

PRODUCT MONOGRAPH  
INCLUDING PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION

**PrTRIUMEQ**

dolutegravir, abacavir, and lamivudine tablets

50 mg dolutegravir (as dolutegravir sodium), 600 mg abacavir (as abacavir sulfate) and 300 mg lamivudine, oral

Antiretroviral Agent

ViiV Healthcare ULC  
245, boulevard Armand-Frappier  
Laval, Quebec  
H7V 4A7

Date of Initial Authorization:  
October 22, 2014

Date of Revision:  
November 22, 2021

Submission Control No: 245210

*©2021 ViiV Healthcare group of companies or its licensor  
Trademarks are owned by or licensed to the ViiV Healthcare group of companies*

## **RECENT MAJOR LABEL CHANGES**

4 Dosage and Administration, 4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment	11/2021
7 Warnings and Precautions	11/2021
7 Warnings and Precautions, 7.1.1 Pregnant Women	11/2021

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**Sections or subsections that are not applicable at the time of authorization are not listed.**

<b>RECENT MAJOR LABEL CHANGES .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1      INDICATIONS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1    Pediatrics .....	4
1.2    Geriatrics .....	4
<b>2      CONTRAINDICATIONS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3      SERIOUS WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS BOX.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4      DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION .....</b>	<b>5</b>
4.1    Dosing Considerations.....	5
4.2    Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment.....	5
4.5    Missed Dose .....	6
<b>5      OVERDOSAGE.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>6      DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>7      WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
7.1    Special Populations .....	12
7.1.1    Pregnant Women .....	12
7.1.2    Breast-feeding.....	14
7.1.3    Pediatrics .....	14
7.1.4    Geriatrics.....	14
<b>8      ADVERSE REACTIONS .....</b>	<b>15</b>
8.1    Adverse Reaction Overview.....	15
8.2    Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions.....	15
8.2.1    Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions – Pediatrics.....	16
8.3    Less Common Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions.....	17
8.4    Abnormal Laboratory Findings: Hematologic, Clinical Chemistry and Other Quantitative Data.....	17
8.5    Post-Market Adverse Reactions.....	19
<b>9      DRUG INTERACTIONS .....</b>	<b>20</b>
9.2    Drug Interactions Overview.....	20
9.4    Drug-Drug Interactions.....	23
9.5    Drug-Food Interactions .....	29
9.6    Drug-Herb Interactions.....	29
9.7    Drug-Laboratory Test Interactions.....	29
<b>10     CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY.....</b>	<b>29</b>

10.1	Mechanism of Action .....	29
10.2	Pharmacodynamics.....	30
10.3	Pharmacokinetics .....	30
<b>11</b>	<b>STORAGE, STABILITY AND DISPOSAL.....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS.....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION .....</b>		<b>36</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION.....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>CLINICAL TRIALS.....</b>	<b>38</b>
14.1	Clinical Trials.....	38
14.2	Comparative Bioavailability Studies.....	41
<b>15</b>	<b>MICROBIOLOGY.....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY .....</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION .....</b>		<b>50</b>

## PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

### 1 INDICATIONS

TRIUMEQ (dolutegravir, abacavir, and lamivudine) is indicated for the treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV-1) infection in adults and adolescents aged 12 years and older and weighing at least 40 kg.

#### 1.1 Pediatrics

##### **Pediatrics (<12 years of age and weighing less than 40 kg):**

No data are available to Health Canada; therefore, Health Canada has not authorized an indication for pediatric use <12 years of age and weighing less than 40 kg.

##### **Pediatrics ( $\geq 12$ to 18 years of age and weighing at least 40 kg):**

Based on the data submitted and reviewed by Health Canada, the safety and efficacy of TRIUMEQ in pediatric patients  $\geq 12$  to 18 years of age and weighing at least 40 kg has been established. Therefore, Health Canada has authorized an indication for pediatric use for  $\geq 12$  to 18 years of age and weighing at least 40 kg.

#### 1.2 Geriatrics

##### **Geriatrics ( $\geq 65$ years of age):**

Clinical studies of TRIUMEQ did not include sufficient numbers of patients aged 65 and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger patients.

### 2 CONTRAINDICATIONS

TRIUMEQ is contraindicated in patients:

- who are hypersensitive to this drug or to any ingredient in the formulation or component of the container. For a complete listing, see [6 DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING](#).
- who are positive for the HLA-B\*5701 allele and patients with a prior history of a hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir, or products containing abacavir, regardless of HLA-B\*5701 status. Fatal hypersensitivity reactions have been associated with rechallenge of abacavir (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS](#)).
- who are prescribed drugs with narrow therapeutic windows, that are substrates of organic cation transporter 2 (OCT2), including but not limited to dofetilide, or fampridine (also known as dalfampridine; see [9 DRUG INTERACTIONS](#)).

### 3 SERIOUS WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS BOX

#### Serious Warnings and Precautions

- **Fatal Hypersensitivity Reactions**

All patients should be screened for the HLA-B\*5701 allele prior to initiating or re-initiating treatment with TRIUMEQ. Patients who carry the HLA B\*5701 allele are at high risk for experiencing a hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir, a component of TRIUMEQ although, hypersensitivity reactions have occurred in patients who do not carry the HLA-B\*5701 allele. Serious and sometimes fatal hypersensitivity reactions have been associated with therapy with abacavir sulfate and other abacavir-containing products (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Hypersensitivity](#)).

- **Post Treatment Exacerbations of Hepatitis B**

Severe acute exacerbations of hepatitis B have been reported in patients who are co-infected with hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) and have discontinued lamivudine, one component of TRIUMEQ. Hepatic function should be monitored closely with both clinical and laboratory follow-up for at least several months in patients who discontinue TRIUMEQ. If appropriate, initiation of anti hepatitis B therapy may be warranted (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Hepatic/Biliary/Pancreatic](#)).

### 4 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

#### 4.1 Dosing Considerations

- TRIUMEQ can be taken with or without food.
- Perform pregnancy testing before initiation of TRIUMEQ in individuals of childbearing potential.

#### 4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment

##### **Adults and adolescents (≥12 years and weighing at least 40 kg)**

The recommended dose of TRIUMEQ is one tablet once daily. One tablet contains 50 mg of dolutegravir (as dolutegravir sodium), 600 mg abacavir (as abacavir sodium) and 300 mg of lamivudine.

##### **Pediatrics (<12 years)**

The safety and effectiveness of TRIUMEQ in pediatric patients <12 years of age and weighing less than 40 kg have not been established. TRIUMEQ is not recommended for treatment of children weighing less than 40 kg as the necessary dose adjustment cannot be made.

##### **Geriatrics (≥65 years of age)**

There are limited data available on the use of dolutegravir, abacavir and lamivudine (TRIUMEQ) in patients aged 65 years and older. In general, caution should be exercised in the administration of TRIUMEQ in elderly patients reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal or cardiac function and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy.

## **Dosage Adjustment**

The separate components of dolutegravir (TIVICAY), abacavir (ZIAGEN) and lamivudine (3TC) should be considered in cases where dose adjustment or discontinuation of an individual component is indicated.

TRIUMEQ is not recommended for patients requiring dosage adjustments, such as:

- patients with renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 30 mL/min) (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics, Special Populations and Conditions, Renal Insufficiency](#))
- patients with hepatic impairment (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics, Special Populations and Conditions, Hepatic Insufficiency](#))

## **Dosage Recommendation with Certain Concomitant Medications**

TRIUMEQ alone is insufficient for patients with integrase inhibitor resistance requiring dolutegravir 50 mg twice daily (see TIVICAY Product Monograph).

The dolutegravir dose (50 mg) in TRIUMEQ is insufficient when co-administered with medications listed in [Table 1](#) that may decrease dolutegravir concentrations: the following dolutegravir dosage regimen is recommended.

**Table 1 Dosing Recommendations for TRIUMEQ with Co-administered Medications**

Co-administered Drug	Dosing Recommendation
Efavirenz, etravirine*, fosamprenavir/ritonavir, tipranavir/ritonavir, oxcarbamazepine, carbamazepine, phenytoin, phenobarbital, St. John's wort or rifampin	Adjust dolutegravir dose to 50 mg twice daily. The additional 50-mg dose of dolutegravir should be taken, separated by 12 hours from TRIUMEQ

\*TRIUMEQ should only be used with etravirine when co-administered with atazanavir/ritonavir, darunavir/ritonavir or lopinavir/ritonavir in INI-resistant patients

## **4.5 Missed Dose**

If a dose is missed, patients should take the missed dose as soon as possible unless it is within 4 hours of their next scheduled dose. If a dose is skipped, the patient should not double the next dose.

## **5 OVERDOSAGE**

If overdosage occurs, the patient should be monitored, and standard supportive treatment applied as required.

Dolutegravir: As dolutegravir is highly bound to plasma proteins, it is unlikely that it will be significantly removed by dialysis.

There is currently limited experience with overdosage in dolutegravir. Limited experience of single higher doses (up to 250 mg in healthy subjects) revealed no specific symptoms or signs, apart from those listed as adverse reactions.

Abacavir: It is not known whether abacavir can be removed by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

Lamivudine: Since lamivudine is dialysable, continuous hemodialysis could be used in the treatment of overdose, although this has not been studied.

No specific symptoms or signs have been identified following acute overdose with abacavir or lamivudine, apart from those listed as adverse reactions.

For management of a suspected drug overdose, contact your regional poison control centre.

## 6 DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING

**Table 2 Dosage Forms, Strengths, Composition and Packaging**

Route of Administration	Dosage Form / Strength / Composition	Nonmedicinal Ingredients
oral	tablet/ 50 mg dolutegravir (as dolutegravir sodium), 600 mg abacavir (as abacavir sulfate) and 300 mg lamivudine	D-mannitol, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, povidone K29/32, and sodium starch glycolate. The tablet film-coating (OPADRY® II Purple 85F90057) contains the inactive ingredients iron oxide black, iron oxide red, macrogol/PEG, polyvinyl alcohol-part hydrolyzed, talc, and titanium dioxide.

Each TRIUMEQ tablet contains 50 mg of dolutegravir (as 52.6 mg dolutegravir sodium), 600 mg of abacavir (as 702 mg abacavir sulfate) and 300 mg lamivudine.

### Dosage Forms

TRIUMEQ tablets are purple, biconvex, oval, film-coated tablets, debossed with "572 Tri" on one side.

### Packaging

Supplied in 100 cc HDPE bottles containing 30 tablets and a silica gel desiccant.

## 7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Please see [3 SERIOUS WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS BOX](#).

### General

Patients prescribed TRIUMEQ or any other antiretroviral therapy may still develop opportunistic infections and other complications of HIV infection. Therefore, patients should remain under close clinical observation by physicians experienced in the treatment of these associated HIV diseases.

While effective viral suppression with antiretroviral therapy has been proven to substantially reduce the risk of sexual transmission, a residual risk cannot be excluded. Precautions to prevent transmission should be taken in accordance with national guidelines.

TRIUMEQ contains fixed doses of an INSTI (dolutegravir) and two nucleoside analogues (abacavir and lamivudine) and should not be administered concomitantly with other products containing abacavir or lamivudine (3TC, COMBIVIR, HEPTOVIR, KIVEXA or ZIAGEN) or

emtricitabine-containing products (ATRIPLA, COMPLERA, EMTRIVA, STRIBILD or TRUVADA).

### **Cardiovascular**

Several observational and epidemiological studies have reported an association with abacavir use and risk of myocardial infarction. Meta-analyses of randomised controlled trials have observed no excess risk of myocardial infarction with abacavir use. To date, there is no established biological mechanism to explain a potential increase in risk. Overall, the available data from observational studies and from controlled clinical trials show inconsistency and therefore the evidence for a causal relationship between abacavir treatment and the risk of myocardial infarction is inconclusive.

As a precaution, the underlying risk of coronary heart disease should be considered when prescribing antiretroviral therapies, including abacavir, and action taken to minimize all modifiable risk factors (e.g. hypertension, hyperlipidemia, diabetes mellitus and smoking).

### **Endocrine and Metabolism**

#### **Serum lipids and blood glucose**

Serum lipid and blood glucose levels may increase during antiretroviral therapy. Disease control and life style changes may also be contributing factors. Consideration should be given to the measurement of serum lipids and blood glucose. Lipid disorders and blood glucose elevations should be managed as clinically appropriate.

### **Hematologic**

Very rare occurrences of pure red cell aplasia have been reported with lamivudine use. Discontinuation of lamivudine has resulted in normalization of hematologic parameters in patients with suspected lamivudine induced pure red cell aplasia.

### **Hepatic/Biliary/Pancreatic**

#### **Hepatotoxicity**

Cases of hepatic toxicity including elevated serum liver biochemistries, hepatitis, and acute liver failure have been reported in patients receiving a dolutegravir-containing regimen who had no pre-existing hepatic disease or other identifiable risk factors. Drug-induced liver injury leading to liver transplant has been reported with TRIUMEQ. Monitoring for hepatotoxicity is recommended.

#### **Liver chemistry changes in patients with Hepatitis B or C co-infection**

Patients with underlying hepatitis B or C may be at increased risk for worsening or development of transaminase elevations with use of TRIUMEQ. Liver chemistry elevations consistent with immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome were observed in some hepatitis B and/or C co-infected patients at the start of dolutegravir therapy. Monitoring of liver chemistries is recommended in patients with hepatitis B and/or C co-infection. Particular diligence should be applied in initiating or maintaining effective hepatitis B therapy (referring to treatment guidelines) when starting dolutegravir-based therapy in hepatitis B co-infected patients (see [8.4 Abnormal Laboratory Findings: Hematologic, Clinical Chemistry and Other Quantitative Data](#)).

#### **Post-Treatment Exacerbations of Hepatitis B**

Clinical study and marketed use of lamivudine have shown that some patients with chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV) disease may experience clinical or laboratory evidence of recurrent hepatitis upon discontinuation of lamivudine, which may have more severe consequences in patients with decompensated liver disease. If TRIUMEQ is discontinued in patients coinfected

with HBV, periodic monitoring of both liver function tests and markers of HBV replication should be considered.

#### ***Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis***

Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside analogues alone or in combination, including abacavir and lamivudine and other antiretrovirals. A majority of these cases have been in women. Clinical features which may be indicative of the development of lactic acidosis include generalized weakness, anorexia and sudden unexplained weight loss, gastrointestinal symptoms and respiratory symptoms (dyspnea and tachypnea). Female sex and obesity may be risk factors. Caution should be exercised when administering TRIUMEQ or other nucleoside analogues, particularly to those with known risk factors for liver disease. However, cases have also been reported in patients with no known risk factors. Treatment with TRIUMEQ should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis with or without hepatitis, which may include hepatomegaly and steatosis even in the absence of marked transaminase elevations.

#### ***Pancreatitis***

Pancreatitis has been observed in some patients receiving nucleoside analogues, including abacavir and lamivudine. However, it is not clear whether these cases were due to drug treatment or to the underlying HIV disease. Pancreatitis must be considered whenever a patient develops abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting or elevated biochemical markers. Discontinue use of TRIUMEQ until diagnosis of pancreatitis is excluded (see [8.5 Post-Market Adverse Reactions](#)).

#### ***Hepatic Insufficiency***

TRIUMEQ is not recommended in patients with moderate to severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh grade B or C) (see [4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment](#) and [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)). If a dose reduction of abacavir, a component of TRIUMEQ, is required for patients with mild hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh grade A), then the separate preparations of dolutegravir, abacavir and lamivudine should be used.

#### ***Hypersensitivity***

Both abacavir and dolutegravir are associated with a risk for hypersensitivity reactions (HSR) and share some common features such as fever and/or rash with other symptoms indicating multi-organ involvement (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Clinical Description of HSRs](#)). Clinically it is not possible to determine whether a HSR with TRIUMEQ would be caused by abacavir or dolutegravir. Hypersensitivity reactions have been observed more commonly with abacavir, some of which have been life-threatening, and in rare cases fatal, when not managed appropriately. The risk for abacavir HSR to occur is high for patients who test positive for the HLA-B\*5701 allele. However, abacavir HSRs have been reported at a low frequency in patients who do not carry this allele.

#### ***Clinical Management***

**All patients should be screened for the HLA-B\*5701 allele prior to initiating or re-initiating treatment with TRIUMEQ.**

**Do not use TRIUMEQ in HLA-B\*5701-positive patients or in patients with a negative HLA-B\*5701 status who had a suspected abacavir HSR on a previous abacavir-containing regimen.**

HLA-B\*5701-negative patients may develop a hypersensitivity reaction to abacavir; however, this occurs significantly less frequently than in HLA-B\*5701-positive patients.

**Regardless of HLA-B\*5701 status, permanently discontinue TRIUMEQ if hypersensitivity cannot be ruled out, even when other diagnoses are possible** (e.g., acute onset respiratory diseases such as pneumonia, bronchitis, pharyngitis, influenza; gastroenteritis; or reactions to other medications).

Restarting abacavir-containing products following a suspected abacavir HSR can result in a prompt return of symptoms within hours. This recurrence is usually more severe than on initial presentation, and may include life-threatening hypotension and death.

**NEVER restart TRIUMEQ or any other abacavir- or dolutegravir-containing product in patients who have stopped therapy with TRIUMEQ due to a hypersensitivity reaction.** When therapy with TRIUMEQ has been discontinued for reasons other than symptoms of a hypersensitivity reaction, and if reinitiation of TRIUMEQ or any other abacavir- or dolutegravir-containing product is under consideration, carefully evaluate the reason for discontinuation of TRIUMEQ to ensure that the patient did not have symptoms of a hypersensitivity reaction.

