

Amprenavir

am-PREN-a-veer

Brand Name: Agenerase

Amprenavir, also known as Agenerase, belongs to the class of antiretroviral drugs called protease inhibitors (PIs). PIs act by blocking protease, a protein that HIV needs to make more copies of itself.

HIV/AIDS-Related Uses

Amprenavir was approved by the FDA on April 15, 1999, for use in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV-1 infection. This medicine does not cure or prevent HIV infection or AIDS and does not reduce the risk of passing the virus to other people.

On October 20, 2003, the FDA approved fosamprenavir (Lexiva), a prodrug of amprenavir. The body changes fosamprenavir into amprenavir. Because the body uses fosamprenavir more efficiently than amprenavir, patients can take fewer pills and still achieve the same results as with amprenavir.

Dosage Information

Amprenavir comes as soft gel capsules or as an oral solution. Both may be taken with or without food but should not be taken with high-fat foods. Because both forms contain vitamin E, patients who are taking either form of amprenavir should not take vitamin E supplements. Individuals who are taking the oral solution form should not drink alcohol.

Recommended Daily Dose

The recommended dose of amprenavir for adults is 1,200 mg (eight 150 mg capsules) twice a day. When given with ritonavir, the recommended dosages are amprenavir 1,200 mg with ritonavir 200 mg once a day or amprenavir 600 mg with ritonavir 100 mg twice a day. For adolescents age 13 to 16 years, the recommended dose of amprenavir is 1,200 mg (eight 150 mg capsules) twice a day. For children age 4 to 12 years or for adolescents age 13 to 16 years who weigh less than 110 lbs, the recommended dose depends on the patient's weight and should not exceed a daily dose of 2,400 mg.

The recommended dose of amprenavir may be different for patients taking amprenavir oral solution. Some patients may benefit from different

doses of amprenavir. Patients should always take amprenavir as prescribed by their doctors.

Contraindications

Patients should tell a doctor about any pre-existing conditions before taking this medicine. Children under 4 years old, pregnant women, patients with kidney or liver failure, or patients being treated with the drugs disulfiram or metronidazole should not take the oral solution form of amprenavir.

Possible Side Effects

Along with its desired effects, amprenavir can cause some serious unwanted effects, including severe rash. A doctor should be notified right away if a patient taking amprenavir develops a severe rash. Other serious side effects that should be reported to a doctor include changes in body fat, high cholesterol, increased bleeding in patients with hemophilia, high sugar levels in the blood, and onset or worsening of diabetes.

Other side effects may not be serious and may lessen or disappear with continued use of the medicine. Less serious side effects of this medicine include depression, diarrhea, mild skin rash, nausea, numbness of the hands or feet, numbness of the mouth or lips, stomach pain, unusual sense of taste, unusual tiredness, and vomiting.

Drug and Food Interactions

A doctor should be notified of any other medications being taken, including prescription, nonprescription (over-the-counter), or herbal medications.

Clinical Trials

For information on clinical trials that involve Amprenavir, visit the [ClinicalTrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov) web site at <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov>. In the Search box, enter: Amprenavir AND HIV Infections.

Amprenavir



Manufacturer Information

Amprenavir

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc
130 Waverly Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-4242
(617) 577-6000

Amprenavir

GlaxoSmithKline
5 Moore Drive
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
(888) 825-5249

Agenerase

GlaxoSmithKline
5 Moore Drive
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
(888) 825-5249

For More Information

Contact your doctor or an AIDSinfo Health Information Specialist:

- Via Phone: 1-800-448-0440 Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 5:00 p.m. ET
- Via Live Help: http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/live_help Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 4:00 p.m. ET