Table 15c. Antiretroviral-Therapy-Associated Adverse Effects and Management Recommendations—Gastrointestinal Effects  (Last updated May 22, 2018; last reviewed May 22, 2018)  (page 1 of 2)

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<th>Adverse Effects</th>
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<th>Onset/Clinical Manifestations</th>
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| Nausea/Vomiting | All ARVs, but most notably—  
NRTIs:  
• ddI and ZDV at a higher rate than others  
PIs:  
• Especially with RTV boosting (e.g., LPV/r, DRV/r) | Onset:  
• Early  
Presentation:  
• Nausea, emesis—may be associated with anorexia and/or abdominal pain | Varies with ARV agent; 10% to 30% in some series | Unknown | Instruct patient to take PIs with food.  
Monitor for weight loss, ARV adherence.  
**Do not use ddI, d4T, or NFV (individually or together) as part of an ARV regimen.** | Reassure patient that these adverse effects generally improve over time (usually 6–8 weeks).  
Supportive care.  
In extreme or persistent cases, use antiemetics or switch ARV regimen. |
| Diarrhea | PIs:  
• Particularly NFV, LPV/r, and DRV/r  
NRTIs:  
• ddI and d4T at a higher rate than 3TC or FTC | Onset:  
• Early  
Presentation:  
• Generally soft, more frequent stools | Varies with ARV agent; generally ≤15% (range 5% to 30%) | Unknown | Monitor for weight loss, dehydration.  
**Do not use ddI, d4T, or NFV (individually or together) as part of an ARV regimen.** | If prolonged or severe, exclude infectious or noninfectious (e.g., lactose intolerance) causes of diarrhea.  
Reassure patient that this adverse effect generally improves over time (usually 6–8 weeks). Consider switching ARV regimen in persistent and severe cases.  
Although treatment data in children are lacking, potentially useful modalities include:  
• Dietary modification  
• Bulk-forming agents (psyllium)  
• Antimotility agents (loperamide)  
• Crofelemer is FDA-approved for treatment of ART-associated diarrhea only in adults ≥18 years of age; no pediatric data available. |
Pancreatitis

More Common:
- ddI, d4T (especially if administered concurrently)

Rare:
- RTV-boosted PIs
- Other ARVs

Onset: Anytime, usually after months of therapy

Presentation:
- Emesis, abdominal pain, elevated amylase and lipase (asymptomatic hyperamylasemia or elevated lipase do not in and of themselves indicate pancreatitis)

<2% in recent series

Use of concomitant medications associated with pancreatitis (e.g., TMP-SMX, pentamidine, ribavirin)

Hypertriglyceridemia

Advanced disease

Previous episode of pancreatitis

Alcohol use

Do not use ddI or d4T (individually or together) as part of an ARV regimen.

Discontinue offending agent—avoid reintroduction.

Manage symptoms of acute episode.

If associated with hypertriglyceridemia, consider interventions to lower TG levels.

References


Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in Pediatric HIV Infection

Downloaded from https://aidsinfo.nih.gov/guidelines on 10/2/2018