#### **Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN)**

Suspected Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) (primarily in combination with medications known to be associated with SJS and TEN, respectively). Because of the overlap of the clinical signs and symptoms between hypersensitivity to abacavir, SJS and TEN and the possibility of multiple drug sensitivities in some patients, abacavir should be discontinued and not restarted in such cases.

If hypersensitivity cannot be ruled out, **DO NOT** reintroduce TRIUMEQ or any other abacavir- or dolutegravir-containing product.

If symptoms consistent with abacavir or dolutegravir hypersensitivity are not identified, reintroduction can be undertaken with continued monitoring for symptoms of a hypersensitivity reaction. Make patients aware that a hypersensitivity reaction can occur with reintroduction of TRIUMEQ or any other abacavir- or dolutegravir-containing product. Reintroduction should be attempted only if the potential benefit outweighs the risk and if medical care can be readily accessed by the patient or others in case an adverse reaction occurs.

#### **Clinical Description of HSRs**

Hypersensitivity reactions have been reported in <1% of patients treated with dolutegravir in clinical studies, and were characterized by rash, constitutional findings, and sometimes, organ dysfunction, including severe liver reactions.

Abacavir HSR has been well characterized through clinical studies and during post marketing follow-up. Symptoms usually appeared within the first six weeks (median time to onset 11 days) of initiation of treatment with abacavir, **although these reactions may occur at any time during therapy.**

Almost all HSRs to abacavir will include fever and/or rash. Other signs and symptoms that have been observed as part of abacavir HSR may include, respiratory signs and symptoms (including, but not limited to, pharyngitis, dyspnea or cough), and gastrointestinal symptoms (including, but not limited to, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or abdominal pain). Importantly, such symptoms **may lead to misdiagnosis of HSR as respiratory disease (pneumonia,**

**bronchitis, pharyngitis), or gastroenteritis.** Other frequently observed signs or symptoms of HSR may include, but are not limited to, generalized malaise, fatigue or achiness. The symptoms related to this HSR worsen with continued therapy and **can be life-threatening**. These symptoms usually resolve upon discontinuation of the abacavir-containing product.

A warning card with information for the patient about this hypersensitivity reaction is included as part of the TRIUMEQ outer pack label (see a copy of this card on the last page of this Product Monograph).

### Detailed Description of Abacavir Hypersensitivity Adverse Reactions

#### Abacavir hypersensitivity

The signs and symptoms of abacavir hypersensitivity reaction are listed below. These have been identified either from clinical studies or post marketing surveillance. Those reported in at least 10% of patients with a hypersensitivity reaction are in **bold** text.

As described in [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS](#), almost all patients developing hypersensitivity reactions will have fever and/or rash (usually maculopapular or urticarial) as part of the syndrome, however, reactions have occurred without rash or fever. Other key symptoms include gastrointestinal, respiratory or constitutional symptoms such as lethargy and malaise.

Skin:	<b>Rash</b> (usually maculopapular or urticarial)
Gastrointestinal tract:	<b>Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain</b> , mouth ulceration
Respiratory tract:	<b>Dyspnea, cough</b> , sore throat, adult respiratory distress syndrome, respiratory failure
Miscellaneous:	<b>Fever, fatigue, malaise</b> , edema, lymphadenopathy, hypotension, conjunctivitis, anaphylaxis
Neurological/Psychiatry:	<b>Headache</b> , paraesthesia
Hematological:	Lymphopenia
Liver/pancreas:	<b>Elevated liver function tests</b> , hepatic failure
Musculoskeletal:	<b>Myalgia</b> , rarely myolysis, arthralgia, elevated creatine phosphokinase
Urology:	Elevated creatinine, renal failure

Restarting abacavir following an abacavir HSR results in a prompt return of symptoms within hours. This recurrence of the HSR is usually more severe than on initial presentation, and may include life-threatening hypotension and death. Reactions have also occurred infrequently after restarting abacavir in patients who had only one of the key symptoms of hypersensitivity (see above) prior to stopping abacavir; and on very rare occasions have also been seen in patients who have restarted therapy with no preceding symptoms of a HSR (i.e., patients previously considered to be abacavir tolerant).

For details of clinical management in the event of a suspected abacavir HSR (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Hypersensitivity, Clinical Management](#)).

#### Immune

#### **Immune Reconstitution Inflammatory Syndrome (IRIS)**

During the initial phase of treatment, patients responding to antiretroviral therapy may develop an inflammatory response to indolent or residual opportunistic infections [such as

*Mycobacterium avium-complex* (MAC), cytomegalovirus (CMV), *Pneumocystis jirovecii* pneumonia (PCP), and *tuberculosis* (TB)], which may necessitate further evaluation and treatment.

Autoimmune disorders (such as Graves' disease, polymyositis, autoimmune hepatitis and Guillain-Barre syndrome) have also been reported to occur in the setting of immune reconstitution; however, the time to onset is more variable, and can occur many months after initiation of treatment and sometimes can be an atypical presentation.

### **Renal Insufficiency**

TRIUMEQ is not recommended for use in patients with a creatinine clearance < 30 mL/min as TRIUMEQ is a fixed-dose combination and the dosage of the individual components cannot be adjusted. If patients require a dose reduction due to renal impairment, separate preparations of dolutegravir, abacavir and lamivudine should be administered (see [4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment](#) and [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

### **Patients with renal impairment (creatinine clearance 30 – 49 mL/min)**

Patients with a creatinine clearance between 30 and 49 mL/min receiving TRIUMEQ may experience a 1.6- to 3.3-fold higher lamivudine exposure (AUC) than patients with a creatinine clearance ≥50 mL/min. There are no safety data from randomized, controlled trials comparing TRIUMEQ to the individual components in patients with a creatinine clearance between 30 and 49 mL/min who received dose-adjusted lamivudine. In the original lamivudine registrational trials in combination with zidovudine, higher lamivudine exposures were associated with higher rates of hematologic toxicities (neutropenia and anemia), although discontinuations due to neutropenia or anemia each occurred in <1% of subjects. Patients with a sustained creatinine clearance between 30 and 49 mL/min who receive TRIUMEQ should be monitored for hematologic toxicities. If new or worsening neutropenia or anemia develop, dose adjustment of lamivudine, per lamivudine prescribing information, is recommended. If lamivudine dose adjustment is indicated, TRIUMEQ should be discontinued and the individual components should be used to construct the treatment regimen.

## **7.1 Special Populations**

### **7.1.1 Pregnant Women**

TRIUMEQ has not been studied in pregnant women. TRIUMEQ should not be used in pregnant women unless the potential benefits outweigh the potential risk to the fetus (see [16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY](#)). Women of childbearing potential (WOCBP) should be informed about the potential risk of neural tube defects with dolutegravir and counselled about the use of effective contraception. It is recommended that pregnancy testing is conducted prior to initiation of TRIUMEQ. If there are plans to become pregnant or if pregnancy is confirmed within the first trimester while on TRIUMEQ, the risks and benefits of continuing TRIUMEQ versus switching to another antiretroviral regimen should be discussed with the patient. Factors to consider should include feasibility of switching tolerability, ability to maintain viral suppression, actual gestational age, risk of transmission to the infant and the available data around the potential risk of neural tube defects and other pregnancy outcomes for dolutegravir and alternative antiretroviral drugs.

In a birth outcome surveillance study in Botswana, a numerically higher rate of neural tube defects was identified with exposure to dolutegravir compared to non-dolutegravir-containing antiretroviral regimens at the time of conception, however, the difference was not statistically significant. Seven cases of neural tube defects were reported in 3,591 deliveries (0.19%)

mothers taking dolutegravir-containing regimens from the time of conception, compared with 21 cases in 19,361 deliveries (0.11%) to mothers taking non-dolutegravir-containing regimens at the time of conception (Prevalence Difference 0.09%; 95% CI -0.03, 0.30). In the same study, an increased risk of neural tube defects was not identified in women who started dolutegravir during pregnancy. Two out of 4,448 deliveries (0.04%) to mothers who started dolutegravir during pregnancy had a neural tube defect, compared with five out of 6,748 deliveries (0.07%) to mothers who started non dolutegravir-containing regimens during pregnancy. A causal relationship of these events to the use of dolutegravir has not been established. The incidence of neural tube defects in the general population ranges from 0.5-1 case per 1,000 live births. As most neural tube defects occur within the first 4 weeks of fetal development (approximately 6 weeks after the last menstrual period) this potential risk would concern women exposed to dolutegravir at the time of conception and in early pregnancy.

Data analyzed to date from other sources including the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry, clinical trials, and post-marketing data are insufficient to address the risk of neural tube defects with dolutegravir.

More than 1,000 outcomes from second and third trimester exposure in pregnant women indicate no evidence of increased risk of adverse birth outcomes.

Dolutegravir, abacavir and lamivudine use during pregnancy have been evaluated in the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry (APR) in over 700, 2,600 and 12,800 women, respectively. Available human data from the APR do not show an increased risk of major birth defects for dolutegravir, abacavir or lamivudine compared to the background rate.

Based on prospective reports to the APR of over 700 exposures to dolutegravir during pregnancy resulting in live births (including over 450 exposed in the first trimester), there was no difference between the overall risk of birth defects for dolutegravir when compared to the background birth defect rate of 2.7% and 4.17% from two population based surveillance systems (Metropolitan Atlanta Congenital Defects Program (MACDP) with defects of 2.72 per 100 live births and the Texas Birth Defects Registry (TBDR) with 4.17 per 100 live births). The prevalence of defects in live births was 3.5% (95% CI: 2.0% to 5.6%) following first trimester exposure to dolutegravir-containing regimens and 4.2% (95% CI: 2.2% to 7.2%) following second/third trimester exposure to dolutegravir-containing regimens.

Based on prospective reports to the APR of over 2600 exposures to abacavir during pregnancy resulting in live births (including over 1300 exposed in the first trimester), there was no difference between the overall risk of birth defects for abacavir when compared to the background birth defect rate of 2.7% and 4.17% from the MACPD and TBDR, respectively. The prevalence of defects in live births was 3.2% (95% CI: 2.3% to 4.3%) following first trimester exposure to abacavir-containing regimens and 2.9% (95% CI: 2.1% to 4.0%) following second/third trimester exposure to abacavir-containing regimens.

Based on prospective reports to the APR of over 12,800 exposures to lamivudine during pregnancy resulting in live births (including over 5300 exposed in the first trimester), there was no difference between the overall risk of birth defects for lamivudine when compared to the background birth defect rate of 2.7% and 4.17% from the MACPD and TBDR, respectively. The prevalence of defects in live births was 3.1% (95% CI: 2.7% to 3.6%) following first trimester exposure to lamivudine-containing regimens and 2.9% (95% CI: 2.5% to 3.3%) following second/third trimester exposure to lamivudine-containing regimens.

In reproductive toxicity studies in animals, dolutegravir was shown to cross the placenta and no evidence of impaired fertility or harm to the fetus, including neural tube defects, was identified. Lamivudine and abacavir were associated with findings in animal reproductive toxicity studies (see [16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY](#)).

There have also been very rare reports of developmental delay, seizures and other neurological disease. However, a causal relationship between these events and NRTI exposure *in utero* or peri-partum has not been established. These findings do not affect current recommendations to use antiretroviral therapy in pregnant women to prevent vertical transmission of HIV.

There have been reports of mild, transient elevations in serum lactate levels, which may be due to mitochondrial dysfunction, in neonates and infants exposed *in utero* or peri-partum to nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs). The clinical relevance of transient elevations in serum lactate is unknown.

### **Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry**

To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to ART (antiretroviral therapy), including TRIUMEQ, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Healthcare providers are encouraged to register patients:

<http://www.apregistry.com>

Telephone: (800) 258-4263

Fax: (800) 800-1052

#### **7.1.2 Breast-feeding**

**HIV-1 infected mothers should not breastfeed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV.**

It is expected that dolutegravir will be excreted into human milk based on animal data, although this has not been confirmed in humans. Lamivudine is excreted in human milk at similar concentrations to those found in serum. Abacavir is also excreted in human breast milk at similar concentrations as plasma levels. Because of both the potential for HIV transmission and the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants, mothers should be instructed not to breastfeed if they are receiving TRIUMEQ.

#### **7.1.3 Pediatrics**

##### **Pediatrics (<12 years of age):**

TRIUMEQ is not recommended in pediatric patients weighing less than 40 kg as the necessary dose adjustment cannot be made. The safety and effectiveness of TRIUMEQ in pediatric patients <12 years of age and weighing less than 40 kg has not been established.

#### **7.1.4 Geriatrics**

##### **Geriatrics (≥ 65 years of age):**

Clinical studies of TRIUMEQ did not include sufficient numbers of patients aged 65 and older to determine whether they respond differently from younger patients. In general, caution should be exercised in the administration and monitoring of TRIUMEQ in elderly patients, reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal or cardiac function and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy.

## **8 ADVERSE REACTIONS**

### **8.1 Adverse Reaction Overview**

The following adverse reactions are discussed in the [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS](#) section:

- Serious and sometimes fatal hypersensitivity reaction
- Serum lipids and blood glucose
- Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly
- Effects on serum liver biochemistries in patients with hepatitis B or C co-infection
- Post-treatment exacerbations of hepatitis
- Myocardial infarction

### **8.2 Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions**

Because clinical trials are conducted under very specific conditions, the adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials may not reflect the rates observed in practice and should not be compared to the rates in the clinical trials of another drug. Adverse reaction information from clinical trials is useful for identifying drug-related adverse events and for approximating rates.

In addition to the events reported here, please consult the TIVICAY and KIVEXA Product Monographs.

#### **Treatment-Emergent Adverse Drug Reaction**

##### **Treatment-Naïve Patients**

The safety assessment of TRIUMEQ is primarily based on the analyses of 48-and 96-week data from a randomized, international, multicentre, double-blind, active-controlled study SINGLE (ING114467); and supported by 96 week data in treatment-naïve subjects from SPRING-2 (ING113086) and 48 week data in FLAMINGO (ING114915).

In SINGLE, 833 treatment-naïve patients received at least one dose of either dolutegravir (TIVICAY) 50 mg with fixed-dose abacavir and lamivudine (KIVEXA) once daily (N = 414) or fixed-dose efavirenz/emtricitabine/tenofovir (ATRIPLA) once daily (N = 419). Through 96 weeks, the rates of adverse events leading to discontinuation were 3% in subjects receiving TIVICAY + KIVEXA and 12% in subjects receiving ATRIPLA once daily.

In SPRING-2, 411 patients received TIVICAY 50 mg once daily versus 411 who received raltegravir 400 mg twice daily, both in combination with investigator-selected nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NRTI) background regimen (either KIVEXA or TRUVADA). Of these patients, 169 in the group receiving TIVICAY and 164 in the group receiving raltegravir were receiving KIVEXA as the background regimen. Through 96 weeks, the rate of adverse events leading to discontinuation in these patients was 3% in patients receiving TIVICAY and 2% in patients receiving raltegravir.

In FLAMINGO, 242 patients received TIVICAY 50 mg once daily versus 242 patients who received darunavir 800 mg/ritonavir 100 mg once daily, both in combination with investigator-selected NRTI background regimen (either KIVEXA or TRUVADA). Of these patients, 33% in each group received KIVEXA as the background regimen. Through 48 weeks, the rate of adverse events leading to discontinuation in these patients was 4% in each group.

Treatment-emergent adverse reactions in SINGLE of moderate to severe intensity with a ≥2%

frequency in either treatment are provided in [Table 3](#).

**Table 3 Treatment-Emergent Adverse Drug Reactions of at Least Moderate Intensity (Grades 2 to 4) and ≥2% Frequency in Treatment-Naive Subjects in SINGLE**

Body System/ Preferred Term	48 Week Analysis		96 Week Analysis	
	TIVICAY + KIVEXA QD (N = 414)	ATRIPLA QD (N = 419)	TIVICAY + KIVEXA QD (N = 414)	ATRIPLA QD (N = 419)
<b>Psychiatric</b>				
Insomnia	13 (3%)	9 (2%)	14 (3%)	10 (2%)
Depression	4 (<1%)	5 (1%)	5 (1%)	9 (2%)
Abnormal dreams	2 (<1%)	8 (2%)	3 (<1%)	8 (2%)
<b>Nervous System</b>				
Dizziness	2 (<1%)	19 (5%)	2 (<1%)	21 (5%)
Headache	7 (2%)	9 (2%)	8 (2%)	9 (2%)
<b>Gastrointestinal</b>				
Nausea	3 (<1%)	12 (3%)	3 (<1%)	12 (3%)
Diarrhea	4 (<1%)	7 (2%)	3 (<1%)	7 (2%)
<b>General Disorders</b>				
Fatigue	6 (1%)	5 (1%)	7 (2%)	7 (2%)
<b>Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue</b>				
Rash	1 (<1%)	14 (3%)	1 (<1%)	14 (3%)
<b>Ear and Labyrinth</b>				
Vertigo	0	7 (2%)	0 (0%)	7 (2%)

The adverse drug reactions observed in the subset of patients who received TIVICAY + KIVEXA in SPRING-2 and FLAMINGO were generally consistent with observations in SINGLE.

The adverse drug reactions and laboratory abnormalities observed at 144 weeks in SINGLE were generally consistent with those seen at 48 and 96 weeks.

