass of 315.68. It is practically insoluble in water (<10 microgram/mL).

Efavirenz is available as capsules for oral administration containing 50 mg or 200mg of efavirenz and the following inactive ingredients: lactose monohydrate, magnesium stearate, sodium lauryl sulfate, and sodium starch glycolate. The capsule shell contains the following inactive ingredients and dyes: gelatin, sodium lauryl sulfate, titanium dioxide, and/or yellow iron oxide. The capsules are printed with ink containing black iron oxide.

## 12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY



## 12.1 Mechanism of Action

Efavirenz is an antiviral drug [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.4)*].

## 12.3 Pharmacokinetics

### Absorption

Peak efavirenz plasma concentrations of 1.6-9.1  $\mu\text{M}$  were attained by 5 hours following single oral doses of 100 mg to 1600 mg administered to uninfected volunteers. Dose-related increases in  $C_{\text{max}}$  and AUC were seen for doses up to 1600 mg; the increases were less than proportional suggesting diminished absorption at higher doses.

In HIV-1-infected patients at steady state, mean  $C_{\text{max}}$ , mean  $C_{\text{min}}$ , and mean AUC were dose proportional following 200-mg, 400-mg, and 600-mg daily doses. Time-to-peak plasma concentrations were approximately 3-5 hours and steady-state plasma concentrations were reached in 6-10 days. In 35 patients receiving Efavirenz Capsules 600 mg once daily, steady-state  $C_{\text{max}}$  was  $12.9 \pm 3.7 \mu\text{M}$  (mean  $\pm$  SD), steady-state  $C_{\text{min}}$  was  $5.6 \pm 3.2 \mu\text{M}$ , and AUC was  $184 \pm 73 \mu\text{M}\cdot\text{h}$ .

### *Effect of Food on Oral Absorption:*

*Capsules:* Administration of a single 600-mg dose of efavirenz capsules with a high-fat/high-caloric meal (894 kcal, 54 g fat, 54% calories from fat) or a reduced-fat/normal-caloric meal (440 kcal, 2 g fat, 4% calories from fat) was associated with a mean increase of 22% and 17% in efavirenz  $\text{AUC}_{\infty}$  and a mean increase of 39% and 51% in efavirenz  $C_{\text{max}}$ , respectively, relative to the exposures achieved when given under fasted conditions. See *Dosage and Administration (2)* and *Patient Counseling Information (17.3)*.

### Distribution

Efavirenz is highly bound (approximately 99.5-99.75%) to human plasma proteins, predominantly albumin. In HIV-1 infected patients (n=9) who received Efavirenz Capsules 200 to 600 mg once daily for at least one month, cerebrospinal fluid concentrations ranged from 0.26 to 1.19% (mean 0.69%) of the corresponding plasma concentration. This proportion is approximately 3-fold higher than the non-protein-bound (free) fraction of efavirenz in plasma.

### Metabolism

Studies in humans and *in vitro* studies using human liver microsomes have demonstrated that efavirenz is principally metabolized by the cytochrome P450 system to hydroxylated metabolites with subsequent glucuronidation of these hydroxylated metabolites. These metabolites are essentially inactive against HIV-1. The *in vitro* studies suggest that CYP3A and CYP2B6 are the major isozymes responsible for efavirenz metabolism.

Efavirenz has been shown to induce CYP enzymes, resulting in the induction of its own metabolism. Multiple doses of 200-400 mg per day for 10 days resulted in a lower than predicted extent of accumulation (22-42% lower) and a shorter terminal half-life of 40-55 hours (single dose half-life 52-76 hours).

## Elimination

Efavirenz has a terminal half-life of 52-76 hours after single doses and 40-55 hours after multiple doses. A one-month mass balance/excretion study was conducted using 400 mg per day with a <sup>14</sup>C-labeled dose administered on Day 8. Approximately 14-34% of the radiolabel was recovered in the urine and 16-61% was recovered in the feces. Nearly all of the urinary excretion of the radiolabeled drug was in the form of metabolites. Efavirenz accounted for the majority of the total radioactivity measured in feces.

## Special Populations

*Gender and race:* The pharmacokinetics of efavirenz in patients appear to be similar between men and women and among the racial groups studied.

*Renal impairment:* The pharmacokinetics of efavirenz have not been studied in patients with renal insufficiency; however, less than 1% of efavirenz is excreted unchanged in the urine, so the impact of renal impairment on efavirenz elimination should be minimal.

*Hepatic impairment:* A multiple-dose study showed no significant effect on efavirenz pharmacokinetics in patients with mild hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class A) compared with controls. There were insufficient data to determine whether moderate or severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class B or C) affects efavirenz pharmacokinetics.

## Drug Interaction Studies

Efavirenz has been shown *in vivo* to cause hepatic enzyme induction, thus increasing the biotransformation of some drugs metabolized by CYP3A and CYP2B6. *In vitro* studies have shown that efavirenz inhibited CYP isozymes 2C9, 2C19, and 3A4 with  $K_i$  values (8.5-17  $\mu$ M) in the range of observed efavirenz plasma concentrations. In *in vitro* studies, efavirenz did not inhibit CYP2E1 and inhibited CYP2D6 and CYP1A2 ( $K_i$  values 82-160  $\mu$ M) only at concentrations well above those achieved clinically. The inhibitory effect on CYP3A is expected to be similar between 200-mg, 400-mg, and 600-mg doses of efavirenz. Coadministration of efavirenz with drugs primarily metabolized by 2C9, 2C19, and 3A isozymes may result in altered plasma concentrations of the coadministered drug. Drugs which induce CYP3A activity would be expected to increase the clearance of efavirenz resulting in lowered plasma concentrations.

