
HIV POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PEP) TREATMENT

The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) starter kits are provided by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health. These starter kits are located in a variety of health care facilities throughout Saskatchewan. The starter kits contain Combivir and Kaletra for 3 days of treatment¹. The remaining course of HIV PEP medications can be obtained with a prescription upon consultation with an Infectious Disease (ID) specialist. The ID specialist will provide recommendations on the appropriate HIV PEP regimen. You may refer to the provincial Guidelines for the Management of Exposures to Blood and Body Fluids. For more information check the link: <https://www.ehealthsask.ca/services/Manuals/Pages/hiv-guidelines.aspx>

REMINDER: The remaining course of HIV PEP medications will be provided to the client free of charge for Drug Plan beneficiaries when exposure is **not** the result of a workplace injury covered under Worker's Compensation Board (WCB).

There are two aspects to the coverage of the HIV PEP medications:

- 1) *Approval of the coverage of the medications.* Pharmacies will submit a prescription claim through the Drug Plan network.
 - a. If the prescriber is an ID specialist, Exception Drug Status (EDS) is automatically approved through online EDS adjudication (OEA).
 - b. If the prescriber is not an ID specialist, the pharmacist calls the Drug Plan for approval and will indicate "HIV PEP medication in consultation with ID specialist". The Drug Plan will approve the EDS coverage.
- 2) *Submission of the PEP prescription claim.* Pharmacies will submit a claim for adjudication. The prescription may be up to 25 days' supply of PEP medications and should be provided to the patient at no cost.

The Drug Plan authorizes Exception Drug Status (EDS) for the following drugs as noted below for HIV post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP):

Regimen 1: lamivudine/zidovudine, tablet, 150mg/300mg (Combivir-VII) and lopinavir/ritonavir, tablet, 200mg/50mg (Kaletra-ABB)

When prescribed by, or on the advice of an Infectious Disease specialist familiar with HIV treatment, for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).

The following are alternatives to complete 28 days HIV PEP in special circumstances:

Regimen 2: darunavir, tablet, 800mg (Prezista-JAN), ritonavir, tablet, 100mg (Norvir-ABB) and emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate, tablet, 200mg/300mg (Truvada-GSI)

When prescribed by, or on the advice of an Infectious Disease specialist familiar with HIV treatment, for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).

¹ PEP Kits located in sites north of Prince Albert contain 5 days of medication.

The remaining 28-day course of HIV PEP medications will be provided free of charge for Drug Plan beneficiaries.

Alternate regimen for patients in whom compliance may be an issue. This regimen may improve adherence and has reduced potential for drug interactions.

Regimen 3: atazanavir SO₄, capsule, 300mg (Reyataz-BMY) ritonavir tablet, 100mg (Norvir-ABB) and emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate, tablet, 200mg/300mg (Truvada-GSI)

When prescribed by, or on the advice of an Infectious Disease specialist familiar with HIV treatment, for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).

Alternate regimen for use in patients who are pregnant as a once daily alternative to improve adherence.

Regimen 4: raltegravir, tablet, 400mg (Isentress-MSD) and emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate, tablet, 200mg/300mg (Truvada-GSI)

When prescribed by, or on the advice of an Infectious Disease specialist familiar with HIV treatment, for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).

Alternate regimen for use in patients as an alternative if interacting medications cannot be changed or adjusted.

Regimen 5: dolutegravir, tablet, 50mg (Tivicay-VII) and emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate, tablet, 200mg/300mg (Truvada-GSI)

When prescribed by, or on the advice of an Infectious Disease specialist familiar with HIV treatment, for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).

Alternate regimen for patients in whom compliance may be an issue. This regimen may improve adherence and has reduced potential for drug interactions.