### 8.2.1 Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions – Pediatrics

#### *Abacavir and Lamivudine*

The safety of once-daily compared with twice-daily dosing of abacavir and lamivudine, administered as either single products or as KIVEXA, was assessed in the ARROW trial (n = 336). Primary safety assessment in the ARROW (COL105677) trial was based on Grade 3 and Grade 4 adverse events. One event of Grade 4 hepatitis in the once-daily cohort was considered as uncertain causality by the investigator and all other Grade 3 or 4 adverse events were considered not related by the investigator. No additional safety issues were identified in pediatric subjects compared with historical data in adults.

### *Dolutegravir*

IMPAACT P1093 is a 48-week multicenter, open-label, non-comparative trial of approximately 160 HIV-1-infected pediatric subjects aged 4 weeks to less than 18 years, of which, 23 treatment-experienced, INSTI-naïve subjects aged 12 to less than 18 years were enrolled.

The ADR profile was similar to that for adults. Grade 2 ADRs reported by more than one subject were decreased neutrophil count (n = 2). No Grade 3 or 4 ADRs were reported. No ADRs led to discontinuation. The Grade 3 laboratory abnormalities reported in 1 subject each were elevated total bilirubin, elevated lipase, and decreased white blood cell count. There was one Grade 4 decreased neutrophil count. The changes in mean serum creatinine were similar to those observed in adults.

### **8.3 Less Common Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions**

The following treatment-emergent adverse reactions occurred in <2% of treatment-naïve or treatment-experienced adult subjects in any one trial. These events have been included because of their seriousness and/or assessment of potential causal relationship.

**Gastrointestinal Disorders:** Abdominal pain, abdominal distention, abdominal discomfort, dyspepsia, flatulence, gastro-oesophageal reflux disease, upper abdominal pain, vomiting

**General Disorders:** Fever, lethargy

**Hepatobiliary Disorders:** Hepatitis

**Immune System Disorders:** Hypersensitivity, immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome

**Metabolism and Nutrition Disorders:** Anorexia, hypertriglyceridemia

**Musculoskeletal and Connective Tissue Disorders:** Arthralgia, myalgia, myositis

**Nervous Systems Disorders:** Somnolence

**Psychiatric:** Nightmare, sleep disorder, depression, suicidal ideation or suicide attempt (particularly in patients with a pre-existing history of depression or psychiatric illness)

**Renal and Urinary Disorders:** Renal impairment

**Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue Disorders:** Pruritus

### **8.4 Abnormal Laboratory Findings: Hematologic, Clinical Chemistry and Other Quantitative Data**

#### **Treatment-Naïve Patients**

Selected laboratory abnormalities (Grades 2 to 4) with a worsening grade from baseline and representing the worst-grade toxicity in ≥2% of subjects in SINGLE are presented in [Table 4](#).

**Table 4 Selected Laboratory Abnormalities (Grades 2 to 4) in Treatment-Naive Subjects in SINGLE**

Laboratory Parameter Preferred Term (Unit)	48 Week		96 Week	
	TIVICAY 50 mg + KIVEXA QD (N = 414)	ATRIPLA QD (N = 419)	TIVICAY 50 mg + KIVEXA QD (N = 414)	ATRIPLA QD (N = 419)
ALT (IU/L)				
Grade 2 (>2.5-5.0 x ULN)	9 (2%)	20 (5%)	10 (2%)	22 (5%)
Grade 3 to 4 (>5.0 x ULN)	1 (<1%)	2 (<1%)	2 (<1%)	2 (<1%)
AST (IU/L)				
Grade 2 (>2.5-5.0 x ULN)	7 (2%)	13 (3%)	12 (3%)	13 (3%)
Grade 3 to 4 (>5.0 x ULN)	0 (0%)	10 (2%)	1 (1%)	11 (3%)
Creatine kinase (IU/L)				
Grade 2 (6.0-9.9 x ULN)	15 (4%)	7 (2%)	16 (4%)	7 (2%)
Grade 3 to 4 ( $\geq$ 10.0 x ULN)	11 (3%)	19 (5%)	21 (5%)	28 (7%)
Hyperglycemia (mmol/L)				
Grade 2 (6.95-13.88 mmol/L)	28 (7%)	19 (5%)	30 (7%)	21 (5%)
Grade 3 to 4 (>13.88 mmol/L)	6 (1%)	1 (<1%)	8 (2%)	2 (<1%)
Lipase (U/L)				
Grade 2 (>1.5-3.0 x ULN)	33 (8%)	30 (7%)	39 (9%)	40 (10%)
Grade 3 to 4 (>3.0 ULN)	11 (3%)	8 (2%)	16 (4%)	13 (3%)
Phosphorus, inorganic (mmol/L)				
Grade 2 (0.65-0.80 mmol/L)	37 (9%)	52 (12%)	49 (12%)	70 (17%)
Grade 3 to 4 (<0.65mmol/L)	5 (1%)	12 (3%)	5 (1%)	12 (3%)
Total neutrophils ( $10^3/\mu\text{L}$ )				
Grade 2 (0.75-0.99 $\times 10^9$ )	10 (2%)	15 (4%)	12 (3%)	21 (5%)
Grade 3 to 4 ( $<0.75 \times 10^9$ )	7 (2%)	12 (3%)	10 (2%)	14 (3%)

ULN = Upper limit of normal.

The mean change from baseline observed for selected lipid values from SINGLE is presented in [Table 5](#).

**Table 5 Mean Change From Baseline in Fasted Lipid Values in Treatment-Naive Patients in SINGLE**

Laboratory Parameter Preferred Term (unit)	48 Weeks*		96 Weeks	
	TIVICAY 50 mg + KIVEXA QD (N = 414)	ATRIPLA QD (N = 419)	TIVICAY 50 mg + KIVEXA QD (N = 414)	ATRIPLA QD (N = 419)
Cholesterol (mmol/L)	0.44	0.62	0.62	0.72
HDL cholesterol (mmol/L)	0.14	0.21	0.14	0.19
LDL cholesterol (mmol/L)	0.22	0.34	0.38	0.47
Total cholesterol/HDL (ratio)	-0.09	-0.10	0.12	0.02
Triglycerides (mmol/L)	0.20	0.21	0.20	0.20

\*SINGLE Study: p-value versus ATRIPLA at Week 48; pre-defined p-value adjusted for baseline value and stratification factors: p= 0.005 for cholesterol and p= 0.032 for LDL cholesterol

Laboratory abnormalities observed in the subset of patients who received TIVICAY + KIVEXA in SPRING-2 and FLAMINGO were generally consistent with observations in SINGLE.

#### **Dolutegravir: Hepatitis C Virus Co-infection**

In SINGLE, the pivotal Phase III study, patients with hepatitis C co-infection were permitted to enrol provided that baseline liver chemistry tests did not exceed 5 times the upper limit of normal (ULN); patients with hepatitis B co-infection were excluded from the SINGLE study. Overall, the safety profile in patients co-infected with hepatitis C was similar to that observed in patients without hepatitis C co-infection, although the rates of AST and ALT abnormalities were higher in the subgroup with hepatitis C co-infection for both treatment groups. Grades 2 to 4 ALT abnormalities in hepatitis C co-infected patients compared with HIV mono-infected patients receiving TRIUMEQ were observed in 15% and 2% (vs. 24% and 4% of patients treated with ATRIPLA), respectively (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Hepatic/Biliary/Pancreatic](#)).

#### **Changes in Clinical Laboratory Values**

Dolutegravir has been shown to increase serum creatinine due to inhibition of tubular secretion of creatinine without affecting renal glomerular function. Increases in serum creatinine occurred within the first four weeks of treatment and remained stable through 24 to 96 weeks. In SINGLE, a mean change from baseline of 12.6 µmol/L (range: -28 µmol/L to 52 µmol/L) was observed after 96 weeks of treatment. Creatinine increases were similar in treatment-experienced patients (see [10.2 Pharmacodynamics](#)).

Increases in total bilirubin (without clinical jaundice) were observed on TIVICAY and ISENTRESS (but not efavirenz) arms in the dolutegravir development programme. In the SINGLE study, at 96 weeks, a mean change of -0.52 µmol/L (range -19 µmol/L to 14 µmol/L) was observed and are not considered clinically relevant as they likely reflect competition between dolutegravir and unconjugated bilirubin for a common clearance pathway (UGT1A1) (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

In the SINGLE study, grade 3 to 4 creatine phosphokinase (CPK) abnormalities were reported in 5% of patients at week 96. Cases of myalgia or myositis with concurrent CPK elevations have been reported in the dolutegravir programme; relationship with the use of dolutegravir could not be excluded.

#### **Abacavir Sulfate and Lamivudine**

Laboratory abnormalities observed in clinical trials were neutropenia, anemia, thrombocytopenia, hyperlactatemia, and transient rise in liver enzymes (AST, ALT and GGT).

### **8.5 Post-Market Adverse Reactions**

In addition to the adverse events included from clinical trial data, the following adverse events listed below have been identified during post-approval use of dolutegravir, abacavir, lamivudine or the fixed dose combination (dolutegravir/abacavir/lamivudine FDC) tablet.

These events have been chosen for inclusion due to either their seriousness, frequency of reporting, potential causal connection to dolutegravir, abacavir and lamivudine, or a combination of these factors. Because they are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be made.

## **Dolutegravir**

Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders: arthralgia, myalgia

Psychiatric disorders: anxiety

Investigations: weight increased

## **Abacavir**

Endocrine/Metabolic: lactic acidosis (see [WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, 7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Hepatic/Biliary/Pancreatic](#)), hepatic steatosis

Digestive: pancreatitis

Immune System: Immune Reconstitution Inflammatory Syndrome (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Immune](#))

Skin: rash, erythema multiforme, suspected Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) (primarily in combination with medications known to be associated with SJS and TEN, respectively) (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Hypersensitivity, Clinical Management](#))

## **Lamivudine**

Body as a whole: anaphylaxis, weakness

Hematological: pure red cell aplasia

Hemic and Lymphatic: anemia, lymphadenopathy, splenomegaly

Endocrine/Metabolic: lactic acidosis (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Hepatic/Biliary/Pancreatic](#)), hyperlactatemia, hepatic steatosis, hyperglycemia

Nervous: paresthesia, peripheral neuropathy

Digestive: rises in serum amylase, pancreatitis, stomatitis

Immune System: Immune Reconstitution Inflammatory Syndrome (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Immune](#))

Skin: alopecia, pruritus, urticaria

Musculoskeletal: muscle disorders including rarely rhabdomyolysis, arthralgia

## **Dolutegravir/Abacavir/Lamivudine FDC Tablet**

Hepatobiliary Disorders: acute hepatic failure

### **Abacavir hypersensitivity**

See [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Detailed Description of Abacavir Hypersensitivity Adverse Reactions](#).

## **9 DRUG INTERACTIONS**

### **9.2 Drug Interactions Overview**

No drug interaction studies have been conducted with TRIUMEQ Tablets. Drug interaction trials were conducted with dolutegravir, abacavir, and/or lamivudine, the components of TRIUMEQ™. Due to different routes of metabolism and elimination, and the minimal effect of these agents on drug metabolizing enzymes or transporters, no clinically significant drug interactions are expected between dolutegravir, abacavir, and lamivudine.

## **Effect of Dolutegravir, Abacavir and Lamivudine on the Pharmacokinetics of Other Agents**

### **Dolutegravir**

*In vitro*, dolutegravir inhibited the renal organic cation transporter 2, OCT2 ( $IC_{50} = 1.93 \mu M$ ), multidrug and toxin extrusion transporter (MATE) 1 ( $IC_{50} = 6.34 \mu M$ ) and MATE2-K ( $IC_{50} = 24.8 \mu M$ ). *In vivo*, dolutegravir has a low potential to affect the transport of MATE2-K substrates. *In vivo*, dolutegravir inhibits tubular secretion of creatinine by inhibiting OCT2. Dolutegravir may increase plasma concentrations of drugs in which excretion is dependent upon OCT2 (for example dofetilide, fampridine (also known as dalfampridine) (see [CONTRAINDICATIONS 2 CONTRAINDICATIONS](#)) and metformin) or MATE1 (see [Table 6](#)).

*In vitro*, dolutegravir inhibited the basolateral renal transporters: organic anion transporter (OAT) 1 ( $IC_{50} = 2.12 \mu M$ ) and OAT3 ( $IC_{50} = 1.97 \mu M$ ). Based upon the dolutegravir unbound plasma concentration, *in silico* modelling, and no notable effect on the pharmacokinetics *in vivo* of the OAT substrates tenofovir and para aminohippurate, dolutegravir has low propensity to cause drug interactions via inhibition of OAT transporters.

*In vitro*, dolutegravir did not inhibit ( $IC_{50} > 50 \mu M$ ) the enzymes: cytochrome P<sub>450</sub> (CYP)1A2, CYP2A6, CYP2B6, CYP2C8, CYP2C9, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP3A, uridine diphosphate glucuronosyl transferase (UGT)1A1 or UGT2B7, or the transporters: P-glycoprotein (Pgp), breast cancer resistance protein (BCRP), bile salt export pump (BSEP), organic anion transporter polypeptide 1B1 (OATP1B1), OATP1B3, organic cation transporter1 (OCT)1, multidrug resistance-associated protein 2 (MRP2), or MRP4. *In vitro*, dolutegravir did not induce CYP1A2, CYP2B6, or CYP3A4. Based on these data, and the drug interactions studies, dolutegravir is not expected to affect the pharmacokinetics of drugs that are substrates of these enzymes or transporters.

In drug interaction studies, dolutegravir did not have a clinically relevant effect on the pharmacokinetics of the following: tenofovir, methadone, rilpivirine, and oral contraceptives containing norgestimate and ethinyl estradiol. Using cross-study comparisons to historical pharmacokinetic data for each interacting drug, dolutegravir did not appear to affect the pharmacokinetics of the following drugs: atazanavir, darunavir, efavirenz, etravirine, fosamprenavir, lopinavir, ritonavir, boceprevir and telaprevir (see [9.4 Drug-Drug Interactions](#)).

### **Abacavir and Lamivudine**

*In vitro* studies have shown that abacavir has potential to inhibit CYP1A1 and limited potential to inhibit metabolism mediated by CYP3A4. Lamivudine does not inhibit or induce CYP3A4. Abacavir and lamivudine do not inhibit or induce other CYP enzymes (such as CYP 2C9 or CYP 2D6) and demonstrate no or weak inhibition of the OATP1B1, OATP1B3, BCRP and Pgp, and toxin extrusion protein 2-K (MATE2-K). In addition, lamivudine demonstrates no or weak inhibition of the drug transporters MATE1 or OCT3 and abacavir demonstrates minimal inhibition of OCT1 and OCT2. Abacavir and lamivudine are therefore not expected to affect the plasma concentrations of drugs that are substrates of these enzymes or transporters.

Although abacavir is an inhibitor of MATE1 and lamivudine is an inhibitor of OCT1 and OCT2 *in vitro*, they have low potential to affect the plasma concentrations of substrates of these transporters at therapeutic drug exposures (up to 600 mg for abacavir or 300 mg for lamivudine).

## **Effect of Other Agents on the Pharmacokinetics of Dolutegravir, Abacavir and Lamivudine**

### **Dolutegravir**

Dolutegravir is metabolised by UGT1A1 with some contribution from CYP3A. Dolutegravir is also a substrate of UGT1A3, UGT1A9, CYP3A4, Pgp, and BCRP *in vitro*; therefore drugs that induce those enzymes and transporters, may decrease dolutegravir plasma concentration and reduce the therapeutic effect of dolutegravir.

Co-administration of dolutegravir and other drugs that inhibit UGT1A1, UGT1A3, UGT1A9, CYP3A4, and/or Pgp may increase dolutegravir plasma concentration (see [Table 6](#)).

*In vitro*, dolutegravir is not a substrate of human organic anion transporting polypeptide (OATP)1B1, OATP1B3, or OCT1, therefore drugs that solely modulate these transporters are not expected to affect dolutegravir plasma concentration.

Etravirine significantly reduced plasma concentrations of dolutegravir but the effect of etravirine was mitigated by co-administration of lopinavir/ritonavir or darunavir/ritonavir, and is expected to be mitigated by atazanavir/ritonavir.

Tenofovir, lopinavir/ritonavir, darunavir/ritonavir, rilpivirine, boceprevir, telaprevir, prednisone, rifabutin, and omeprazole had no clinically significant effect on dolutegravir pharmacokinetics.

### **Abacavir and Lamivudine**

The likelihood of metabolic interactions with abacavir and lamivudine is low. Abacavir and lamivudine are not significantly metabolised by CYP enzymes. The primary pathways of abacavir metabolism in human are by alcohol dehydrogenase and by glucuronidation to produce the 5'-carboxylic acid and 5'-glucuronide which account for about 66% of the administered dose. These metabolites are excreted in the urine. The likelihood of metabolic interactions with lamivudine is low due to limited metabolism and plasma protein binding, and almost complete renal clearance. Lamivudine is predominantly eliminated by active organic cationic secretion. The possibility of interactions with other medicinal products administered concurrently should be considered, particularly when the main route of elimination is renal. *In vitro*, abacavir is not a substrate of OATP1B1, OATP1B3, OCT1, OCT2, OAT1, MATE1, MATE2-K, MRP2 or MRP4 therefore drugs that modulate these transporters are not expected to affect abacavir plasma concentrations.

Although abacavir and lamivudine are substrates of BCRP and Pgp *in vitro*, clinical studies demonstrate no clinically significant changes in abacavir pharmacokinetics when co-administered with lopinavir/ritonavir (Pgp and BCRP inhibitors) and inhibitors of these efflux transporters are unlikely to affect the disposition of lamivudine due to its high bioavailability. Lamivudine is an *in vitro* substrate of MATE1, MATE2-K and OCT2. Trimethoprim (an inhibitor of these drug transporters) has been shown to increase lamivudine plasma concentrations however; the resulting increase was of such magnitude that a dose adjustment is not recommended as it is not expected to have clinical significance. Lamivudine is a substrate of the hepatic uptake transporter OCT1. As hepatic elimination plays a minor role in the clearance of lamivudine, drug interactions due to inhibition of OCT1 are unlikely to be of clinical significance.