Drug interaction studies were performed with efavirenz and other drugs likely to be coadministered or drugs commonly used as probes for pharmacokinetic interaction. The effects of coadministration of efavirenz on the  $C_{max}$ , AUC, and  $C_{min}$  are summarized in Table 8 (effect of efavirenz on other drugs) and Table 9 (effect of other drugs on efavirenz). For information regarding clinical recommendations see *Contraindications* (4.2) and *Drug Interactions* (7.1).

**Table 8: Effect of Efavirenz on Coadministered Drug Plasma C<sub>max</sub>, AUC, and C<sub>min</sub>**

Coadministered Drug	Dose	Efavirenz Dose	Number of Subjects	Coadministered Drug (mean % change)		
				C <sub>max</sub> (90% CI)	AUC (90% CI)	C <sub>min</sub> (90% CI)
Atazanavir	400 mg qd with a light meal d 1–20	600 mg qd with a light meal d 7–20	27	↓59% (49-67%)	↓74% (68-78%)	↓93% (90-95%)
	400 mg qd d 1–6, then 300 mg qd d 7–20 with ritonavir 100 mg qd and a light meal	600 mg qd 2 h after atazanavir and ritonavir d 7–20	13	↑14% <sup>a</sup> (↓17-↑58%)	↑39% <sup>a</sup> (2-88%)	↑48% <sup>a</sup> (24-76%)
	300 mg qd/ritonavir 100 mg qd d 1–10 (pm), then 400 mg qd/ritonavir 100 mg qd d 11–24 (pm) (simultaneous with efavirenz)	600 mg qd with a light snack d 11–24 (pm)	14	↑17% (8-27%)	↔	↓42% (31-51%)
Indinavir	1000 mg q8h x 10 days	600 mg qd x 10 days	20			

	After morning dose			$\leftrightarrow^b$	$\downarrow 33\%^b$ (26-39%)	$\downarrow 39\%^b$ (24-51%)
	After afternoon dose			$\leftrightarrow^b$	$\downarrow 37\%^b$ (26-46%)	$\downarrow 52\%^b$ (47-57%)
	After evening dose			$\downarrow 29\%^b$ (11-43%)	$\downarrow 46\%^b$ (37-54%)	$\downarrow 57\%^b$ (50-63%)
Lopinavir/ ritonavir	400/100 mg capsule q12h x 9 days	600 mg qd x 9 days	11,7 <sup>c</sup>	$\leftrightarrow^d$	$\downarrow 19\%^d$ ( $\downarrow 36\%$ - $\uparrow 3\%$ )	$\downarrow 39\%^d$ (3-62%)
	600/150 mg tablet q12h x 10 days with efavirenz compared to 400/100 mg q12h alone	600 mg qd x 9 days	23	$\uparrow 36\%^d$ (28-44%)	$\uparrow 36\%^d$ (28-44%)	$\uparrow 32\%^d$ (21-44%)
Nelfinavir	750 mg q8h x 7 days	600 mg qd x 7 days	10	$\uparrow 21\%$ (10-33%)	$\uparrow 20\%$ (8-34%)	$\leftrightarrow$
Metabolite AG-1402				$\downarrow 40\%$ (30-48%)	$\downarrow 37\%$ (25-48%)	$\downarrow 43\%$ (21-59%)
Ritonavir	500 mg q12h x 8 days	600 mg qd x 10 days	11			
	After AM dose			$\uparrow 24\%$ (12-38%)	$\uparrow 18\%$ (6-33%)	$\uparrow 42\%$ (9-86%) <sup>e</sup>

	After PM dose			↔	↔	↑24% (3-50%) <sup>e</sup>
Saquinavir SGC <sup>f</sup>	1200 mg q8h x 10 days	600 mg qd x 10 days	12	↓50% (28-66%)	↓62% (45-74%)	↓56% (16-77%) <sup>e</sup>
Lamivudine	150 mg q12h x 14 days	600 mg qd x 14 days	9	↔	↔	↑265% (37-873%)
Tenofovir <sup>g</sup>	300 mg qd	600 mg qd x 14 days	29	↔	↔	↔
Zidovudine	300 mg q12h x 14 days	600 mg qd x 14 days	9	↔	↔	↑225% (43-640%)
Maraviroc	100 mg bid	600 mg qd	12	↓51% (37-62%)	↓45% (38-51%)	↓45% (28-57%)
Azithromycin	600 mg single dose	400 mg qd x 7 days	14	↑22% (4-42%)	↔	NA
Clarithromycin	500 mg q12h x 7 days	400 mg qd x 7 days	11	↓26% (15-35%)	↓39% (30-46%)	↓53% (42-63%)
14-OH metabolite				↑49% (32-69%)	↑34% (18-53%)	↑26% (9-45%)
Fluconazole	200 mg x 7 days	400 mg qd x 7 days	10	↔	↔	↔
Itraconazole	200 mg q12h x 28 days	600 mg qd x 14 days	18	↓37% (20-51%)	↓39% (21-53%)	↓44% (27-58%)
Hydroxyitraconazole				↓35% (12-52%)	↓37% (14-55%)	↓43% (18-60%)
Posaconazole	400 mg (oral suspension) bid x 10 and 20 days	400 mg qd x 10 and 20 days	11	↓45% (34-53%)	↓50% (40-57%)	NA

