



## Reyataz® [RAY-ah-taz] (atazanavir)



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. Reyataz belongs to the class of meds called *protease inhibitors* (PIs).

### Who Should Take Reyataz?

Any person who is six years of age or older can take Reyataz.

Reyataz plus Norvir® are best for people new to HIV treatment.

Before you start Reyataz, tell your doctor if you:

- Are pregnant or breastfeed your baby
- Have liver problems or Hepatitis C
- Have diabetes
- Take statins for high cholesterol

### How Is Reyataz Taken?

Reyataz is a pill that you take once a day.

It should be taken with water and food. Do not split, chew or open the pills.

Grapefruit juice may change how the drug is absorbed in your body. People should talk to their doctors before they drink grapefruit juice.

### 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 Reyataz?

- Mild rash
- Upset stomach
- Loose stool
- Headache
- Hands or feet are numb, tingle, or burn
- Hard to fall or stay asleep
- Depression

What are the severe and rare side effects of Reyataz?

- Severe rash - you should stop Reyataz if you get a severe rash with blisters in your mouth or fever
- Yellow skin or eyes – this may be caused by a build up of bile. Talk to your doctor if you see this.
- High blood sugar – this can lead to diabetes
- Some people may have gallbladder problems

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

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

## How Does Reyataz Mix with Other Meds?

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



Talk to your doctor if you take meds to treat:

- Acid reflux or heartburn
- Allergies
- Bacterial infections
- High cholesterol
- Asthma or lung disease
- Fungus
- Heart disease
- Heartbeat problems
- Blood clots
- Migraines
- Mental health problems
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Problems with sex function

Also, be careful if you take immune system suppressors and pain killers or other HIV meds.

The herb St. John's Wort should not be used with Reyataz.

Tell your doctors and pharmacist all the meds you take. This includes over-the-counter meds 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>