## 9.4 Drug-Drug Interactions

Selected drug interactions are presented in [Table 6](#). Recommendations are based on either drug interaction studies or predicted interactions due to the expected magnitude of interaction and potential for serious adverse events or loss of efficacy.

**Table 6      Established or Potential Dolutegravir, Abacavir and Lamivudine Drug-Drug Interactions**

Concomitant Drug Class: Drug Name	Effect on Concentration	Clinical Comment
<b>DOLUTEGRAVIR</b>		
<b>HIV-1 Antiviral Agents</b>		
Non-nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor: Etravirine <sup>a</sup> (ETR)	Dolutegravir↓ ETR ↔	No dose adjustment of TRIUMEQ is needed if etravirine is taken with atazanavir/ritonavir, darunavir/ritonavir, or lopinavir/ritonavir. Adjust dolutegravir dose to 50 mg twice daily in patients taking etravirine without a boosted protease inhibitor. An additional dolutegravir 50-mg dose should be taken, separated by 12 hours from TRIUMEQ. TRIUMEQ should only be used with etravirine when co-administered with atazanavir/ritonavir, darunavir/ritonavir or lopinavir/ritonavir in INI-resistant patients.
Non-nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor: Efavirenz <sup>a</sup> (EFV)	Dolutegravir↓ EFV ↔	Adjust dolutegravir dose to 50 mg twice daily. An additional 50-mg dose of dolutegravir should be taken, separated by 12 hours from TRIUMEQ.
Non-nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor: Nevirapine	Dolutegravir↓	Co-administration with nevirapine should be avoided because there are insufficient data to make a dosing recommendation.
Protease Inhibitor: Atazanavir <sup>a</sup> (ATV)	Dolutegravir↑ ATV ↔	Atazanavir increased dolutegravir plasma concentration. No dose adjustment is necessary.
Protease Inhibitor: Atazanavir/ritonavir <sup>a</sup> (ATV + RTV)	Dolutegravir↑ ATV ↔ RTV ↔	Atazanavir/ritonavir increased dolutegravir plasma concentration. No dose adjustment is necessary.
Protease Inhibitor: Tipranavir/ritonavir <sup>a</sup> (TPV+RTV)	Dolutegravir↓ TPV ↔ RTV ↔	Adjust dolutegravir dose to 50 mg twice daily. An additional 50-mg dose of dolutegravir should be taken, separated by 12 hours from TRIUMEQ.
Protease Inhibitor:	Dolutegravir↓	Adjust dolutegravir dose to 50 mg twice

<b>Concomitant Drug Class: Drug Name</b>	<b>Effect on Concentration</b>	<b>Clinical Comment</b>
Fosamprenavir/ ritonavir <sup>a</sup> (FPV+RTV)	FPV ↔ RTV ↔	daily. An additional 50-mg dose of dolutegravir should be taken, separated by 12 hours from TRIUMEQ.
Protease Inhibitor: Lopinavir/ritonavir <sup>a</sup> (LPV+RTV)	Dolutegravir ↔ LPV↔ RTV↔	Lopinavir/ritonavir did not change dolutegravir plasma concentration to a clinically relevant extent. No dose adjustment is necessary.
<b>Other Agents</b>		
Antiarrhythmic: Dofetilide	Dofetilide ↑	Co-administration of dolutegravir has the potential to increase dofetilide plasma concentration via inhibition of OCT2 transporter; co-administration has not been studied. TRIUMEQ and dofetilide co-administration is contraindicated due to potential life-threatening toxicity caused by high dofetilide concentration.
Potassium channel blocker: Fampridine (also known as dalfampridine)	Fampridine/ dalfampridine	Co-administration is contraindicated with TRIUMEQ due to potential for seizures associated with fampridine/dalfampridine.
Anticonvulsants: Oxcarbazepine Carbamazepine Phenytoin Phenobarbital	Dolutegravir↓	Adjust dolutegravir dose to 50 mg twice daily. The additional 50-mg dose of dolutegravir should be taken, separated by 12 hours from TRIUMEQ. Co-administration with these metabolic inducers should be avoided in INI-resistant patients.
Medications containing polyvalent cations (e.g. Mg, Al)  Cation-containing antacids <sup>a</sup> or laxative, sucralfate, buffered medications	Dolutegravir↓	TRIUMEQ is recommended to be administered 2 hours before or 6 hours after taking medications containing polyvalent cations.
Calcium and iron supplements <sup>a</sup>	Dolutegravir ↓	When taken with food, TRIUMEQ and calcium and/or iron supplements or multivitamins containing calcium and/or iron can be taken at the same time. Under fasting conditions, TRIUMEQ should be taken 2 hours before or 6 hours after taking supplements containing calcium and/or iron.

<b>Concomitant Drug Class: Drug Name</b>	<b>Effect on Concentration</b>	<b>Clinical Comment</b>
Antidiabetics: Metformin	Metformin ↑	Consider metformin dose adjustments when starting or stopping concomitant treatment to maintain glycemic control.
Rifampin <sup>a</sup>	Dolutegravir ↓	Adjust dolutegravir dose to 50 mg twice daily. An additional 50-mg dose of dolutegravir should be taken, separated by 12 hours from TRIUMEQ.

### **ABACAVIR**

Riociguat	In vitro, abacavir inhibits CYP1A1. Coadministration of a single dose of riociguat (0.5 mg) to HIV-1–infected subjects receiving TRIUMEQ (once daily) resulted in approximately 3-fold higher riociguat AUC(0-∞) compared with historical riociguat AUC(0-∞) reported in healthy subjects.	TRIUMEQ and ADEMPAS (riociguat) should be co-administered with caution. Riociguat dose may need to be reduced, consult the riociguat product labeling for dosing recommendations.
Ethanol	Abacavir AUC ↑ Ethanol AUC ↔	Given the safety profile of abacavir, these findings are not considered clinically significant.
Methadone	Abacavir AUC ↔ $C_{max}$ ↓ Methadone CL/F ↑	The changes in abacavir pharmacokinetics are not considered clinically relevant. The changes in methadone pharmacokinetics are not considered clinically relevant for the majority of patients, however occasionally methadone dose re-titration may be required.

### **LAMIVUDINE**

Trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole (Co-trimoxazole)	Lamivudine: AUC ↑ Trimethoprim: AUC ↔ Sulfamethoxazole: AUC ↔	Unless the patient has renal impairment, no dosage adjustment of lamivudine is necessary (see <a href="#">4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment</a> ). Lamivudine has no effect on the pharmacokinetics of trimethoprim or sulfamethoxazole. The effect of coadministration of lamivudine with higher doses of co-trimoxazole used for the treatment of <i>Pneumocystis jiroveci</i>
--	---	---

<b>Concomitant Drug Class: Drug Name</b>	<b>Effect on Concentration</b>	<b>Clinical Comment</b>
		pneumonia (often referred to as PCP) and toxoplasmosis has not been studied.
Emtricitabine		Lamivudine may inhibit the intracellular phosphorylation of emtricitabine when the two medicinal products are used concurrently. Additionally, the mechanism of viral resistance for both lamivudine and emtricitabine is mediated via mutation of the same viral reverse transcriptase gene (M184V) and therefore the therapeutic efficacy of these drugs in combination therapy may be limited. TRIUMEQ is not recommended for use in combination with emtricitabine or emtricitabine-containing fixed-dose combinations.
Sorbitol solution (3.2, 10.2 g, 13.4 g)	Single dose lamivudine oral solution 300 mg Lamivudine: AUC ↓ 14%; 32%; 36% $C_{max}$ ↓ 28%; 52%, 55%.	When possible, avoid chronic coadministration of sorbitol-containing medicines with lamivudine. Consider more frequent monitoring of HIV-1 viral load when chronic coadministration cannot be avoided.

<sup>a</sup>See [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#) for magnitude of interaction ([Table 8](#) and [Table 9](#)).

The effects of dolutegravir on the exposure of co-administered drugs is shown in [Table 7](#). The effects of co-administered drugs on the exposure of DTG is shown in [Table 8](#).

**Table 7      Summary of Effect of Dolutegravir on the Pharmacokinetics of Co-administered Drugs**

Coadministered Drug(s) and Dose(s)	Dose of <b>TIVICAY</b>	n	Geometric Mean Ratio (90% CI) of Pharmacokinetic Parameters of Coadministered Drug With/Without Dolutegravir		
			No Effect = 1.00	$C_{\tau}$ or $C_{24}$	AUC
Ethinyl estradiol 0.035 mg	50 mg twice daily	15	1.02 (0.93, 1.11)	1.03 (0.96, 1.11)	0.99 (0.91, 1.08)
Methadone 20 to 150 mg	50 mg twice daily	12	0.99 (0.91, 1.07)	0.98 (0.91, 1.06)	1.00 (0.94, 1.06)
Midazolam 3 mg	25 mg once daily	10	—	0.95 (0.79, 1.15)	—

Norgestimate 0.25 mg	50 mg twice daily	15	0.93 (0.85, 1.03)	0.98 (0.91, 1.04)	0.89 (0.82, 0.97)
Rilpivirine 25 mg once daily	50 mg once daily	16	1.21 (1.07, 1.38)	1.06 (0.98, 1.16)	1.10 (0.99, 1.22)
Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg once daily	50 mg once daily	16	1.19 (1.04, 1.35)	1.12 (1.01, 1.24)	1.09 (0.97, 1.23)
Metformin 500 mg twice daily	50 mg once daily	14	—	1.79 (1.65, 1.93)	1.66 (1.53, 1.81)
Metformin 500 mg twice daily	50 mg twice daily	14	—	2.45 (2.25, 2.66)	2.11 (1.91, 2.33)

**Table 8 Summary of Effect of Co-administered Drugs on the Pharmacokinetics of Dolutegravir**

Coadministered Drug(s) and Dose(s)	Dose of <b>TIVICAY</b>	n	Geometric Mean Ratio (90% CI) of Dolutegravir Pharmacokinetic Parameters With/Without Coadministered Drugs No Effect = 1.00		
			C <sub>t</sub> or C <sub>24</sub>	AUC	C <sub>max</sub>
Atazanavir 400 mg once daily	30 mg once daily	12	2.80 (2.52, 3.11)	1.91 (1.80, 2.03)	1.50 (1.40, 1.59)
Atazanavir/ritonavir 300/100 mg once daily	30 mg once daily	12	2.21 (1.97, 2.47)	1.62 (1.50, 1.74)	1.34 (1.25, 1.42)
Tenofovir 300 mg once daily	50 mg once daily	15	0.92 (0.82, 1.04)	1.01 (0.91, 1.11)	0.97 (0.87, 1.08)
Darunavir/ritonavir 600/100 mg twice daily	30 mg once daily	15	0.62 (0.56, 0.69)	0.78 (0.72, 0.85)	0.89 (0.83, 0.97)
Efavirenz 600 mg once daily	50 mg once daily	12	0.25 (0.18, 0.34)	0.43 (0.35, 0.54)	0.61 (0.51, 0.73)
Etravirine 200 mg twice daily.	50 mg once daily	15	0.12 (0.09, 0.16)	0.29 (0.26, 0.34)	0.48 (0.43, 0.54)
Etravirine + darunavir/ritonavir 200 mg + 600/100 mg twice daily	50 mg once daily	9	0.63 (0.52, 0.76)	0.75 (0.69, 0.81)	0.88 (0.78, 1.00)
Etravirine + lopinavir/ritonavir 200 mg + 400/100 mg twice daily	50 mg once daily	8	1.28 (1.13, 1.45)	1.11 (1.02, 1.20)	1.07 (1.02, 1.13)
Fosamprenavir/ritonavir 700 mg + 100 mg twice	50 mg once daily	12	0.51 (0.41, 0.63)	0.65 (0.54, 0.78)	0.76 (0.63, 0.92)

daily					
Lopinavir/ritonavir 400/100 mg twice daily	30 mg once daily	15	0.94 (0.85, 1.05)	0.97 (0.91, 1.04)	1.00 (0.94, 1.07)
Maalox	50 mg single dose	16	0.26 (0.21, 0.31)	0.26 (0.22, 0.32)	0.28 (0.23, 0.33)
Maalox 2 hrs after dolutegravir	50 mg single dose	16	0.70 (0.58, 0.85)	0.74 (0.62, 0.90)	0.82 (0.69, 0.98)
Calcium Carbonate 1200mg Simultaneous administration (fasted)	50 mg single dose	12	0.61 (0.47, 0.80)	0.61 (0.47, 0.79)	0.63 (0.50, 0.81)
Calcium Carbonate 1200mg Simultaneous administration (fed)	50 mg single dose	11	1.08 (0.81, 1.42)	1.09 (0.84, 1.43)	1.07 (0.83, 1.38)
Calcium Carbonate 1200mg 2 hrs prior to dolutegravir	50 mg single dose	11	0.90 (0.68, 1.19)	0.94 (0.72, 1.23)	1.00 (0.7, 1.29)
Ferrous Fumarate 324 mg Simultaneous administration (fasted)	50 mg single dose	11	0.44 (0.36, 0.54)	0.46 (0.38, 0.56)	0.43 (0.35, 0.52)
Ferrous Fumarate 324 mg Simultaneous administration (fed)	50 mg single dose	11	0.99 (0.80, 1.22)	0.97 (0.80, 1.19)	1.03 (0.85, 1.26)
Ferrous Fumarate 324 mg 2 hrs prior to dolutegravir	50 mg single dose	10	0.92 (0.74, 1.13)	0.95 (0.78, 1.15)	0.99 (0.81, 1.21)
Multivitamin One tablet once daily	50 mg single dose	16	0.68 (0.56, 0.82)	0.67 (0.55, 0.81)	0.65 (0.54, 0.77)
Omeprazole 40 mg once daily	50 mg single dose	12	0.95 (0.75, 1.21)	0.97 (0.78, 1.20)	0.92 (0.75, 1.11)
Prednisone 60 mg once daily with taper	50 mg once daily	12	1.17 (1.06, 1.28)	1.11 (1.03, 1.20)	1.06 (0.99, 1.14)
Rifampin <sup>a</sup> 600 mg once daily	50 mg twice daily <sup>a</sup>	11	0.28 (0.23, 0.34)	0.46 (0.38, 0.55)	0.57 (0.49, 0.65)
Rifampin <sup>b</sup> 600 mg once daily	50 mg twice daily <sup>b</sup>	11	1.22 (1.01, 1.48)	1.33 (1.15, 1.53)	1.18 (1.03, 1.37)
Rifabutin 300 mg once daily	50 mg once daily	9	0.70 (0.57, 0.87)	0.95 (0.82, 1.10)	1.16 (0.98, 1.37)
Rilpivirine 25 mg once daily	50 mg once daily	16	1.22 (1.15, 1.30)	1.12 (1.05, 1.19)	1.13 (1.06, 1.21)
Tipranavir/ritonavir	50 mg	14	0.24	0.41	0.54

500/200 mg twice daily	once daily		(0.21, 0.27)	(0.38 to 0.44)	(0.50 to 0.57)
Telaprevir 750 mg every 8 hours	50 mg once daily	15	1.37 (1.29, 1.45)	1.25 (1.20, 1.31)	1.18 (1.11, 1.26)
Boceprevir 800 mg every 8 hours	50 mg once daily	13	1.08 (0.91, 1.28)	1.07 (0.95, 1.20)	1.05 (0.96, 1.15)
Carbamazepine 300 mg twice daily	50 mg once daily	14	0.27 (0.24, 0.31)	0.51 (0.48, 0.55)	0.67 (0.61, 0.73)

<sup>a</sup> Comparison is rifampin taken with dolutegravir 50 mg twice daily compared with dolutegravir 50 mg twice daily.

<sup>b</sup> Comparison is rifampin taken with dolutegravir 50 mg twice daily compared with dolutegravir 50 mg once daily.

## 9.5 Drug-Food Interactions

TRIUMEQ may be administered with or without food (see [10 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY](#)).

## 9.6 Drug-Herb Interactions

No interaction study has been conducted, however, St. John's Wort is a potent CYP3A inducer and may potentially decrease dolutegravir plasma concentration. In adults and adolescent patients, an additional dose of TIVICAY 50 mg separated by 12 hours from TRIUMEQ may be considered when taken together with St. John's Wort. St. John's Wort should be avoided in INI-resistant patients.

## 9.7 Drug-Laboratory Test Interactions

No Drug-Laboratory interactions have been identified.

# 10 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

## 10.1 Mechanism of Action

Dolutegravir inhibits HIV integrase by binding to the integrase active site and blocking the strand transfer step of retroviral Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) integration which is essential for the HIV replication cycle. *In vitro*, dolutegravir dissociates slowly from the active site of the wild type integrase-DNA complex ( $t_{1/2}$  71 hours). Strand transfer biochemical assays using purified HIV-1 integrase and pre-processed substrate DNA resulted in  $IC_{50}$  values of 2.7 nM and 12.6 nM.