Rifabutin	300 mg qd x 14 days	600 mg qd x 14 days	9	↓32% (15-46%)	↓38% (28-47%)	↓45% (31-56%)
Voriconazole	400 mg po q12h x 1 day, then 200 mg po q12h x 8 days	400 mg qd x 9 days	NA	↓61% <sup>h</sup>	↓77% <sup>h</sup>	NA
	300 mg po q12h days 2-7	300 mg qd x 7 days	NA	↓36% <sup>i</sup> (21-49%)	↓55% <sup>i</sup> (45-62%)	NA
	400 mg po q12h days 2-7	300 mg qd x 7 days	NA	↑23% <sup>i</sup> (↓1- ↑53%)	↓7% <sup>i</sup> (↓23-↑13%)	NA
Atorvastatin	10 mg qd x 4 days	600 mg qd x 15 days	14	↓14% (1-26%)	↓43% (34-50%)	↓69% (49-81%)
Total active (including metabolites)				↓15% (2-26%)	↓32% (21-41%)	↓48% (23-64%)
Pravastatin	40 mg qd x 4 days	600 mg qd x 15 days	13	↓32% (↓59- ↑12%)	↓44% (26-57%)	↓19% (0-35%)
Simvastatin	40 mg qd x 4 days	600 mg qd x 15 days	14	↓72% (63-79%)	↓68% (62-73%)	↓45% (20-62%)
Total active (including metabolites)				↓68% (55-78%)	↓60% (52-68%)	NA <sup>j</sup>
Carbamazepine	200 mg qd x 3 days, 200 mg bid x 3 days, then 400 mg qd x 29 days	600 mg qd x 14 days	12	↓20% (15-24%)	↓27% (20-33%)	↓35% (24-44%)

Epoxide metabolite				↔	↔	↓13% (↓30- ↑7%)
Cetirizine	10 mg single dose	600 mg qd x 10 days	11	↓24% (18-30%)	↔	NA
Diltiazem	240 mg x 21 days	600 mg qd x 14 days	13	↓60% (50-68%)	↓69% (55-79%)	↓63% (44- 75%)
Desacetyl Diltiazem				↓64% (57-69%)	↓75% (59-84%)	↓62% (44- 75%)
N- monodesmethyl diltiazem				↓28% (7-44%)	↓37% (17-52%)	↓37% (17- 52%)
Ethinyl estradiol/ Norgestimate	0.035 mg/ 0.25 mg x 14 days	600 mg qd x 14 days				
Ethinyl estradiol			21	↔	↔	↔
Norelgestromin			21	↓46% (39-52%)	↓64% (62-67%)	↓82% (79- 85%)
Levonorgestrel			6	↓80% (77-83%)	↓83% (79-87%)	↓86% (80- 90%)
Lorazepam	2 mg single dose	600 mg qd x 10 days	12	↑16% (2-32%)	↔	NA
Methadone	Stable maintenan	600 mg qd x 14-21	11	↓45% (25-59%)	↓52% (33-66%)	NA

	ce 35-100 mg daily	days				
Bupropion	150 mg single dose (sustained-release)	600 mg qd x 14 days	13	↓34% (21-47%)	↓55% (48-62%)	NA
Hydroxy-bupropion				↑50% (20-80%)	↔	NA
Paroxetine	20 mg qd x 14 days	600 mg qd x 14 days	16	↔	↔	↔
Sertraline	50 mg qd x 14 days	600 mg qd x 14 days	13	↓29% (15-40%)	↓39% (27-50%)	↓46% (31-58%)

↑ Indicates increase ↓ Indicates decrease ↔ Indicates no change or a mean increase or decrease of <10%.

<sup>a</sup> Compared with atazanavir 400 mg qd alone.

<sup>b</sup> Comparator dose of indinavir was 800 mg q8h x 10 days.

<sup>c</sup> Parallel-group design; n for efavirenz + lopinavir/ritonavir, n for lopinavir/ritonavir alone.

<sup>d</sup> Values are for lopinavir; the pharmacokinetics of ritonavir in this study were unaffected by concurrent efavirenz.

<sup>e</sup> 95% CI.

<sup>f</sup> Soft Gelatin Capsule.

<sup>g</sup> Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate.

<sup>h</sup> 90% CI not available.

<sup>i</sup> Relative to steady-state administration of voriconazole (400 mg for 1 day, then 200 mg po q12h for 2 days).

<sup>j</sup> Not available because of insufficient data.

NA = not available.

**Table 9: Effect of Coadministered Drug on Efavirenz Plasma C<sub>max</sub>, AUC, and C<sub>min</sub>**

				<b>Efavirenz (mean % change)</b>		
<b>Coadministered Drug</b>	<b>Dose</b>	<b>Efavirenz Dose</b>	<b>Number of Subjects</b>	<b>C<sub>max</sub> (90% CI)</b>	<b>AUC (90% CI)</b>	<b>C<sub>min</sub> (90% CI)</b>
Indinavir	800 mg q8h x 14 days	200 mg qd x 14 days	11	↔	↔	↔
Lopinavir/ritonavir	400/100 mg q12h x 9 days	600 mg qd x 9 days	11,12 <sup>a</sup>	↔	↓16% (↓38-↑15%)	↓16% (↓42-↑20%)
Nelfinavir	750 mg q8h x 7 days	600 mg qd x 7 days	10	↓12% (↓32-↑13%) <sup>b</sup>	↓12% (↓35-↑18%) <sup>b</sup>	↓21% (↓53-↑33%)
Ritonavir	500 mg	600 mg	9	↑14%	↑21%	↑25%



