



## Kaletra® [kuh-LEE-tra] (lopinavir/ritonavir)



There are five classes of HIV medications (meds). They will not prevent or cure HIV. They limit how the virus makes copies of itself in your body. Kaletra is in the class of meds called *protease inhibitors* (PIs).

### Who Should Take Kaletra?

Babies one month and older and children can use Kaletra.

Adults of any age can use Kaletra.

Talk to your doctor if you take statins for high cholesterol.

### How Is Kaletra Taken?

- Kaletra comes as a pill or a liquid. You take Kaletra two times a day (every 12 hours)
- The liquid needs to be taken with food
- The pills can be taken with or without food. The pills must be swallowed whole. Do not chew or crush them.
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you can. If it is time for the next dose, just take one pill. Do not take two doses at one time.

- Be sure to see your doctor every 3 to 4 months. They will test how well your body responds to Kaletra.

If you also take the anti-HIV med Videx® (didanosine or ddl), take it either one hour before or two hours after you take Kaletra.

### Side Effects

It is common to have side effects when you start HIV treatment. Make sure your doctor knows about any allergies and side effects you have had to other meds. Your doctor may change the type and/or amount of your meds.

What are the common side effects of Kaletra?

- Loose or strange stools
- Feel sick to your stomach
- Headache
- Feel weak
- Stomach pain
- High cholesterol and other fats in the blood.
- Changes in how the body stores fat
- Skin rash

What are the severe and rare side effects of Kaletra?

- Heart problems. Call a doctor right away if you feel any of these symptoms:
  - Feel dizzy or lightheaded
  - Pass out
  - Feel your heartbeat in your stomach
- High blood sugar or diabetes

Take your HIV meds just how your doctor tells you. Do not miss any doses, even if you feel well. When the meds are in your body, it will help stop the HIV.

Bring all of your meds and any supplements to your doctor visits. A "Brown Bag Check-up" can also help your doctor keep your records up to date and help you get better quality care.

- Liver damage
  - yellow eyes or skin
  - loss of appetite
  - pale stools and dark-colored pee
- A swollen pancreas
  - feel sick to your stomach,
  - throw up
  - have stomach pain

Always talk to your doctor before you stop any treatment they prescribe for you.

### How Does Kaletra Mix with Other Meds?

You and your doctor should know all the kinds of meds you take. When you take two or more meds it can cause a bad *interaction*. This means that the drugs do not mix well. This can lead to harmful side effects and hurt your treatment.



Kaletra mixes poorly with some other meds.

Tell your doctor if you also take meds to treat:

- Acid reflux or heartburn
- Allergies
- Infections such as tuberculosis (TB) and Mycobacterium Aviumcomplex (MAC)
- Pneumocystis jiroveci (carinii) pneumonia
- High cholesterol
- Heartbeat problems
- Migraines
- Heroin withdrawal
- Psychosis
- Anxiety

- Problems with sex function
- Hard to pee
- Antibiotics
- Antidepressants (such as St. John's Wort)
- Fungus
- Pain
- Seizures
- Blood clots

Tell your doctors and pharmacists all the meds you take and your other HIV meds. This includes over-the-counter meds, vitamins and herbs.

#### **For more information**

Contact your Registered Nurse Care Manager, or call PHP Nurse Advice Line at: (800) 797-1717.

Visit the Medication Guide on the FDA website at: <http://www.fda.gov>