Abacavir and lamivudine are nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs), and are potent, selective inhibitors of HIV-1 and HIV-2 replication *in vitro*. Abacavir is a carbocyclic synthetic nucleoside analogue of deoxyguanosine-5'-triphosphate and lamivudine is also a synthetic nucleoside analogue, an (-) enantiomer of a dideoxy analogue of cytidine. Both abacavir and lamivudine are metabolized sequentially by intracellular kinases to their respective triphosphate (TP), which are the active moieties (carbovir triphosphate (CBV-TP) for abacavir; and lamivudine triphosphate (L-TP) for lamivudine). The extended intracellular half-lives of CBV-TP and L-TP support once daily dosing (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)). L-TP and CBV-TP are substrates for and competitive inhibitors of HIV reverse transcriptase (RT). Inhibition of RT is via viral DNA chain termination after nucleoside analogue incorporation. CBV-TP and L-TP

show significantly less affinity for host cell DNA polymerases and are weak inhibitors of mammalian  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$ -DNA polymerases.

## 10.2 Pharmacodynamics

In a randomized, dose-ranging trial, HIV-1-infected subjects treated with dolutegravir monotherapy (ING111521) demonstrated rapid and dose-dependent antiviral activity, with mean declines from baseline to day 11 in HIV-1 RNA of 1.5, 2.0, and  $2.5 \log_{10}$  for dolutegravir 2 mg, 10 mg, and 50 mg once daily, respectively. This antiviral response was maintained for 3 to 4 days after the last dose in the 50 mg group.

### Effects on Electrocardiogram

In a randomized, placebo-controlled, cross-over trial, 42 healthy subjects received single dose oral administrations of placebo, dolutegravir 250 mg suspension (exposures approximately 3-fold of the 50 mg once-daily dose at steady state), and moxifloxacin (400 mg, active control) in random sequence. After baseline and placebo adjustment, the maximum mean QTc change based on Fridericia correction method (QTcF) was 1.99 msec (1-sided 95% upper CI: 4.53 msec). TIVICAY did not prolong the QTc interval for 24 hours post dose. The effect of the combination regimen TRIUMEQ on the QT interval is not known.

### Effects on Renal Function

The effect of dolutegravir on serum creatinine clearance (CrCl), glomerular filtration rate (GFR) using iohexol as the probe and effective renal plasma flow (ERPF) using para-aminohippurate (PAH) as the probe was evaluated in an open-label, randomized, 3 arm, parallel, placebo-controlled study in 37 healthy subjects, who were administered dolutegravir 50 mg once daily (n=12), 50 mg twice daily (n=13) or placebo once daily (n=12) for 14 days. A decrease in CrCl, as determined by 24-hour urine collection, was observed with both doses of dolutegravir (9% and 13%, for dolutegravir 50mg once daily and twice daily, respectively). Dolutegravir had no significant effect on GFR or ERPF at either dose level.

## 10.3 Pharmacokinetics

### Pharmacokinetics in Adults

One TRIUMEQ Tablet was bioequivalent to one TIVICAY Tablet (50 mg) plus one EPZICOM Tablet under fasted conditions in healthy subjects (n = 62).

### Absorption

Dolutegravir, abacavir and lamivudine are rapidly absorbed following oral administration. The absolute bioavailability of dolutegravir has not been established. The absolute bioavailability of oral abacavir and lamivudine in adults is 83 and 80 to 85% respectively. The mean time to maximal serum concentrations ( $t_{max}$ ) is about 2 to 3 hours (post dose for tablet formulation) for dolutegravir, 1.5 hours for abacavir and 1.0 hours for lamivudine.

Following multiple oral doses of dolutegravir 50 mg once daily, the geometric mean steady state pharmacokinetic parameter estimates are 53.6 micrograms.h/mL for  $AUC_{24}$ , 3.67 microgram/mL for  $C_{max}$ , and 1.11 microgram/mL for  $C_{24}$ . Following a single oral dose of 600 mg of abacavir, the mean  $C_{max}$  is 4.26  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  and the mean  $AUC_{\infty}$  is 11.95  $\mu\text{g}.\text{h}/\text{mL}$ . Following multiple dose oral administration of lamivudine 300 mg once daily for seven days the mean steady state  $C_{max}$  is 2.04  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  and the mean  $AUC_{24}$  is 8.87  $\mu\text{g}.\text{h}/\text{mL}$ .

## **Effects of Food on Oral Absorption**

TRIUMEQ may be administered with or without food. Administration of TRIUMEQ with a high-fat, high-calorie meal resulted in 48% higher AUC and 37% higher  $C_{max}$  for dolutegravir, no change in AUC and  $C_{max}$  of lamivudine, no change in the AUC and a 23% decrease in  $C_{max}$  of abacavir, and prolonged  $T_{max}$  for all three drugs compared in the fasted state ( $n = 12$ ). This is not considered clinically significant.

## **Distribution**

The apparent volume of distribution ( $V_d/F$ ) following 50 mg once daily oral administration of suspension formulation was estimated at 17.4 L based on population pharmacokinetic analysis. Intravenous studies with abacavir and lamivudine showed that the mean apparent volume of distribution is 0.8 and 1.3 L/kg respectively.

Dolutegravir is highly bound ( $\geq 98.9\%$ ) to human plasma proteins based on *in vivo* data and binding is independent of plasma dolutegravir concentration. Plasma protein binding studies *in vitro* indicate that abacavir binds only low to moderately ( $\sim 49\%$ ) to human plasma proteins at therapeutic concentrations. Lamivudine exhibits linear pharmacokinetics over the therapeutic dose range and displays low plasma protein binding (< 36%).

## **Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF)**

In 12 treatment-naïve subjects on dolutegravir 50 mg daily plus abacavir/lamivudine, the median dolutegravir concentration in CSF was 13.2 ng/mL (ranging from 3.7 ng/mL to 18.3 ng/mL) 2 to 6 hours post-dose after 16 weeks of treatment. At Week 16, 100% of subjects ( $n = 11$ ) had CSF HIV-1 RNA <50 c/mL (median change from baseline was  $-3.42 \log_{10}$  copies/mL). Studies with abacavir demonstrate a CSF to plasma AUC ratio of between 30 to 44%. The observed values of the peak concentrations are 9 fold greater than the  $IC_{50}$  of abacavir of 0.08  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  or 0.26  $\mu\text{M}$  when abacavir is given at 600 mg twice daily. The mean ratio of CSF/serum lamivudine concentrations 2-4 hours after oral administration was approximately 12%. The true extent of CNS penetration of lamivudine and its relationship with any clinical efficacy is unknown.

## **Metabolism**

Dolutegravir is primarily metabolized via UGT1A1 with some contribution from CYP3A. Renal elimination of unchanged drug was low (< 1% of the dose). After a single oral dose of [ $^{14}\text{C}$ ] dolutegravir, 53% of the total oral dose was excreted unchanged in the feces. Thirty-one percent of the total oral dose was excreted in the urine, represented by an ether glucuronide of dolutegravir (18.9% of total dose), N-dealkylation metabolite (3.6% of total dose), and a metabolite formed by oxidation at the benzylic carbon (3.0% of total dose).

Abacavir is primarily metabolized by the liver with less than 2% of the administered dose being renally excreted as unchanged compound. The primary pathways of metabolism in humans are by alcohol dehydrogenase and by glucuronidation to produce the 5'-carboxylic acid and 5'-glucuronide which account for about 66% of the administered dose. These metabolites are excreted in the urine.

Metabolism of lamivudine is a minor route of elimination. Lamivudine is predominately cleared unchanged by renal excretion. The likelihood of metabolic interactions with lamivudine is low due to the small extent of hepatic metabolism (< 10%).

## **Elimination**

Dolutegravir has a terminal half-life of approximately 14 hours and an apparent clearance (CL/F) of 0.9-1.05 L/hr based on population pharmacokinetic analyses.

The mean half life of abacavir is about 1.5 hours. The geometric mean terminal half-life of intracellular carbovir-TP at steady-state is 20.6 hours. Following multiple oral doses of abacavir 300 mg twice a day, there is no significant accumulation of abacavir. Elimination of abacavir is via hepatic metabolism with subsequent excretion of metabolites primarily in the urine. The metabolites and unchanged abacavir account for about 83% of the administered abacavir dose in the urine. The remainder is eliminated in the feces.

The observed lamivudine half life of elimination is 18 to 19 hours. For patients receiving lamivudine 300 mg once daily, the terminal intracellular half-life of lamivudine-TP was prolonged to 16 to 19 hours. The mean systemic clearance of lamivudine is approximately 0.32 L/h/kg, predominantly by renal clearance (> 70%) via the organic cationic transport system.

## **Special Populations and Conditions**

### **Pediatrics:**

The pharmacokinetics of TRIUMEQ have not been established in pediatric subjects. Dosing recommendations are based on safety, efficacy, and pharmacokinetics of abacavir, lamivudine, and TIVICAY as single entities or in various combinations.

### **Abacavir and Lamivudine**

Limited pharmacokinetic data are available in adolescents receiving a daily dose of 600 mg of abacavir and 300 mg of lamivudine. Pharmacokinetic parameters are comparable to those reported in adults.

Abacavir is rapidly and well absorbed from oral solution and tablet formulations when administered to children. Plasma abacavir exposure has been shown to be the same for both formulations when administered at the same dose. Children receiving abacavir oral solution according to the recommended dosage regimen achieve plasma abacavir exposure similar to adults. Children receiving abacavir oral tablets according to the recommended dosage regimen achieve higher plasma abacavir exposure than children receiving oral solution because higher mg/kg doses are administered with the tablet formulation. Pediatric pharmacokinetic studies have demonstrated that once daily dosing provides equivalent AUC<sub>0-24</sub> to twice daily dosing of the same total daily dose for both oral solution and tablet formulations.

The absolute bioavailability of lamivudine (approximately 58 to 66%) was lower and more variable in pediatric patients under 12 years of age. In children, administration of tablets delivered higher plasma lamivudine AUC<sub>∞</sub> and C<sub>max</sub> than oral solution. Children receiving lamivudine oral solution according to the recommended dosage regimen achieve plasma lamivudine exposure within the range of values observed in adults. Children receiving lamivudine oral tablets according to the recommended dosage regimen achieve higher plasma lamivudine exposure than children receiving oral solution because higher mg/kg doses are administered with the tablet formulation and the tablet formulation has higher bioavailability. Pediatric pharmacokinetic studies with both oral solution and tablet formulations have demonstrated that once daily dosing provides equivalent AUC<sub>0-24</sub> to twice daily dosing of the same total daily dose (See KIVEXA Product Monograph).

### **Dolutegravir**

In a pediatric study including 23 antiretroviral treatment-experienced HIV-1 infected adolescents aged 12 to 18 years of age, the pharmacokinetics of dolutegravir was evaluated in 10 adolescents and showed that dolutegravir 50 mg once daily dosage resulted in dolutegravir exposure in pediatric subjects comparable to that observed in adults who received dolutegravir 50 mg once daily ([Table 9](#)).

**Table 9 Pediatric pharmacokinetic parameters (n=10)**

Age/weight	Dolutegravir Dose	Dolutegravir Pharmacokinetic Parameter Estimates Geometric Mean (CV%)		
		AUC <sub>(0-24)</sub> µg.hr/mL	C <sub>max</sub> µg/mL	C <sub>24</sub> µg/mL
12 to <18 years ≥40 kg <sup>a</sup>	50 mg once daily <sup>a</sup>	46 (43)	3.49 (38)	0.90 (59)

<sup>a</sup> One subject weighing 37 kg received 35 mg once daily.

### **Geriatrics:**

Population pharmacokinetic analyses using pooled pharmacokinetic data from adult trials indicated age had no clinically relevant effect on the pharmacokinetics of dolutegravir. Pharmacokinetic data for dolutegravir, abacavir and lamivudine in subjects of >65 years old are limited.

### **Gender:**

Population PK analyses using pooled pharmacokinetic data from adult studies revealed no clinically relevant effect of gender on the exposure of dolutegravir.

### **Genetic Polymorphism:**

In a meta-analysis using pharmacogenomics samples collected in clinical studies in healthy subjects, subjects with UGT1A1 (n=7) genotypes conferring poor dolutegravir metabolism had a 32% lower clearance of dolutegravir and 46% higher AUC compared with subjects with genotypes associated with normal metabolism via UGT1A1 (n=41).

### **Ethnic origin:**

Population PK analyses using pooled pharmacokinetic data from adult studies revealed no clinically relevant effect of race on the exposure of dolutegravir.

### **Hepatic Insufficiency:**

Pharmacokinetic data has been obtained for dolutegravir, abacavir and lamivudine alone. Based on data obtained for abacavir, TRIUMEQ is not recommended in patients with moderate to severe hepatic impairment.

Abacavir is metabolised primarily by the liver. The pharmacokinetics of abacavir have been studied in patients with mild hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh score A) who had confirmed cirrhosis.

The results showed that there was a mean increase of 1.89 fold in the abacavir AUC, and 1.58 fold in the half life of abacavir. The AUCs of the metabolites were not modified by the liver disease. However, the rates of formation and elimination of these were decreased. If a dosage

reduction of abacavir, a component of TRIUMEQ, is required in patients with mild hepatic impairment, then the separate preparations of dolutegravir (TIVICAY), abacavir (ZIAGEN), and lamivudine (3TC) should be used. The pharmacokinetics of abacavir have not been studied in patients with moderate or severe hepatic impairment. Plasma concentrations of abacavir are expected to be variable and substantially increased in these patients. TRIUMEQ is therefore not recommended in patients with moderate to severe hepatic impairment.

Data obtained for lamivudine in patients with moderate to severe hepatic impairment and for dolutegravir in patients with moderate hepatic impairment show that the pharmacokinetics are not significantly affected by hepatic dysfunction.

Dolutegravir is primarily metabolized and eliminated by the liver. In a study comparing 8 subjects with moderate hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh score B) to 8 matched healthy adult controls, exposure of dolutegravir from a single 50 mg dose was similar between the two groups. The effect of severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh score C) on the pharmacokinetics of dolutegravir has not been studied.

#### ***Renal Insufficiency:***

Pharmacokinetic data have been obtained for dolutegravir, abacavir and lamivudine alone. TRIUMEQ should not be used in patients with creatinine clearance of less than 30 mL/min because; whilst no dosage adjustment of dolutegravir or abacavir is necessary in patients with renal impairment, dose reduction is required for the lamivudine component. As dosage reduction is not possible with TRIUMEQ, the separate preparations of dolutegravir (TIVICAY), abacavir (ZIAGEN), and lamivudine (3TC) should be used.

Studies with lamivudine show that plasma concentrations (AUC) are increased in patients with renal dysfunction due to decreased clearance.

Abacavir is primarily metabolised by the liver, with approximately 2% of abacavir excreted unchanged in the urine. The pharmacokinetics of abacavir in patients with end-stage renal disease is similar to patients with normal renal function.

Renal clearance of unchanged drug is a minor pathway of elimination for dolutegravir. In a study comparing 8 subjects with severe renal impairment ( $\text{CrCL} < 30 \text{ mL/min}$ ) to 8 matched healthy controls, the mean AUC,  $C_{\max}$  and  $C_{24}$  of dolutegravir in renally impaired subjects were decreased by 40%, 23% and 43%, respectively. No dosage adjustment is necessary for INI-naive patients with renal impairment. There is limited information on dolutegravir in patients on dialysis.

#### ***Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C Co-infection:***

Population analyses using pooled pharmacokinetic data from adult studies indicated no clinically relevant effect of Hepatitis C co-infection on the pharmacokinetics of dolutegravir. There were limited pharmacokinetic data on Hepatitis B co-infection.

## **11 STORAGE, STABILITY AND DISPOSAL**

Store up to 30°C.

Store in the original package in order to protect from moisture. Keep the bottle tightly closed. Do not remove the desiccant.

## **12 SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS**

There are no special requirements for use or handling of this product.

## PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

### 13 PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION

#### Dolutegravir

##### **Drug Substance**

Proper name: dolutegravir sodium

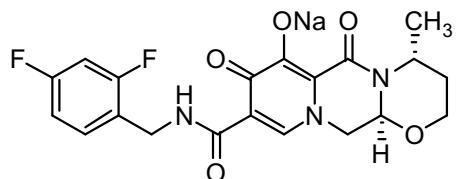
Chemical name: sodium (4*R*,12*a**S*)-9-[(2,4-difluorophenyl)methyl]carbamoyl]-4-methyl-6,8-dioxo-3,4,6,8,12,12*a*-hexahydro-2*H*-pyrido[1',2':4,5]pyrazino[2,1-*b*][1,3]oxazin-7-olate

Molecular formula and molecular mass: C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>F<sub>2</sub>N<sub>3</sub>NaO<sub>5</sub>

Molecular mass (dolutegravir sodium): 441.36 g/mol

Molecular mass (dolutegravir free acid): 419.38 g/mol

Structural formula:



Physicochemical properties:

Dolutegravir sodium is a white to light yellow powder and is slightly soluble in water.

Solubility: The solubility in water at 25°C is 3.176 mg/mL. The pKa is 8.2.

#### Abacavir

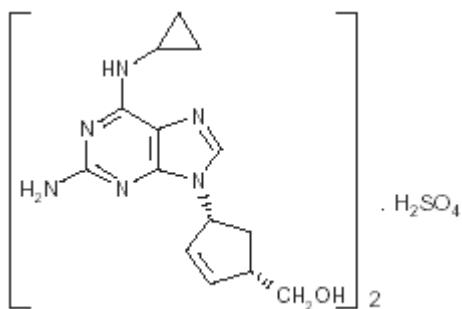
##### **Drug Substance**

Proper name: abacavir sulfate

Chemical name: (1*S*,*cis*)-4-[2-amino-6-(cyclopropylamino)-9*H*-purin-9-yl]-2-cyclopentene-1-methanol sulfate (salt) (2:1)

Molecular formula and molecular mass: (C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O)<sub>2</sub> . H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> , 670.74 g/mol

Structural formula:



Physicochemical properties:

Abacavir sulfate is a white to off-white powder with a melting point around 219 °C followed by decomposition.