	q12h x 8 days	qd x 10 days		(4-26%)	(10-34%)	(7-46%) <sup>b</sup>
Saquinavir SGC <sup>c</sup>	1200 mg q8h x 10 days	600 mg qd x 10 days	13	↓13% (5-20%)	↓12% (4-19%)	↓14% (2-24%) <sup>b</sup>
Tenofovir <sup>d</sup>	300 mg qd	600 mg qd x 14 days	30	↔	↔	↔
Azithromycin	600 mg single dose	400 mg qd x 7 days	14	↔	↔	↔
Clarithromycin	500 mg q12h x 7 days	400 mg qd x 7 days	12	↑11% (3-19%)	↔	↔
Fluconazole	200 mg x 7 days	400 mg qd x 7 days	10	↔	↑16% (6-26%)	↑22% (5-41%)
Itraconazole	200 mg q12h x 14 days	600 mg qd x 28 days	16	↔	↔	↔
Rifabutin	300 mg qd x 14 days	600 mg qd x 14 days	11	↔	↔	↓12% (↓24-↑1%)
Rifampin	600 mg x 7 days	600 mg qd x 7 days	12	↓20% (11-28%)	↓26% (15-36%)	↓32% (15-46%)
Voriconazole	400 mg po q12h x 1 day, then 200 mg po q12h x 8 days	400 mg qd x 9 days	NA	↑38% <sup>e</sup>	↑44% <sup>e</sup>	NA
	300 mg po q12h days 2-7	300 mg qd x 7 days	NA	↓14% <sup>f</sup> (7-21%)	↔ <sup>f</sup>	NA
	400 mg po q12h days 2-7	300 mg qd x 7 days	NA	↔ <sup>f</sup>	↑17% <sup>f</sup> (6-29%)	NA
Atorvastatin	10 mg	600 mg	14	↔	↔	↔

	qd x 4 days	qd x 15 days				
Pravastatin	40 mg qd x 4 days	600 mg qd x 15 days	11	↔	↔	↔
Simvastatin	40 mg qd x 4 days	600 mg qd x 15 days	14	↓12% (↓28-↑8%)	↔	↓12% (↓25-↑3%)
Aluminum hydroxide 400 mg, magnesium hydroxide 400 mg, plus simethicone 40 mg	30 mL single dose	400 mg single dose	17	↔	↔	NA
Carbamazepine	200 mg qd x 3 days, 200 mg bid x 3 days, then 400 mg qd x 15 days	600 mg qd x 35 days	14	↓21% (15-26%)	↓36% (32-40%)	↓47% (41-53%)
Cetirizine	10 mg single dose	600 mg qd x 10 days	11	↔	↔	↔
Diltiazem	240 mg x 14 days	600 mg qd x 28 days	12	↑16% (6-26%)	↑11% (5-18%)	↑13% (1-26%)
Famotidine	40 mg single dose	400 mg single dose	17	↔	↔	NA
Paroxetine	20 mg qd x 14 days	600 mg qd x 14 days	12	↔	↔	↔
Sertraline	50 mg qd x 14 days	600 mg qd x 14 days	13	↑11% (6-16%)	↔	↔

↑ Indicates increase ↓ Indicates decrease ↔ Indicates no change or a mean increase or decrease of <10%.

<sup>a</sup> Parallel-group design; n for efavirenz + lopinavir/ritonavir, n for efavirenz alone.

<sup>b</sup> 95% CI.

<sup>c</sup> Soft Gelatin Capsule.

<sup>d</sup> Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate.

<sup>e</sup> 90% CI not available.

<sup>f</sup> Relative to steady-state administration of efavirenz (600 mg once daily for 9 days).

NA = not available.

## 12.4 Microbiology

### Mechanism of Action

Efavirenz (EFV) is an NNRTI of HIV-1. EFV activity is mediated predominantly by noncompetitive inhibition of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase (RT). HIV-2 RT and human cellular DNA polymerases  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ , and  $\delta$  are not inhibited by EFV.

### Antiviral Activity in Cell Culture

The concentration of EFV inhibiting replication of wild-type laboratory adapted strains and clinical isolates in cell culture by 90-95% (EC<sub>90-95</sub>) ranged from 1.7 to 25 nM in lymphoblastoid cell lines, peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs), and macrophage/ monocyte cultures. EFV demonstrated antiviral activity against clade B and most non-clade B isolates (subtypes A, AE, AG, C, D, F, G, J, N), but had reduced antiviral activity against group O viruses. EFV demonstrated additive antiviral activity without cytotoxicity against HIV-1 in cell culture when combined with the NNRTIs delavirdine (DLV) and nevirapine (NVP), NRTIs (abacavir, didanosine, emtricitabine, lamivudine [LAM], stavudine, tenofovir, zalcitabine, zidovudine [ZDV]), PIs (amprenavir, indinavir [IDV], lopinavir, nelfinavir, ritonavir, saquinavir), and the fusion inhibitor enfuvirtide. EFV demonstrated additive to antagonistic antiviral activity in cell culture with atazanavir. EFV was not antagonistic with adefovir, used for the treatment of hepatitis B virus infection, or ribavirin, used in combination with interferon for the treatment of hepatitis C virus infection.

### Resistance

#### *In cell culture*

In cell culture, HIV-1 isolates with reduced susceptibility to EFV (>380-fold increase in EC<sub>90</sub> value) emerged rapidly in the presence of drug. Genotypic characterization of these viruses identified single amino acid substitutions L100I or V179D, double substitutions L100I/V108I, and triple substitutions L100I/V179D/Y181C in RT.

#### *Clinical studies*

Clinical isolates with reduced susceptibility in cell culture to EFV have been obtained. One or more RT substitutions at amino acid positions 98, 100, 101, 103, 106, 108, 188, 190, 225, and 227 were observed in patients failing treatment with EFV in combination with IDV, or with ZDV plus LAM. The mutation K103N was the most frequently observed. Long-term resistance surveillance (average 52 weeks, range 4-106 weeks) analyzed 28 matching baseline and

virologic failure isolates. Sixty-one percent (17/28) of these failure isolates had decreased EFV susceptibility in cell culture with a median 88-fold change in EFV susceptibility ( $EC_{50}$  value) from reference. The most frequent NNRTI substitution to develop in these patient isolates was K103N (54%). Other NNRTI substitutions that developed included L100I (7%), K101E/Q/R (14%), V108I (11%), G190S/T/A (7%), P225H (18%), and M230I/L (11%).

