Hepsera

Generic Name: adefovir dipivoxil

Pronunciation: hep-SER-rah

Drug Class: Nucleoside/Nucleotide Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors (NRTIs)

Company: Gilead Sciences

Approval Status: Approved

Generic Version Available: No

Drug Indication

FDA-approved for the treatment of chronic hepatitis B infection in persons who are 12 years and older.

General Info

- Hepsera was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for use by adults with chronic hepatitis B in 2002.
- In clinical studies, 53 to 64 percent of participants showed improved liver biopsy results after 48 weeks of therapy.

Dosage

Adult Dose: One 10 mg tablet daily, with or without food.

Pediatric Dose: Adolescents age 12 years and older: one 10 mg tablet daily, with or without food.

Dosing Info: Optimal treatment length is unknown. Do not change your dose or stop taking Hepsera without talking to your medical provider.

Side Effects

- The most common side effects are weakness, headache, stomach pain, nausea, flatulence (intestinal gas), diarrhea and indigestion. Liver transplant patients may experience additional side effects.
- Hepsera may cause kidney damage, severe liver problems or a serious condition called lactic acidosis (buildup of acid in the blood).
- Risk of HIV-1 resistance in people with unknown HIV-1 infection or in people with untreated HIV-1 infection.

Drug Interactions

- For a review of drug interactions, including prescription and over-the-counter medications and supplements that should not be taken with Hepsera or may require dose adjustments, consult the Hepsera package insert.

Other Info

- There are no adequate, well-controlled studies in pregnant women who have taken Hepsera. Hepsera should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.
- The safety of breast feeding while taking Hepsera has not been established, and it is recommended that Hepsera be discontinued if breast-feeding.

For More Info:
http://www.gilead.com/~/media/files/pdfs/medicines/liver-disease/hepsera/hepsera_pi.pdf

Co-Pay Program Info:
https://www.hepmag.com/basics/hepatitis-b-basics/paying-hepatitis-b-treatment

Patient Assistance Program Info:
https://www.hepmag.com/basics/hepatitis-b-basics/paying-hepatitis-b-treatment

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