The aqueous solubility and pH of abacavir sulfate was determined at 25 °C as follows:

Solvent	Solubility (mg/mL)	pH
Distilled water	77	3.1
0.1 M HCl	110	1.6
0.1 M NaOH	22	12.2

PK<sub>a</sub>: The pK<sub>a</sub> for abacavir have been determined by UV spectroscopy at 25 °C as follows: pK<sub>1</sub> = 0.4, pK<sub>2</sub> = 5.06.

### Lamivudine

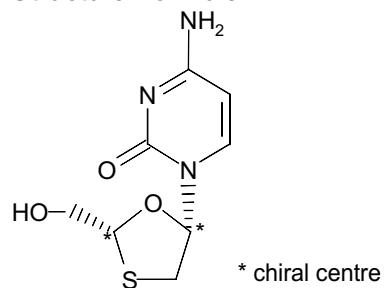
#### **Drug Substance**

Proper name: lamivudine

Chemical name: 2(1H)-Pyrimidinone, 4-amino-1-[2- (hydroxymethyl)-1,3-oxathiolan-5-yl]-(2R-cis)-

Molecular formula and molecular mass: C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S  
229.3 g/mol

Structural formula:



**Physicochemical properties:**

Lamivudine is a white to off-white crystalline solid with a melting point of 176°C.

**Solubility:**

Solvent	Temperature (°C)	Solubility (mg/mL)
Water	15	61.3
Water	25	98.1
Methanol	25	33.4
Ethanol	25	11.4
Acetone	25	0.94

pKa and pH: The pH value of a 1% w/v solution in water is approximately 6.9.  
The pKa determined by UV is 4.30.

## 14 CLINICAL TRIALS

### 14.1 Clinical Trials

The efficacy of TRIUMEQ is supported by data from three randomized, controlled studies in antiretroviral treatment-naïve subjects, SINGLE (ING114467: 48 and 96 weeks), SPRING-2 (ING113086: 48 and 96 weeks), and FLAMINGO (ING114915: 48 weeks).

The following clinical studies have been conducted with the individual products, TIVICAY and KIVEXA.

**Treatment-Naïve Subjects:**

In SINGLE, 833 patients were randomized and received at least 1 dose of either TIVICAY 50 mg once daily with KIVEXA (abacavir and lamivudine) or ATRIPLA (efavirenz/emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate). At baseline, the median age of subjects was 35 years, 16% female, 32% non-white, 7% had hepatitis C co-infection (hepatitis B virus co-infection was excluded), 4% were CDC Class C (AIDS), 32% had HIV-1 RNA >100,000 copies/mL, and 53% had CD4+ cell count <350 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>; these characteristics were similar between treatment groups.

Virologic outcomes (including outcomes by key baseline covariates) are described below.

**Table 10 Virologic Outcomes of Randomized Treatment in SINGLE at 48 Weeks and 96 Weeks (Snapshot Algorithm)**

	48 Weeks		96 Weeks	
	TIVICAY + KIVEXA QD N=414 n (%)	ATRIPLA QD N=419 n (%)	TIVICAY + KIVEXA QD N=414 n (%)	ATRIPLA QD N=419 n (%)
HIV-1 RNA <50 copies/mL	364 (88)	338 (81)	332 (80)	303 (72)
Treatment Difference*	7.4% (95% CI: 2.5%, 12.3%), p = 0.003		8.0% (95% CI: 2.3%, 13.8%), p = 0.006	
Virologic non-	21 (5)	26 (6)	31 (7)	33 (8)

<b>response†</b>				
<b>No virologic data</b>	29 (7)	55 (13)	51 (12)	83 (20)
Reasons:				
Discontinued study/study drug due to adverse event or death‡	9 (2)	40 (10)	13 (3)	48 (11)
Discontinued study/study drug for other reasons§	20 (5)	14 (3)	36 (9)	35 (8)
Missing data during window but on study	0	1 (<1)	2 (<1)	0
<b>HIV-1 RNA &lt;50 copies/mL by baseline covariates</b>				
<b>Baseline Plasma Viral Load (copies/mL)</b>	n / N (%)			
≤100,000	253 / 280 (90)	238 / 288 (83)	237 / 280 (85)	209 / 288 (73)
>100,000	111 / 134 (83)	100 / 131 (76)	95 / 134 (71)	94 / 131 (72)
<b>Baseline CD4+ (cells/ mm<sup>3</sup>)</b>				
<200	45 / 57 (79)	48 / 62 (77)	39 / 57 (68)	45 / 62 (73)
200 to <350	143 / 163 (88)	126 / 159 (79)	135 / 163 (83)	113 / 159 (71)
≥350	176 / 194 (91)	164 / 198 (83)	158 / 194 (81)	145 / 198 (73)

\* Adjusted for baseline stratification factors.  
 † Includes patients who discontinued prior to Week 48/96 for lack or loss of efficacy and patients who are ≥50 copies in the Week 48/96 window.  
 ‡ Includes patients who discontinued due to an adverse event or death at any time point from Day 1 through the Week 48/96 analysis window if this resulted in no virologic data on treatment during the analysis window.  
 § Includes reasons such as withdrew consent, loss to follow-up, moved, protocol deviation.  
 Notes: ABC/3TC = abacavir 600 mg, lamivudine 300 mg in the form of Kivexa fixed dose combination (FDC)  
 EFV/TDF/FTC = efavirenz 600 mg, tenofovir 300 mg, emtricitabine 200 mg in the form of Atripla FDC.  
 N = Number of patients in each treatment group  
Snapshot algorithm: Subjects whose last HIV-1 RNA result was <50 c/mL in the analysis window (i.e. 48 ± 6 weeks, 96 ± 6 weeks) were counted as responders; subjects who were not suppressed or did not have data at the analysis time point were counted as non-responders.

In the SINGLE primary 48 week analysis, there was a statistically significant difference in the proportion of subjects with HIV-1 RNA <50 copies/mL between the group receiving TIVICAY + KIVEXA (88%) compared to the ATRIPLA group (81%) ( $p=0.003$ ). The virologic suppression treatment differences were comparable across baseline characteristics (gender, race and age, HIV-1 RNA and CD4+ cell count).

At 48 and 96 weeks, the adjusted mean change in CD4+ T cell count from baseline were 267 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> and 325 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> in the group receiving TIVICAY + KIVEXA and 208 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> and

281 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> for the ATRIPLA arm, respectively. The respective adjusted differences and 95% CIs were 58.9 and 44 (33.4, 84.4 and 14.34, 73.55), and were statistically significant p<0.001 and p=0.004 (repeated measure model adjusting for the baseline stratification factors: baseline HIV-1 RNA and baseline CD4+ T cell count, among other factors).

The median time to viral suppression was 28 days in the group receiving TIVICAY + KIVEXA and 84 days in the ATRIPLA arm in SINGLE (p<0.0001). At 28 days (week 4), 63% of patients in the TIVICAY arm reached virologic suppression, compared to 14% in the ATRIPLA arm.

Virologic suppression was maintained through 144 weeks (open-label phase week 96 to 144 week). The proportion of subjects achieving HIV-1 RNA<50 copies/mL was 71% for the dolutegravir + KIVEXA group and 63% for the ATRIPLA group (treatment difference 8.3% (95% CI: 2.0%, 14.6%, p=0.010)). The adjusted mean change in CD4+ T cell count from baseline was 378 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> in the group receiving TIVICAY + KIVEXA, which continued to be statistically significantly different from the ATRIPLA arm (332 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>) (treatment difference 47 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> (95% CI: 15.61, 78.20) p=0.003).

In SPRING-2, 822 adults were randomized and received at least one dose of either dolutegravir 50 mg once daily or raltegravir 400 mg twice daily, both administered with fixed-dose dual NRTI therapy (either KIVEXA or TRUVADA). Of these patients, 169/411 in the group receiving dolutegravir and 164/411 in the group receiving raltegravir were receiving KIVEXA as the background regimen. At baseline, median patient age was 36 years, 14% were female, 15% non-white, 11% had hepatitis B and/or C co-infection, and 2% were CDC Class C, 28% had HIV-1 RNA >100,000 copies/mL and 47% had CD4+ cell count <350 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>. These characteristics were similar between treatment groups.

Overall virologic suppression (HIV-1 RNA <50 copies/mL) observed with either background regimen in the dolutegravir group (88%) was non-inferior to the raltegravir group (85%) at 48 weeks (non-inferiority margin -10%). The adjusted difference in proportion and 95% CI were 2.5 (-2.2, 7.1). At 96 weeks, virologic suppression in the dolutegravir group (81%) remained non-inferior to the raltegravir group (76%). The adjusted difference in proportion and 95% CI were 4.5 (-1.1, 10.0). Response rates at 48 weeks were 86% and 87% for dolutegravir + KIVEXA and raltegravir + KIVEXA, respectively. Response rates at 96 weeks were 74% and 76 % for dolutegravir + KIVEXA and for raltegravir + KIVEXA, respectively.

The overall median change in CD4+ cell count from baseline to Week 96 in the dolutegravir group was +276.0 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>, compared to +264.0 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> in the raltegravir arm.

Through 144 weeks in SINGLE and 96 weeks in SPRING-2, no treatment emergent resistance to dolutegravir, abacavir, or lamivudine in background therapy were isolated on the dolutegravir-containing arms.

In FLAMINGO, an open-label and active-controlled study, 484 HIV-1 infected antiretroviral naïve adults were randomized and received at least one dose of either dolutegravir 50 mg once daily or darunavir/ritonavir (DRV/r) 800 mg/100 mg once daily, both administered with fixed-dose dual NRTI therapy (either KIVEXA or TRUVADA). Of these subjects, 33% in each group received KIVEXA as background regimen. At baseline, median patient age was 34 years, 15% were female, 28% non-white, 10% had hepatitis B and/or C co-infection, and 3% were CDC Class C, 25% had HIV-1 RNA >100,000 copies/mL, and 35% had CD4+ cell count <350 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>. These characteristics were similar between treatment groups.

At 48 weeks, there was a statistically significant difference in the proportion of patients achieving virologic suppression (HIV-1 RNA <50 copies/mL) between the group receiving TIVICAY (90%) compared to the darunavir/ritonavir group (83%). The adjusted difference in proportion and 95% CI were 7.1 (0.9, 13.2) ( $p=0.025$ ). At 96 weeks virologic suppression in the TIVICAY group (80%) remained statistically significant to the darunavir/ritonavir group (68%). The adjusted difference in proportion and 95% CI were 12.4 (4.7, 20.2) ( $p=0.002$ ). The median time to viral suppression was 28 days in the dolutegravir treatment group and 85 days in the darunavir/ritonavir arm ( $p<0.001$ ). Response rates at 48 weeks were 90% for TIVICAY + KIVEXA and 85% for darunavir/ritonavir + KIVEXA and at 96 weeks were 82% for TIVICAY + KIVEXA and 75% for darunavir/ritonavir + KIVEXA. The adjusted difference in proportion and 95% CI were 7.3 (-5.4, 20.0). Through 96 weeks, no subjects in the study had treatment-emergent primary resistance mutations.

## Pediatrics

The efficacy of the individual components of TRIUMEQ for the treatment of HIV-1 infection was evaluated in pediatric patients aged 12 years and older weighing at least 40 kg in the below pediatric studies of TIVICAY and KIVEXA and is also supported by well-controlled studies of TIVICAY and KIVEXA in adults with HIV-1 infection.

Abacavir and lamivudine were evaluated in a randomized, multicenter trial (ARROW) in HIV-1-infected, treatment-naïve subjects. Subjects randomized to once-daily dosing ( $n = 336$ ) and who weighed at least 25 kg received abacavir 600 mg and lamivudine 300 mg, as either the single entities or as KIVEXA. At Week 96, 67% of subjects receiving abacavir and lamivudine once-daily had HIV-1 RNA less than 80 copies per mL (See KIVEXA Product Monograph).

Dolutegravir was evaluated in 23 treatment-experienced, INSTI-naïve, HIV-1-infected subjects aged 12 to less than 18 years in a 48-week open-label, multicenter, dose-finding clinical trial, IMPAACT P1093. At 48 weeks, 61% of subjects treated with TIVICAY once daily plus optimized background therapy achieved a viral load less than 50 copies per mL (See TIVICAY Product Monograph).

## 14.2 Comparative Bioavailability Studies

A single-dose, 2-part, crossover study was conducted to evaluate the bioequivalence of an oral 1 x TRIUMEQ (50 mg dolutegravir/600 mg abacavir/300 mg lamivudine) fixed dose combination tablet versus the concurrent oral administration of 1 x Dolutegravir 50 mg tablet plus 1 x EPZICOM (600 mg abacavir/300 mg lamivudine) tablet under fasting conditions (study Part A;  $n=62$ ) and to evaluate the effect of food on the bioavailability of the fixed dose combination tablet (study Part B:  $n= 12$ ). The study was conducted in healthy, adult male and female subjects.

EPZICOM (600 mg abacavir/300 mg lamivudine) tablets and the Dolutegravir 50 mg tablets administered as the Reference products in the study are comparable to the commercial Canadian marketed KIVEXA (600 mg abacavir/300 mg lamivudine) tablets and TIVICAY (dolutegravir 50 mg) tablets, respectively.

The TRIUMEQ (50 mg dolutegravir/600 mg abacavir/300 mg lamivudine) fixed dose combination tablet was bioequivalent to Dolutegravir 50 mg tablets plus EPZICOM (abacavir/lamivudine) tablets administered concurrently as separate tablets.

In the separate cohort (n=12), there was no clinically significant effect of a high-fat, high calorie meal on the rate and extent of absorption of dolutegravir, abacavir or lamivudine. These results indicate that TRIUMEQ may be taken with or without food.

<b>Dolutegravir (1 x 50 mg)</b> <b>FASTED CONDITIONS</b> <b>From measured data</b> <b>Geometric Mean</b> <b>Arithmetic Mean (CV %)</b>				
<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Test<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Reference<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>% Ratio of Geometric Means</b>	<b>90% Confidence Interval</b>
AUC <sub>T</sub> ( $\mu\text{g.h/mL}$ )	40.90 42.75 (31)	43.37 45.41 (30)	94.30	(88.80, 100.10)
AUC <sub>I</sub> ( $\mu\text{g.h/mL}$ )	44.80 47.12 (33)	47.40 49.82 (31)	94.50	(88.90, 100.30)
C <sub>max</sub> ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	2.44 2.53 (28)	2.54 2.64 (28)	96.10	(90.60, 101.90)
T <sub>max</sub> <sup>§</sup> (h)	3.32 (40)	3.15 (53)		
T <sub>½</sub> <sup>§</sup> (h)	13.00 (21)	13.05 (18)		

1. TRIUMEQ (50 mg dolutegravir / 600 mg abacavir / 300 mg lamivudine) fixed dose combination tablets

2. Dolutegravir 50 mg tablet plus EPZICOM (600 mg abacavir / 300 mg lamivudine) tablet administered concurrently

§ expressed as the arithmetic mean (CV%) only

<b>Abacavir (1 x 600 mg) FASTED CONDITIONS</b> <b>From measured data</b> <b>Geometric Mean</b> <b>Arithmetic Mean (CV %)</b>				
<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Test<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Reference<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>% Ratio of Geometric Means</b>	<b>90% Confidence Interval</b>
AUC <sub>T</sub> ( $\mu\text{g.h/mL}$ )	13.89 14.32 (25)	14.48 14.87 (23)	96.00	(93.90, 98.00)
AUC <sub>I</sub> ( $\mu\text{g.h/mL}$ )	13.91 14.35 (25)	14.50 14.89 (23)	96.00	(93.90, 98.00)
C <sub>max</sub> ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	4.02 4.13 (23)	4.37 4.52 (25)	92.00	(86.70, 97.70)
T <sub>max</sub> <sup>§</sup> (h)	1.73 (49)	1.57 (51)		
T <sub>½</sub> <sup>§</sup> (h)	2.69 (31)	2.63 (28)		

1. TRIUMEQ (50 mg dolutegravir / 600 mg abacavir / 300 mg lamivudine) fixed dose combination tablets

2. Dolutegravir 50 mg tablet plus EPZICOM (600 mg abacavir / 300 mg lamivudine) tablet administered concurrently

§ expressed as the arithmetic mean (CV%) only

<b>Lamivudine (1 x 300 mg) FASTED CONDITIONS</b> <b>From measured data</b> <b>Geometric Mean</b> <b>Arithmetic Mean (CV %)</b>				
<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Test<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Reference<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>% Ratio of Geometric Means</b>	<b>90% Confidence Interval</b>
AUC <sub>T</sub> ( $\mu\text{g.h/mL}$ )	12.31 12.70 (26)	12.81 13.10 (21)	96.00	(92.80, 99.40)
AUC <sub>I</sub> ( $\mu\text{g.h/mL}$ )	12.76 13.13 (25)	13.12 13.41 (21)	97.20	(94.00, 100.50)
C <sub>max</sub> ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	2.11 2.20 (29)	2.28 2.35 (25)	92.60	(88.50, 96.80)
T <sub>max</sub> <sup>§</sup> (h)	2.74 (32)	2.31 (33)		
T <sub>½</sub> <sup>§</sup> (h)	16.28 (47)	13.74 (39)		

1. TRIUMEQ (50 mg dolutegravir / 600 mg abacavir / 300 mg lamivudine) fixed dose combination tablets
2. Dolutegravir 50 mg tablet plus EPZICOM (600 mg abavacir / 300 mg lamivudine) tablet administered concurrently

§ expressed as the arithmetic mean (CV%) only

## 15 MICROBIOLOGY

### Antiviral Activity in Cell Culture

#### **Dolutegravir**

Dolutegravir exhibited antiviral activity against laboratory strains of wild-type HIV-1 with mean IC<sub>50</sub> values of 0.51 nM to 2.1 nM in peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) and MT-4 cells.