### **Cross-Resistance**

Cross-resistance among NNRTIs has been observed. Clinical isolates previously characterized as EFV-resistant were also phenotypically resistant in cell culture to DLV and NVP compared to baseline. DLV- and/or NVP-resistant clinical viral isolates with NNRTI resistance-associated substitutions (A98G, L100I, K101E/P, K103N/S, V106A, Y181X, Y188X, G190X, P225H, F227L, or M230L) showed reduced susceptibility to EFV in cell culture. Greater than 90% of NNRTI-resistant clinical isolates tested in cell culture retained susceptibility to EFV.

## **13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY**

### **13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility**

#### **Carcinogenesis**

Long-term carcinogenicity studies in mice and rats were carried out with efavirenz. Mice were dosed with 0, 25, 75, 150, or 300 mg/kg/day for 2 years. Incidences of hepatocellular adenomas and carcinomas and pulmonary alveolar/bronchiolar adenomas were increased above background in females. No increases in tumor incidence above background were seen in males. There was no NOAEL in females established for this study because tumor findings occurred at all doses. AUC at the NOAEL (150 mg/kg) in the males was approximately 0.9 times that in humans at the recommended clinical dose. In the rat study, no increases in tumor incidence were observed at doses up to 100 mg/kg/day, for which AUCs were 0.1 (males) or 0.2 (females) times those in humans at the recommended clinical dose.

#### **Mutagenesis**

Efavirenz tested negative in a battery of *in vitro* and *in vivo* genotoxicity assays. These included bacterial mutation assays in *S. typhimurium* and *E. coli*, mammalian mutation assays in Chinese hamster ovary cells, chromosome aberration assays in human peripheral blood lymphocytes or Chinese hamster ovary cells, and an *in vivo* mouse bone marrow micronucleus assay.

#### **Impairment of Fertility**

Efavirenz did not impair mating or fertility of male or female rats, and did not affect sperm of treated male rats. The reproductive performance of offspring born to female rats given efavirenz was not affected. The AUCs at the NOAEL values in male (200 mg/kg) and female (100 mg/kg) rats were approximately  $\leq 0.15$  times that in humans at the recommended clinical dose.

### **13.2 Animal Toxicology**

Nonsustained convulsions were observed in 6 of 20 monkeys receiving efavirenz at doses yielding plasma AUC values 4- to 13-fold greater than those in humans given the recommended dose [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.9)*].

## 14 CLINICAL STUDIES

**Study 006**, a randomized, open-label trial, compared Efavirenz Capsule (600 mg once daily) + zidovudine (ZDV, 300 mg q12h) + lamivudine (LAM, 150 mg q12h) or Efavirenz Capsule (600 mg once daily) + indinavir (IDV, 1000 mg q8h) with indinavir (800 mg q8h) + zidovudine (300 mg q12h) + lamivudine (150 mg q12h). Twelve hundred sixty-six patients (mean age 36.5 years [range 18-81], 60% Caucasian, 83% male) were enrolled. All patients were efavirenz-, lamivudine-, NNRTI-, and PI-naive at study entry. The median baseline CD4+ cell count was 320cells/mm<sup>3</sup> and the median baseline HIV-1 RNA level was 4.8 log<sub>10</sub> copies/mL. Treatment outcomes with standard assay (assay limit 400 copies/mL) through 48 and 168 weeks are shown in Table 10. Plasma HIV RNA levels were quantified with standard (assay limit 400 copies/mL) and ultrasensitive (assay limit 50 copies/mL) versions of the AMPLICOR HIV-1 MONITOR assay. During the study, version 1.5 of the assay was introduced in Europe to enhance detection of non-clade B virus.

**Table 10: Outcomes of Randomized Treatment Through 48 and 168 Weeks, Study 006**

Outcome	Efavirenz Capsules + ZDV + LAM (n=422)		Efavirenz Capsules + IDV(n=429)		IDV + ZDV + LAM (n=415)	
	Week 48	Week 168	Week 48	Week 168	Week 48	Week 168
Responder <sup>a</sup>	69%	48%	57%	40%	50%	29%
Virologic failure <sup>b</sup>	6%	12%	15%	20%	13%	19%
Discontinued for adverse events	7%	8%	6%	8%	16%	20%
Discontinued for other reasons <sup>c</sup>	17%	31%	22%	32%	21%	32%
CD4+ cell count (cells/mm <sup>3</sup> )	(279)	(205)	(256)	(158)	(228)	(129)
Observed subjects (n)						
Mean change from baseline	190	329	191	319	180	329

<sup>a</sup> Patients achieved and maintained confirmed HIV-1 RNA <400 copies/mL through Week 48 or Week 168.

<sup>b</sup> Includes patients who rebounded, patients who were on study at Week 48 and failed to achieve confirmed HIV-1 RNA <400 copies/mL at time of discontinuation, and patients who discontinued due to lack of efficacy.

<sup>c</sup> Includes consent withdrawn, lost to follow-up, noncompliance, never treated, missing data, protocol violation, death, and other reasons. Patients with HIV-1 RNA levels <400 copies/mL who chose not to continue in the voluntary extension phases of the study were censored at date of last dose of study medication.

For patients treated with Efavirenz Capsules + zidovudine + lamivudine, Efavirenz Capsules + indinavir, or indinavir + zidovudine + lamivudine, the percentage of responders with HIV-1 RNA <50 copies/mL was 65%, 50%, and 45%, respectively, through 48 weeks, and 43%, 31%, and 23%, respectively, through 168 weeks. A Kaplan-Meier analysis of time to loss of virologic response (HIV RNA <400 copies/mL) suggests that both the trends of virologic response and differences in response continue through 4 years.