When dolutegravir was tested in PBMC assays against a panel consisting of 24 HIV-1 clinical isolates [group M (clade A, B, C, D, E, F and G) and group O] and 3 HIV-2 clinical isolates, the geometric mean IC<sub>50</sub> was 0.20 nM (0.02 to 2.14 nM) for HIV-1, while the geometric mean IC<sub>50</sub> was 0.18 nM (0.09 to 0.61nM) for HIV-2 isolates.

#### **Abacavir**

The *in vitro* anti-HIV-1 activity of abacavir was evaluated against a T-cell tropic laboratory strain HIV-1 IIIB in lymphoblastic cell lines, a monocyte/macrophage tropic laboratory strain HIV-1 BaL in primary monocytes/macrophages and clinical isolates in peripheral blood mononuclear cells. The concentration of drug necessary to inhibit viral replication by 50 percent (IC<sub>50</sub>) ranged from 3.7 to 5.8  $\mu\text{M}$  against HIV-1 IIIB, and was 0.26  $\pm$  0.18  $\mu\text{M}$  (1  $\mu\text{M}$  = 0.28  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ ) against eight

clinical isolates. The IC<sub>50</sub> of abacavir against HIV-1 BaL varied from 0.07 to 1.0 µM. Ribavirin (50µM) had no effect on the anti-HIV-1 activity of abacavir in cell culture.

### **Lamivudine**

The antiviral activity of lamivudine against HIV-1 was assessed in a number of cell lines including monocytes and PBMCs using standard susceptibility assays. IC<sub>50</sub> values were in the range of 0.003 µM to 2 µM (1 µM = 0.23 mcg/mL). The IC<sub>50</sub> values of lamivudine against different HIV-1 clades (A to G) ranged from 0.001 to 0.120 µM, and against HIV-2 isolates from 0.002 to 0.041 µM in PBMCs. Ribavirin (50µM) decreased the anti-HIV-1 activity of lamivudine by 3.5 fold in MT-4 cells.

### **Antiviral Activity in combination with other antiviral agents**

#### **Dolutegravir**

The following drugs were not antagonistic with dolutegravir in *in-vitro* assessments conducted in checkerboard format: stavudine, abacavir, efavirenz, nevirapine, lopinavir, amprenavir, enfuvirtide, maraviroc, adefovir and raltegravir. In addition, the anti-HCV drug ribavirin had no apparent effect on dolutegravir activity.

#### **Abacavir and Lamivudine**

No drugs with inherent anti-HIV activity were antagonistic with abacavir/lamivudine; in vitro assessments conducted in checkerboard format in combination with the NRTIs emtricitabine, stavudine, tenofovir, zalcitabine, zidovudine; the non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs) delavirdine, efavirenz, nevirapine; the protease inhibitors (PIs) amprenavir, indinavir, lopinavir, nelfinavir, ritonavir, saquinavir; or the fusion inhibitor, enfuvirtide. Ribavirin decreased the anti-HIV-1 potency of abacavir/lamivudine reproducibly by 2- to 6-fold in cell culture.

### **Effect of Human Serum and Serum Proteins**

*In vitro* studies suggested a 75-fold shift in IC<sub>50</sub> of dolutegravir in the presence of 100% human serum (by method of extrapolation), and the protein adjusted IC<sub>90</sub> (PA-IC<sub>90</sub>) in PBMCs for dolutegravir was estimated to be 0.064 µg/mL. Dolutegravir trough concentration for a single 50 mg dose in integrase inhibitor naïve patients was 1.20 µg/mL, 19 times higher than the estimated PA-IC<sub>90</sub>. Plasma protein binding studies *in vitro* indicate that abacavir binds only low to moderately (~49%) to human plasma proteins at therapeutic concentrations. Lamivudine exhibits linear pharmacokinetics over the therapeutic dose range and displays low plasma protein binding (less than 36%).

### **Resistance *in vitro* (dolutegravir)**

#### **Isolation from wild type HIV-1**

Viruses highly resistant to dolutegravir were not observed during the 112 day passage of strain IIIB, with a 4.1-fold maximum fold change (FC) observed for the passaged resistant virus populations with substitutions at the conserved IN positions S153Y and S153F.

Passage of the wild type HIV-1 strain NL432 in the presence of dolutegravir selected for E92Q (passage population virus FC=3.1) and G193E (passage population virus FC=3.2) substitutions on Day 56. Additional passage of wildtype subtype B, C, and A/G viruses in the presence of dolutegravir selected for R263K, G118R, and S153T.

### **Resistance *in vitro* (abacavir and lamivudine)**

HIV-1 isolates with reduced susceptibility to the combination of abacavir and lamivudine have been selected in cell culture with amino acid substitutions M184V/I, K65R, L74V, and Y115F in

HIV-1 RT. Resistance to lamivudine was due to a specific amino acid substitution at codon 184 changing the methionine to either isoleucine or valine (M184V/I). The substitution at M184I/V causes high-level resistance to lamivudine and approximately three-fold decreased susceptibility to abacavir, below the clinical cutoff for abacavir (4.5-fold). An additional substitution from abacavir resistance positions K65R, L74M, or Y115F conferred a 7-fold to 8-fold change (above the clinical cutoff) in abacavir susceptibility, and combinations of three substitutions were required to confer more than an 8-fold change in susceptibility.

### **Resistance *in vivo* (dolutegravir)**

#### ***Integrase inhibitor naïve patients***

No INI-resistant substitutions or treatment emergent resistance to the NRTI backbone therapy were isolated with dolutegravir 50 mg once daily in treatment-naïve studies (SPRING-2, SINGLE and FLAMINGO studies).

#### **Resistance *in vivo* (abacavir and lamivudine)**

HIV-1 isolates with reduced susceptibility to the combination of abacavir and lamivudine have been obtained from subjects failing abacavir/lamivudine-containing regimens. Resistance analyses of virologic failure isolates for subjects receiving abacavir/lamivudine therapy showed that the RT substitutions that emerged were those observed in vitro (K65R, L74V, Y115F, and M184V/I), with the abacavir and lamivudine-associated resistance substitution M184V/I being most commonly observed.

Resistance testing was performed on samples from subjects failing treatment with dolutegravir + KIVEXA in the treatment-naïve trials: SINGLE (n = 414 treated through 96 weeks), SPRING-2 (n = 169 treated through 96 weeks), and FLAMINGO (n = 79 treated through 48 weeks). Of these, 34 subjects met resistance testing criteria: 25 from SINGLE, 9 from SPRING-2 and none from FLAMINGO. Of these, 23 had both baseline and on study resistance testing data; there were no treatment-emergent RT substitutions isolated in the subjects receiving dolutegravir + KIVEXA

#### ***Anti-HIV Activity Against Resistant Strains***

Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor- and Protease Inhibitor-Resistant Strains: Dolutegravir demonstrated equivalent antiviral activity against 2 non-nucleoside (NN)-RTI-resistant, 3 nucleoside (N)-RTI-resistant, and 2 PI-resistant HIV-1 mutant clones (1 triple and 1 sextuple) compared to the wildtype strain.

#### ***Integrase Inhibitor-Resistant HIV-1 Strains***

Sixty integrase inhibitor-resistant mutant HIV-1 viruses (28 with single substitutions and 32 with 2 or more substitutions) were produced from wild-type virus NL-432 using site-directed mutagenesis. Dolutegravir showed anti-HIV activity (susceptibility) with FC < 5 against 27 of 28 integrase inhibitor-resistant mutant viruses with single substitutions including T66A/I/K, E92Q/V, Y143C/H/R, Q148H/K/R, and N155H, while for raltegravir and elvitegravir there were 17/28 and 11/21 tested mutant viruses with FC < 5, respectively. In addition, of the 32 integrase inhibitor-resistant mutant viruses with 2 or more substitutions, 23 of 32 showed FC < 5 to dolutegravir compared with FC < 5 for 4 of 32 for raltegravir and FC < 5 for 2 of 25 tested for elvitegravir.

#### ***Integrase Inhibitor-Resistant HIV-2 Strains***

Site directed mutant HIV-2 viruses were constructed based on patients infected with HIV-2 and treated with raltegravir who showed virologic failure (n=6). Overall the HIV-2 FCs observed were similar to HIV-1 FCs observed for similar pathway mutations. Dolutegravir FC was <5 against 4 HIV-2 viruses (S163D, G140A/Q148R, A153G/N155H/S163G and

E92Q/T97A/N155H/S163D); for E92Q/N155H, dolutegravir FC was 8.5, and for G140S/Q148R, dolutegravir FC was 17. Dolutegravir, raltegravir and elvitegravir all had the same activity against site directed mutant HIV-2 with S163D as wildtype, and for the remaining mutant HIV-2 virus raltegravir FC ranges were 6.4 to 420 and elvitegravir FC ranges were 22 to 640.

### ***Abacavir and Lamivudine***

Cross resistance between abacavir or lamivudine and antiretrovirals from other classes (e.g. protease inhibitors (PI) or non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs)), is unlikely. Reduced susceptibility to abacavir has been demonstrated in clinical isolates of patients with uncontrolled viral replication, who have been pre-treated with and are resistant to other nucleoside inhibitors.

Clinical isolates with three or more mutations associated with NRTIs are unlikely to be susceptible to abacavir. Cross resistance conferred by the M184V RT is limited within the nucleoside inhibitor class of antiretroviral agents. Zidovudine, stavudine, abacavir and tenofovir maintain their antiretroviral activities against lamivudine-resistant HIV-1 harbouring only the M184V mutation.

*In vitro* isolates resistant to abacavir might also show reduced sensitivity to lamivudine, zalcitabine, tenofovir, emtricitabine and/or didanosine, but remain sensitive to zidovudine and stavudine.

## **16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY**

With the exception of a negative *in vivo* rat micronucleus test for the combination of abacavir and lamivudine, there are no data available on the effects of the combination of dolutegravir, abacavir and lamivudine in animals.

### ***Carcinogenesis/mutagenesis***

Dolutegravir was not mutagenic or clastogenic using *in vitro* tests in bacteria and cultured mammalian cells, and an *in vivo* rodent micronucleus assay. Dolutegravir was not carcinogenic in long term studies in the mouse and rat at exposures ~26 and ~23 times, respectively, above the human clinical exposure based on AUC at the recommended dose of 50 mg dolutegravir.

Neither abacavir nor lamivudine were mutagenic in bacterial tests, but like many nucleoside analogues they show activity in the *in vitro* mammalian tests such as the mouse lymphoma assay. This is consistent with the known activity of other nucleoside analogues. The results of an *in vivo* rat micronucleus test with abacavir and lamivudine in combination were negative.

Carcinogenicity studies with orally administered abacavir in mice and rats showed an increase in the incidence of malignant and non-malignant tumours. Malignant tumours occurred in the preputial gland of males and the clitoral gland of females of both species, and in the liver, urinary bladder, lymph nodes and the subcutis of female rats.

The majority of these tumours occurred at the highest abacavir dose of 330 mg/kg/day in mice and 600 mg/kg/day in rats. These dose levels were equivalent to 21 to 28 times above the human clinical exposure based on AUC at the recommended dose of 600 mg abacavir. The exception was the preputial gland tumour which occurred at a dose of 110 mg/kg. This is equivalent to six times the expected human systemic exposure. There is no structural counterpart for this gland in humans. While the carcinogenic potential in humans is unknown,

these data suggest that a carcinogenic risk to humans is outweighed by the potential clinical benefit.

In *in-vivo* studies, long-term carcinogenicity studies with lamivudine in mice and rats showed no evidence of carcinogenic potential at exposures up to 12 times (mice) and 72 times (rats) above the human clinical exposure based on AUC at the recommended dose of 300 mg lamivudine.

Abacavir induced chromosomal aberrations both in the presence and absence of metabolic activation in an *in vitro* cytogenetic study in human lymphocytes. Abacavir was mutagenic in the absence of metabolic activation, although it was not mutagenic in the presence of metabolic activation in an L5178Y mouse lymphoma assay. At systemic exposures approximately nine times higher than those in humans at the therapeutic dose, abacavir was clastogenic in males and not clastogenic in females in an *in vivo* mouse bone marrow micronucleus assay. Abacavir was not mutagenic in bacterial mutagenicity assays in the presence and absence of metabolic activation.

Lamivudine was not active in a microbial mutagenicity screen or an *in vitro* cell transformation assay, but showed weak *in vitro* mutagenic activity in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes and in the mouse lymphoma assay. However, lamivudine showed no evidence of *in vivo* genotoxic activity in the rat at oral doses of up to 2,000 mg/kg, approximately 65 times the recommended human dose.

## **Reproductive Toxicology**

### **Fertility:**

Fertility studies in the rat have shown that dolutegravir, abacavir and lamivudine had no effect on male or female fertility.

Dolutegravir did not affect male or female fertility in rats at doses up to 1,000 mg/kg/day, the highest dose tested (44 times above the human clinical exposure based on AUC at the recommended dose of 50 mg dolutegravir, 600 mg abacavir, and 300 mg lamivudine).

### **Pregnancy:**

In reproductive toxicity studies in animals, dolutegravir, abacavir and lamivudine were shown to cross the placenta.

### **Dolutegravir**

Oral administration of dolutegravir to pregnant rats at doses up to 1,000 mg/kg daily from days 6 to 17 of gestation did not elicit maternal toxicity, developmental toxicity or teratogenicity (50 times above the human clinical exposure based on AUC at the recommended dose of 50 mg dolutegravir, 600 mg abacavir, and 300 mg lamivudine).

Oral administration of dolutegravir to pregnant rabbits at doses up to 1,000 mg/kg daily from days 6 to 18 of gestation did not elicit developmental toxicity or teratogenicity (0.74 times the human clinical exposure based on AUC at the recommended dose of 50 mg dolutegravir, 600 mg abacavir, and 300 mg lamivudine). In rabbits, maternal toxicity (decreased food consumption, scant/no feces/urine, suppressed body weight gain) was observed at 1,000 mg/kg (0.74 times the human clinical exposure based on AUC at the recommended dose of 50 mg dolutegravir, 600 mg abacavir, and 300 mg lamivudine).

### **Abacavir**

Reproduction studies were performed in rats and rabbits at orally administered doses up to 1,000 mg/kg/day and 700 mg/kg/day, respectively. These doses in rats and rabbits achieved approximately 28 and 7 times, respectively, above the human clinical exposure based on AUC at the recommended dose of 50 mg dolutegravir, 600 mg abacavir, and 300 mg lamivudine. In the rat, development toxicity (depressed fetal body weight and reduced crown-rump length) and increased incidences of fetal anasarca and skeletal malformations were observed at the highest dose assessed. Studies in pregnant rats showed that abacavir is transferred to the fetus through the placenta. In a fertility study, evidence of toxicity to the developing embryo and fetuses (increased resorptions, decreased fetal body weights) occurred only at 500 mg/kg/day, a dose that was toxic to the parental generation. The offspring of female rats treated with abacavir at 500 mg/kg (beginning at embryo implantation and ending at weaning) showed increased incidence of stillbirth and lower body weights throughout life.

### **Lamivudine**

Lamivudine was not teratogenic in the rat or rabbit, at doses up to 2,000 mg/kg b.i.d. and 500 mg/kg b.i.d., respectively. In the rabbit a slight increase in the incidence of pre-implantation loss at doses 20 mg/kg b.i.d. and above indicates a possible early embryolethal effect. There was no such effect in the rat. These marginal effects occurred at relatively low doses, which produced plasma levels comparable to those achieved in patients.

In a peri-/post-natal/juvenile toxicity study in rats, some histological inflammatory changes at the ano-rectal junction and slight diffuse epithelial hyperplasia of the cecum were observed in dams and pups at the high-dose level. An increased incidence of urination upon handling was also seen in some offspring receiving 450 or 2,000 mg/kg. In addition, a reduction in testes weight was observed in juvenile males at 2,000 mg/kg which was associated with slight to moderate dilatation of the seminiferous tubules.

### ***Animal toxicology and/or pharmacology***

#### **Dolutegravir**

The effect of prolonged daily treatment with high doses of dolutegravir has been evaluated in repeat oral dose toxicity studies in rats (up to 26 weeks) and in monkeys (up to 38 weeks). The primary effect of dolutegravir was gastrointestinal intolerance or irritation in rats and monkeys at doses that produce systemic exposures approximately 38 and 1.5 times above the human clinical exposure based on AUC at the recommended dose of 50 mg dolutegravir, 600 mg abacavir, and 300 mg lamivudine. Because gastrointestinal (GI) intolerance is considered to be due to local drug administration, mg/kg or mg/m<sup>2</sup> metrics are appropriate determinates of safety cover for this toxicity. GI intolerance in monkeys occurred at 30 times the human mg/kg equivalent dose (based on 50 kg human), and 11 times the human mg/m<sup>2</sup> equivalent dose for a total daily clinical dose of 50 mg. Dolutegravir was slightly to mildly irritating to skin and eyes in the rabbit.

Mild myocardial degeneration in the heart of mice and rats was observed following administration of abacavir for two years. The systemic exposures were equivalent to 7 to 21 times above the human clinical exposure based on AUC at the recommended dose of 50 mg dolutegravir, 600 mg abacavir, and 300 mg lamivudine. The clinical relevance of this finding has not been determined.