**ACTG 364** is a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, 48-week study in NRTI-experienced patients who had completed two prior ACTG studies. One-hundred ninety-six patients (mean age 41 years [range 18-76], 74% Caucasian, 88% male) received NRTIs in combination with Efavirenz Capsule (600 mg once daily), or nelfinavir (NFV, 750 mg three times daily), or Efavirenz Capsule (600 mg once daily) + nelfinavir in a randomized, double-blinded manner. The mean baseline CD4+ cell count was 389 cells/ mm<sup>3</sup> and mean baseline HIV-1 RNA level was 8130 copies/mL. Upon entry into the study, all patients were assigned a new open-label NRTI regimen, which was dependent on their previous NRTI treatment experience. There was no significant difference in the mean CD4+ cell count among treatment groups; the overall mean increase was approximately 100 cells at 48 weeks among patients who continued on study regimens. Treatment outcomes are shown in Table 11. Plasma HIV RNA levels were quantified with the AMPLICOR HIV-1 MONITOR assay using a lower limit of quantification of 500 copies/mL.

**Table 11: Outcomes of Randomized Treatment Through 48 Weeks, Study ACTG 364\***

Outcome	Efavirenz Capsules + NFV + NRTIs	Efavirenz Capsules + NRTIs	NFV + NRTIs
	(n=65)	(n=65)	(n=66)
HIV-1 RNA <500 copies/mL <sup>a</sup>	71%	63%	41%
HIV-1 RNA ≥500 copies/mL <sup>b</sup>	17%	34%	54%
CDC Category C Event	2%	0%	0%
Discontinuations for adverse events <sup>c</sup>	3%	3%	5%
Discontinuations for other reasons <sup>d</sup>	8%	0%	0%

\* For some patients, Week 56 data were used to confirm the status at Week 48.

<sup>a</sup> Subjects achieved virologic response (two consecutive viral loads <500 copies/mL) and maintained it through Week 48.

<sup>b</sup> Includes viral rebound and failure to achieve confirmed <500 copies/mL by Week 48.

<sup>c</sup> See *Adverse Reactions (6.1)* for a safety profile of these regimens.

<sup>d</sup> Includes loss to follow-up, consent withdrawn, noncompliance.

A Kaplan-Meier analysis of time to treatment failure through 72 weeks demonstrates a longer duration of virologic suppression (HIV RNA <500 copies/mL) in the Efavirenz Capsules-containing treatment arms.

## **16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING**

### **16.1 Capsules**

*Capsules 50 mg:* Gold (cap)/ White (body), size '4' hard gelatin capsule imprinted with 'M' on cap and '01' on body, filled with white to off-white granular powder.

Bottles of 30's Capsule NDC 42571-123-30

Bottles of 60's Capsule NDC 42571-123-60

Bottles of 90's Capsule NDC 42571-123-90

*Capsules 200 mg:* Gold (cap)/ Gold (body), size '0e1' hard gelatin capsule imprinted with 'M' on cap and '03' on body, filled with white to off-white granular powder.

Bottles of 30's Capsule NDC 42571-125-30

Bottles of 60's Capsule NDC 42571-125-60

Bottles of 90's Capsule NDC 42571-125-90

### **16.3 Storage**

Efavirenz Capsules USP should be stored at 25°C (77°F); excursions permitted to 15° - 30° C (59°-86°F) [See USP Controlled Room Temperature].

## **17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION**

See *FDA-approved patient labeling (Patient Information)*.

### **17.1 Drug Interactions**

A statement to patients and healthcare providers is included on the product's bottle labels: *ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with Efavirenz Capsules.*

Efavirenz Capsules may interact with some drugs; therefore, patients should be advised to report to their doctor the use of any other prescription, nonprescription medication, or herbal products, particularly St. John's wort.

### **17.2 General Information for Patients**

Patients should be informed that Efavirenz Capsules is not a cure for HIV-1 infection and that they may continue to experience illnesses associated with HIV-1 infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should remain under the care of a physician while taking Efavirenz Capsules. Patients should be told that the use of Efavirenz Capsules has not been

shown to reduce the risk of transmitting HIV-1 to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

### **17.3 Dosing Instructions**

Patients should be advised to take Efavirenz Capsules every day as prescribed. Efavirenz Capsules must always be used in combination with other antiretroviral drugs. Patients should be advised to take Efavirenz Capsules on an empty stomach, preferably at bedtime. Taking Efavirenz Capsules with food increases efavirenz concentrations and may increase the frequency of adverse reactions. Dosing at bedtime may improve the tolerability of nervous system symptoms [see *Dosage and Administration* (2) and *Adverse Reactions* (6.1)].

### **17.4 Nervous System Symptoms**

Patients should be informed that central nervous system symptoms (NSS) including dizziness, insomnia, impaired concentration, drowsiness, and abnormal dreams are commonly reported during the first weeks of therapy with Efavirenz Capsules [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.5)]. Dosing at bedtime may improve the tolerability of these symptoms, which are likely to improve with continued therapy. Patients should be alerted to the potential for additive effects when Efavirenz Capsules is used concomitantly with alcohol or psychoactive drugs. Patients should be instructed that if they experience NSS they should avoid potentially hazardous tasks such as driving or operating machinery.

### **17.5 Psychiatric Symptoms**

Patients should be informed that serious psychiatric symptoms including severe depression, suicide attempts, aggressive behavior, delusions, paranoia, and psychosis-like symptoms have been reported in patients receiving Efavirenz Capsules [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.4)]. If they experience severe psychiatric adverse experiences they should seek immediate medical evaluation. Patients should be advised to inform their physician of any history of mental illness or substance abuse.