For additional information on Toxicology, please consult the individual product monographs of TIVICAY, KIVEXA, 3TC, and ZIAGEN.

**READ THIS FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF YOUR MEDICINE**  
**PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION**

**PrTRIUMEQ**  
dolutegravir, abacavir and lamivudine tablets

Read this carefully before you start taking **TRIUMEQ** and each time you get a refill. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about this drug. Talk to your healthcare professional about your medical condition and treatment and ask if there is any new information about **TRIUMEQ**.

## Serious Warnings and Precautions

### **Worsening of hepatitis B virus infection**

If you have a hepatitis B infection, you should not stop taking TRIUMEQ without instructions from your doctor. This is because your hepatitis may worsen or reoccur if you do. Your doctor will monitor your conditions for several months after stopping treatment with TRIUMEQ.

### **Serious allergic reactions (hypersensitivity reactions) that can be life threatening**

You should be screened for the HLA-B\*5701 gene variation before starting or re-starting treatment with TRIUMEQ. Patients with the HLA-B\*5701 gene variation have a high risk of developing a serious allergic reaction to abacavir which is one of the medicines in TRIUMEQ. These allergic reactions can be life threatening. Serious allergic reactions have also happened in patients who do not have the HLA-B\*5701 gene variation.

If you get two or more of the following groups of symptoms while taking TRIUMEQ, contact your doctor immediately to find out if you should stop taking TRIUMEQ:

SYMPTOM(S)	
<b>Group 1</b>	<b>Fever</b>
<b>Group 2</b>	<b>Rash</b>
<b>Group 3</b>	<b>Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal (stomach area) pain</b>
<b>Group 4</b>	<b>Generally ill feeling, extreme tiredness or achiness</b>
<b>Group 5</b>	<b>Shortness of breath, cough or sore throat</b>

A list of these symptoms is on the Warning Card provided by your pharmacist. You should carry this Warning Card with you at all times. **If you notice these symptoms while taking TRIUMEQ, call your doctor immediately. Your doctor may advise you to stop taking TRIUMEQ.**

**If you stop TRIUMEQ because of a serious allergic reaction, never take TRIUMEQ or any other medicine containing abacavir (such as ZIAGEN or KIVEXA) again, regardless of whether you have the HLA-B\*5701 gene variation or not. Within hours you may experience a life threatening lowering of your blood pressure or death.** If you stop TRIUMEQ for any other reason, even for a few days, and you are not allergic to TRIUMEQ, talk with your doctor before taking it again. Taking TRIUMEQ again may cause a serious allergic or life-threatening reaction, even if you never had an allergic reaction to it before.

**If your healthcare provider tells you that you can take TRIUMEQ again, start taking it when you are around medical help or people who can call a doctor if you need one.**

## **What is TRIUMEQ used for?**

TRIUMEQ is used to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infection in:

- Adults.
- In adolescents 12 years of age and older who weigh 40 kg or more.

## **How does TRIUMEQ work?**

TRIUMEQ contains three medicines combined in one tablet: dolutegravir, abacavir, and lamivudine. Dolutegravir belongs to a group of anti-retroviral medicines called integrase inhibitors (INIs). Abacavir and lamivudine belong to a group of anti-retroviral medicines called nucleoside analogues reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs).

TRIUMEQ is not a cure for HIV infection. It reduces the amount of virus in your body, and keeps it at a low level. TRIUMEQ also increases the CD4 cell count in your blood. CD4 cells are white blood cells that are important in helping your body fight infection.

## **What are the ingredients in TRIUMEQ?**

Medicinal ingredients: dolutegravir (as dolutegravir sodium), abacavir (as abacavir sulfate) and lamivudine.

Non-medicinal ingredients: D-mannitol, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, povidone K29/32, and sodium starch glycolate. The tablet film-coating (OPADRY® II Purple 85F90057) contains the inactive ingredients iron oxide black, iron oxide red, macrogol/PEG, polyvinyl alcohol-part hydrolyzed, talc, and titanium dioxide.

## **TRIUMEQ comes in the following dosage forms:**

As tablets containing 50 mg dolutegravir, 600 mg abacavir and 300 mg lamivudine

## **Do not use TRIUMEQ if you are:**

- allergic to dolutegravir, abacavir or lamivudine, or any of the ingredients in TRIUMEQ (see **What are the ingredients in TRIUMEQ?**)
- have HLA-B\*5701 gene variation
- taking the medicine dofetilide used to treat heart conditions,
- taking fampridine (also known as dalfampridine) used to treat multiple sclerosis

**To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you take TRIUMEQ. Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including if you:**

- have used any medicine of the NRTI class before.
- have kidney problems.
- have liver problems, including hepatitis B or C.
- are obese.
- have any other medical condition.
- are taking other medicines that contain abacavir, lamivudine or emtricitabine. These should not be taken along with TRIUMEQ.

## **Other warnings you should know about:**

**Blood sugar and fat levels:** Your blood sugar levels or blood fat levels may increase with HIV treatment. Your doctor may order blood tests for you.

**Lactic acidosis and liver problems:** Some of the medicines in TRIUMEQ can cause a serious condition called lactic acidosis together with hepatomegaly (swollen and enlarged liver). Lactic acidosis is where you have too much lactic acid in your blood. Symptoms include weakness, loss of appetite, sudden unexplained weight loss, upset stomach and difficulty breathing or rapid breathing. Talk to a healthcare professional right away if you get any symptoms of lactic acidosis. Lactic acidosis occurs more often in women and in obese people. If you have liver problems you may also be more at risk of getting this condition. While you are being treated with TRIUMEQ your doctor will monitor you closely for signs of lactic acidosis.

**Liver problems:** TRIUMEQ can cause serious liver problems including liver injury and liver failure. This can lead to liver transplantation. Symptoms of liver problems include yellowing of the skin or whites of the eyes, dark or tea coloured urine, pale coloured stools, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite and pain, aching or tenderness on right side below the ribs. Talk to a healthcare professional right away if you get any symptoms of liver problems. Your doctor will monitor you closely for liver problems while you are taking TRIUMEQ.

**Heart attack:** Abacavir may increase your risk of heart attack. If you have heart problems, smoke or suffer from diseases that increase your risk of heart disease such as high blood pressure and diabetes, tell your doctor.

**Infections:** You may still get other infections and illnesses related to HIV disease. You should keep in regular contact with your doctor while taking TRIUMEQ.

**Immune Reconstitution Inflammatory Syndrome:** Changes to your immune system can happen when you start taking HIV-1 medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time.

Autoimmune disorders happen when the immune system attacks healthy body tissue. This may happen after you start taking medicines for HIV infection. Examples of this include: Grave's disease (which affects the thyroid gland), Guillain-Barré syndrome (which affects the nervous system), polymyositis (which affects the muscles), or autoimmune hepatitis (which affects the liver). Autoimmune disorders may occur many months after the start of treatment.

**Pregnancy and birth defects:** Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, think you might be pregnant or are planning to become pregnant. Your doctor might perform a pregnancy test before you start taking TRIUMEQ. You must use a reliable method of contraception while you are taking TRIUMEQ. This is because TRIUMEQ can harm your unborn baby. It can cause birth defects called neural tube defects. There have also been rare reports that it can cause seizures and other neurological disease. If you do become pregnant while taking TRIUMEQ your doctor will decide if you should keep taking TRIUMEQ. They may prescribe a different medicine than TRIUMEQ if you are planning to become pregnant or if pregnancy is confirmed during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy.

**Pregnancy registry:** There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiretroviral medicines while they are pregnant. The purpose of this registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. If you do become pregnant while taking TRIUMEQ, talk to your doctor about taking part in this registry.

**Breastfeeding:** Talk to your doctor if you are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. Women who are HIV positive should not breastfeed because HIV infection can be passed to the baby through breast milk. TRIUMEQ can also pass into breast milk and harm your baby. Talk to your doctor about how to feed your infant.

**Infecting Others with HIV:**

TRIUMEQ will not stop you from passing HIV to others, although this risk is lower if you take your HIV medicine as instructed by your healthcare professional. You should take steps to avoid infecting others by:

- Using condoms when you have oral or penetrative sex.
- Not reusing or sharing needles, syringes, or other injection equipment.

**Tell your healthcare professional about all the medicines you take, including any drugs, vitamins, minerals, natural supplements or alternative medicines.**

**The following may interact with TRIUMEQ:**

- metformin, to treat diabetes
- medicines called antacids, to treat indigestion and heartburn
- calcium or iron supplements
- etravirine, efavirenz, fosamprenavir/ritonavir, nevirapine or tipranavir/ritonavir to treat HIV infection
- rifampin, to treat tuberculosis (TB) and other bacterial infections
- phenytoin and phenobarbital, to treat epilepsy
- oxcarbazepine and carbamazepine, to treat epilepsy and bipolar disorder
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), a herbal remedy to treat depression
- retinoids, to treat skin conditions
- riociguat, to treat high blood pressure in the lungs
- trimethoprim sulphamethoxazole (co-trimoxazole, an antibiotic)
- sorbitol-containing medicines (usually liquids) used regularly
- medicines that already contain abacavir, lamivudine or emtricitabine such as 3TC, HEPTOVIR, COMBIVIR, ZIAGEN, KIVEXA, TRUVADA, COMPLERA, ATRIPLA, EMTRIVA and STRIBILD
- methadone, to treat pain and drug addiction. Your doctor may need to adjust your methadone dose

**How to take TRIUMEQ:**

- Always take TRIUMEQ exactly as your doctor has told you to.
- Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you're not sure.
- You can take TRIUMEQ with or without food.
- Swallow tablet whole with some liquid.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking TRIUMEQ without talking with your doctor.
- Do not take an antacid during the 6 hours before you take TRIUMEQ, or for at least 2 hours after you take it.
- Do not take calcium or iron supplements during the 6 hours before you take TRIUMEQ,

or for at least 2 hours after you take it. If you take food with TRIUMEQ, then you can take calcium and iron supplements at the same time as TRIUMEQ.

#### **Usual dose:**

The usual dose in adults and in adolescents 12 years and older who weigh 40 kg or more is one tablet once a day. Your doctor will determine if the child is able to swallow the tablet.

TRIUMEQ contains a fixed amount of the medicines dolutegravir, abacavir and lamivudine. This means the doses cannot be reduced since they are fixed. Therefore, TRIUMEQ cannot be used if you have certain kidney or liver problems where you need a lower dose.

#### **Overdose:**

If you think you have taken too much TRIUMEQ, contact your healthcare professional, hospital emergency department or regional poison control centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

#### **Missed Dose:**

If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If your next dose is due within 4 hours, skip the dose you missed and take the next one at the usual time. Then continue your treatment as before.

#### **If you stopped taking TRIUMEQ:**

If you stop taking TRIUMEQ because of side effects or illness, you must contact your doctor before restarting to make sure that symptoms of a hypersensitivity reaction have not been missed. In some cases your doctor will ask you to restart TRIUMEQ under direct medical supervision or in a place where you will be able to get ready access to medical care if needed.

#### **What are possible side effects from using TRIUMEQ?**

These are not all the possible side effects you may feel when taking TRIUMEQ. If you experience any side effects not listed here, contact your healthcare professional.

#### **Side effects include:**

- nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain and bloating (abdominal distension)
- headache, high temperature (fever), lethargy (unusual lack of energy)
- fatigue
- trouble sleeping
- depressed mood (feelings of deep sadness and unworthiness), anxiety
- loss of appetite
- hair loss
- joint and muscle pain
- stomach discomfort
- dizziness
- abnormal dreams
- weight gain
- intestinal gas (flatulence)

Side effects that may show up in blood tests include an increase in bilirubin (a substance produced by the liver), an increase in the level of enzymes produced in the muscles (creatinine phosphokinase) and/or an increase in kidney function test results (creatinine). Blood tests will also be used to check for liver problems. Your doctor will decide when to order blood tests and will interpret the results.

Serious side effects and what to do about them			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
<b>COMMON</b>			
<b>Serious allergic reaction (hypersensitivity reaction) to abacavir, 2 or more of the following symptoms:</b> fever, skin rash, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, severe tiredness, achiness, general ill-feeling, sore throat, shortness of breath.		✓	
<b>UNCOMMON</b>			
<b>Hypersensitivity reaction to dolutegravir:</b> Skin rash, fever, lack of energy, swelling of the mouth or face causing difficulty in breathing, muscle or joint aches.		✓	
<b>Liver problems:</b> High liver blood test results, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, pain, aching or tenderness on the right side below the ribs, yellowing of the skin or whites of the eyes, dark or tea coloured urine, pale coloured stool		✓	
<b>Blood problems:</b> Anemia (lowered red blood cell count – resulting in fatigue, breathlessness),  low white blood cell count (neutropenia – increasing chance of infection),  reduced platelets (blood cells important for blood clotting – could increase chance of bruising),		✓	

Serious side effects and what to do about them			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
increases in enzymes produced by the muscles or kidneys.			
<b>Behavioral problems:</b> suicidal thoughts and behaviors (mainly in patients who have had depression or mental health problems before)		✓	
<b>RARE</b>			
<b>Liver failure:</b> Extremely high liver blood test results, nausea/vomiting, loss of appetite, pain, aching or tenderness on the right side below the ribs, yellowing of the skin or whites of the eyes, dark or tea colored urine, pale colored stools/ bowel movements.		✓	
<b>Pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas):</b> Nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain.		✓	
<b>Lactic acidosis (too much lactic acid in the blood):</b> Weight loss, fatigue, malaise, loss of appetite, abdominal pain, shortness of breath, severe hepatomegaly (swollen and enlarged liver) with symptoms of liver problems such as nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, weakness and diarrhea.		✓	
<b>VERY RARE</b>			
<b>Serious Skin Reactions [erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN)]:</b> severe rash, itching, fever, swollen lymph nodes, flu-like feeling, blisters and peeling of skin that may start in and around the mouth, nose, eyes and genitals and spread to other areas of the body			✓

Serious side effects and what to do about them			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
<b>FREQUENCY NOT KNOWN</b>			
<b>Immune Reconstitution</b> <b>Inflammatory Syndrome and Autoimmune Disorders:</b> fever, redness, rash or swelling, fatigue, joint or muscle pain, numbness or weakness beginning in the hands and feet and moving up towards the trunk of the body, palpitations, chest pain or rapid heart rate, yellowing of the eyes and skin, anxiety and irritability accompanied by tremor of your hands or fingers muscle weakness in your hips, thighs, shoulders, upper arms and neck		✓	
<b>Heart Attack:</b> chest pain or discomfort, pain in the jaw, neck or back or pain radiating down the left arm, shortness of breath, nausea, dizziness		✓	

If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, talk to your healthcare professional.

### Reporting Side Effects

You can report any suspected side effects associated with the use of health products to Health Canada by:

- Visiting the Web page on Adverse Reaction Reporting (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting.html>) for information on how to report online, by mail or by fax; or
- Calling toll-free at 1-866-234-2345.

*NOTE: Contact your health professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.*

**Storage:**

Store TRIUMEQ in the original package (HDPE bottle) in order to protect from moisture. Keep the bottle tightly closed. Do not remove the silica gel desiccant. Store up to 30°C.

Keep out of reach and sight of children.

**If you want more information about TRIUMEQ:**

- Talk to your healthcare professional
- Find the full product monograph that is prepared for healthcare professionals and includes this Patient Medication Information by visiting the Health Canada website (<http://hc-sc.gc.ca/index-eng.php>); the manufacturer's website [www.viivhealthcare.com](http://www.viivhealthcare.com), or by calling 1-877-393-8448.

This leaflet was prepared by ViiV Healthcare ULC.

Last Revised: November 22, 2021

*©2021 ViiV Healthcare group of companies or its licensor*

*Trademarks are owned by or licensed to the ViiV Healthcare group of companies*

*TRUVADA, COMPLERA and STRIBILD are registered trademarks of Gilead Sciences Ireland UC.*

*ATRIPLA is a registered trademark of Bristol-Myers Squibb and Gilead Sciences, LLC.*

*EMTRIVA is a registered trademark of Gilead Sciences, Inc.*

## INFORMATION FOR PRESCRIBERS

A copy of the warning card included with the TRIUMEQ carton is shown below.

<b>Warning Card: Carry at all times</b>	
<b>TRIUMEQ (dolutegravir, abacavir, and lamivudine) tablets</b>	
Patients may develop a hypersensitivity reaction (serious allergic reaction) which can be life threatening if you continue to take TRIUMEQ. If you notice 2 or more sets of symptoms, contact your doctor immediately to see if you should stop TRIUMEQ:	
SYMPTOM(S)	
<b>Group 1</b>	<b>Fever</b>
<b>Group 2</b>	<b>Rash</b>
<b>Group 3</b>	<b>Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal (stomach area) pain</b>
<b>Group 4</b>	<b>Generally ill feeling, extreme tiredness or achiness</b>
<b>Group 5</b>	<b>Shortness of breath, cough or sore throat</b>
If you have already had this reaction to TRIUMEQ, never take any medicine containing abacavir, such as KIVEXA (abacavir/lamivudine) or ZIAGEN (abacavir) again. If you take any medicine containing abacavir, such as TRIUMEQ, KIVEXA or ZIAGEN again, within hours you may experience a life threatening lowering of your blood pressure or death.	
Return all unused TRIUMEQ to your doctor or pharmacist for proper disposal.	
Questions/Concerns/problèmes? <b>ViiV Healthcare ULC/ ViiV Soins de santé ULC</b> Laval, Quebec H7V 4A7 <a href="http://www.viivhealthcare.ca">www.viivhealthcare.ca</a>	