### **17.6 Rash**

Patients should be informed that a common side effect is rash [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.7)]. Rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. However, since rash may be serious, patients should be advised to contact their physician promptly if rash occurs.

### **17.7 Reproductive Risk Potential**

Women receiving Efavirenz Capsules should be instructed to avoid pregnancy [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.6)]. A reliable form of barrier contraception should always be used in combination with other methods of contraception, including oral or other hormonal contraception. Because of the long half-life of efavirenz, use of adequate contraceptive measures for 12 weeks after discontinuation of Efavirenz Capsules is recommended. Women should be advised to notify their physician if they become pregnant or plan to become pregnant while



taking Efavirenz Capsules. If this drug is used during the first trimester of pregnancy, or if the patient becomes pregnant while taking this drug, she should be apprised of the potential harm to the fetus.

### **17.8 Fat Redistribution**

Patients should be informed that redistribution or accumulation of body fat may occur in patients receiving antiretroviral therapy and that the cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.12)*].

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Efavirenz Capsules made in India

**Revised: 12/2011**

### **Patient Information**

[efavirenz (eh-FAH-vih-rehnz)]

**capsules**

**ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with Efavirenz Capsules.**

Please also read the section "**MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH Efavirenz Capsules.**"

Read this information before you start taking Efavirenz Capsules. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. This leaflet provides a summary about Efavirenz Capsules and does not include everything there is to know about your medicine. This information is not meant to take the place of talking with your doctor.

## What is Efavirenz Capsules?

Efavirenz Capsule is a medicine used in combination with other medicines to help treat infection with Human Immunodeficiency Virus type 1 (HIV-1), the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). Efavirenz Capsule is a type of anti-HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI). NNRTIs are not used in the treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus type 2 (HIV-2) infection.

Efavirenz Capsules works by lowering the amount of HIV-1 in the blood (viral load). Efavirenz Capsules must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, Efavirenz Capsules has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4+ cells, a type of immune cell in blood. Efavirenz Capsules may not have these effects in every patient.

Efavirenz Capsules does not cure HIV or AIDS. People taking Efavirenz Capsules may still develop other infections and complications. Therefore, it is very important that you stay under the care of your doctor.

Efavirenz Capsules has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Therefore, continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

## What are the possible side effects of Efavirenz Capsules?

**Serious psychiatric problems.** A small number of patients experience severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior while taking Efavirenz Capsules. Some patients have thoughts of suicide and a few have actually committed suicide. These problems tend to occur more often in patients who have had mental illness. Contact your doctor right away if you think you are having these psychiatric symptoms, so your doctor can decide if you should continue to take Efavirenz Capsules.

**Common side effects.** Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams during treatment with Efavirenz Capsules. These side effects may be reduced if you take Efavirenz Capsules at bedtime on an empty stomach. They also tend to go away after you have taken the medicine for a few weeks. If you have these common side effects, such as dizziness, it does not mean that you will also have serious psychiatric problems, such as severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. Tell your doctor right away if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. It is possible that these symptoms may be more severe if Efavirenz Capsules is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs.

If you are dizzy, have trouble concentrating, or are drowsy, avoid activities that may be dangerous, such as driving or operating machinery.

Rash is common. Rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor right away. **Rash may be a**

**serious problem in some children.** Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking Efavirenz Capsules.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. Some patients taking Efavirenz Capsules have experienced increased levels of lipids (cholesterol and triglycerides) in the blood.

**Changes in body fat.** Changes in body fat develop in some patients taking anti-HIV medicine. These changes may include an increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), in the breasts, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these fat changes are not known.

**Liver problems.** Some patients taking Efavirenz Capsules have experienced serious liver problems including liver failure resulting in transplantation or death. Most of these serious side effects occurred in patients with a chronic liver disease such as hepatitis infection, but there have also been a few reports in patients without any existing liver disease.

Tell your doctor or healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking Efavirenz Capsules.

Contact your doctor before stopping Efavirenz Capsules because of side effects or for any other reason.

This is not a complete list of side effects possible with Efavirenz Capsules. Ask your doctor or pharmacist for a more complete list of side effects of Efavirenz Capsules and all the medicines you will take.

## **How should I take Efavirenz Capsules?**

### **General Information**

- You should take Efavirenz Capsules on an empty stomach, preferably at bedtime.
- Swallow Efavirenz Capsules with water.
- Taking Efavirenz Capsules with food increases the amount of medicine in your body, which may increase the frequency of side effects.
- Taking Efavirenz Capsules at bedtime may make some side effects less bothersome.
- Efavirenz Capsules must be taken in combination with other anti-HIV medicines. If you take only Efavirenz Capsules, the medicine may stop working.
- Do not miss a dose of Efavirenz Capsules. If you forget to take Efavirenz Capsules, take the missed dose right away, unless it is almost time for your next dose. Do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of Efavirenz Capsules your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- If you believe you took more than the prescribed amount of Efavirenz Capsules, contact your local Poison Control Center or emergency room right away.

- Tell your doctor if you start any new medicine or change how you take old ones. Your doses may need adjustment.
- When your Efavirenz Capsules supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to Efavirenz Capsules and become harder to treat.
- Your doctor may want to do blood tests to check for certain side effects while you take Efavirenz Capsules.

## Capsules

- The dose of Efavirenz Capsules for adults is 600 mg (three 200-mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of Efavirenz Capsules for children may be lower (see “**Can children take Efavirenz Capsules?**”).

## Can children take Efavirenz Capsules?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take Efavirenz Capsules. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child’s doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking Efavirenz Capsules. The dose of Efavirenz Capsules for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of Efavirenz Capsules are available. Your child’s doctor will determine the right dose based on your child’s weight.

## Who should not take Efavirenz Capsules?

**Do not take Efavirenz Capsules if you are allergic** to the active ingredient, efavirenz, or to any of the inactive ingredients. Your doctor and pharmacist have a list of the inactive ingredients.

## What should I avoid while taking Efavirenz Capsules?

- **Women should not become pregnant while taking Efavirenz Capsules and for 12 weeks after stopping it.** Serious birth defects have been seen in the offspring of animals and women treated with Efavirenz Capsules during pregnancy. It is not known whether Efavirenz Capsules caused these defects. **Tell your doctor right away if you are pregnant.** Also talk with your doctor if you want to become pregnant.
- Women should not rely only on hormone-based birth control, such as pills, injections, or implants, because Efavirenz Capsules may make these contraceptives ineffective. Women must use a reliable form of barrier contraception, such as a condom or diaphragm, even if they also use other methods of birth control. Efavirenz Capsules may remain in your blood for a time after therapy is stopped. Therefore, you should continue to use contraceptive measures for 12 weeks after you stop taking Efavirenz Capsules.
- **Do not breast-feed if you are taking Efavirenz Capsules.** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that mothers with HIV not breast-feed because they can pass the

HIV through their milk to the baby. Also, Efavirenz may pass through breast milk and cause serious harm to the baby. Talk with your doctor if you are breast-feeding. You may need to stop breast-feeding or use a different medicine.

- Taking Efavirenz Capsules with alcohol or other medicines causing similar side effects as Efavirenz Capsules, such as drowsiness, may increase those side effects.
- Do not take any other medicines without checking with your doctor. These medicines include prescription and nonprescription medicines and herbal products, especially St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*).

### **Before using Efavirenz Capsules, tell your doctor if you**

- **have problems with your liver or have hepatitis.** Your doctor may want to do tests to check your liver while you take Efavirenz Capsules or may switch to another medicine.
- **have ever had mental illness or are using drugs or alcohol.**
- **have ever had seizures or are taking medicine for seizures** [for example, Dilantin (phenytoin), Tegretol (carbamazepine), or phenobarbital]. Your doctor may want to switch you to another medicine or check drug levels in your blood from time to time.

### **What important information should I know about taking other medicines with Efavirenz Capsules?**

**Efavirenz Capsules may change the effect of other medicines, including ones for HIV, and cause serious side effects.** Your doctor may change your other medicines or change their doses. Other medicines, including herbal products, may affect Efavirenz Capsules. For this reason, **it is very important to:**

- let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take Efavirenz Capsules.
- tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your prescription and nonprescription medicines as well as any herbal remedies that you are taking when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

Taking Efavirenz Capsules with St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort is not recommended. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or are planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease Efavirenz Capsules levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to Efavirenz Capsules or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV drugs.

## **MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH Efavirenz Capsules**

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with Efavirenz Capsules. You should not take any of these medicines while taking Efavirenz Capsules:

- Vascor (bepridil)
- Propulsid (cisapride)
- Versed (midazolam)
- Orap (pimozide)
- Halcion (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine and Cafergot)

The following medicine should not be taken with Efavirenz Capsules since they contains efavirenz, the active ingredient in Efavirenz Capsules:

- ATRIPLA (efavirenz, emtricitabine, tenofovir disoproxil fumarate)

### **The following medicines may need to be replaced with another medicine when taken with Efavirenz Capsules:**

- Fortovase, Invirase (saquinavir)
- Biaxin (clarithromycin)
- Carbatrol, Tegretol (carbamazepine)
- Noxafil (posaconazole)
- Sporanox (itraconazole)
- REYATAZ (atazanavir sulfate), if this is not the first time you are receiving treatment for your HIV infection

### **The following medicines may require a change in the dose of either Efavirenz Capsules or the other medicine:**

- Calcium channel blockers such as Cardizem or Tiazac (diltiazem), Covera HS or Isoptin SR (verapamil), and others.
- The cholesterol-lowering medicines Lipitor (atorvastatin), PRAVACHOL (pravastatin sodium), and Zocor (simvastatin).
- Crixivan (indinavir)
- Kaletra (lopinavir/ritonavir)
- Methadone
- Mycobutin (rifabutin)
- REYATAZ (atazanavir sulfate). If you are taking Efavirenz Capsules and REYATAZ, you should also be taking Norvir (ritonavir).
- Rifadin (rifampin) or the rifampin-containing medicines Rifamate and Rifater.
- Selzentry (maraviroc)

- Vfend (voriconazole) and Efavirenz Capsules must not be taken together at standard doses. Some doses of voriconazole can be taken at the same time as a lower dose of Efavirenz Capsules, but you must check with your doctor first.
- Zoloft (sertraline)
- Wellbutrin, Wellbutrin SR, Wellbutrin XL, or Zyban (bupropion)
- The immunosuppressant medicines cyclosporine (Gengraf, Neoral, Sandimmune, and others), Prograf (tacrolimus), or Rapamune (sirolimus).

**These are not all the medicines that may cause problems if you take Efavirenz Capsules. Be sure to tell your doctor about all medicines that you take.**

#### **General advice about Efavirenz Capsules:**

**Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are not mentioned in patient information leaflets. Do not use Efavirenz Capsules for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give Efavirenz Capsules to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.**

Keep Efavirenz Capsules at room temperature (77° F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59° to 86° F.

Keep Efavirenz Capsules out of the reach of children.

This leaflet summarizes the most important information about Efavirenz Capsules. If you would like more information, talk with your doctor. You can ask your pharmacist or doctor for the full prescribing information about Efavirenz Capsules.

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