Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

Bepirovirsen

This information from UpToDate® Lexidrug™ explains what you need to know about this medication, including what it's used for, how to take it, its side effects, and when to call your healthcare provider.

Brand Names: US

Hibsago

Warning

- New or worse liver problems may happen with this drug. Most of the time, this happened in the first 12 weeks of treatment and went back to normal when the dose was lowered or the drug was stopped. Tell your doctor before you start this drug if you have any liver problems other than hepatitis B (HBV).
- This drug may cause low platelet levels, which raises the chance of bleeding. Sometimes, this can be sudden and bleeding may be life-threatening.
- Have your blood work and other lab tests checked as you have been told by your doctor.

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to treat hepatitis B infection.
- This drug is taken with other drugs. Be sure you know about the warnings, benefits, and risks of these other drugs. Talk with the doctor if you have

questions or concerns about any of the drugs.

What do I need to tell my doctor BEFORE I take this drug?

- If you are allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell your doctor about the allergy and what signs you had.
- If you have liver problems other than hepatitis B, including hepatitis D infection.
- If you have low platelet levels.
- If you are taking peginterferon alfa-2a.

This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with this drug.

Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all of your drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe for you to take this drug with all of your drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug without checking with your doctor.

What are some things I need to know or do while I take this drug?

- Tell all of your health care providers that you take this drug. This includes your doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- You will need to keep taking your other HBV drugs even after you stop this drug. Hepatitis B has gotten worse when all HBV treatment was stopped. Do not stop taking this drug or other HBV drugs without talking with your doctor.
- If you also have HIV, talk with your doctor. Do not stop taking your HIV drugs without talking with your doctor.
- This drug will not stop you from passing on hepatitis B to other people. Talk with your doctor about how to avoid giving hepatitis B to others.
- If you are 65 or older, use this drug with care. You could have more side

effects.

- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan on getting pregnant, or are breast-feeding. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks to you and the baby.

What are some side effects that I need to call my doctor about right away?

WARNING/CAUTION: Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your doctor or get medical help right away if you have any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Signs of liver problems like dark urine, tiredness, decreased appetite, upset stomach or stomach pain, light-colored stools, throwing up, or yellow skin or eyes.
- Signs of kidney problems like unable to pass urine, change in how much urine is passed, blood in the urine, or a big weight gain.
- Signs of bleeding like throwing up or coughing up blood; vomit that looks like coffee grounds; blood in the urine; black, red, or tarry stools; bleeding from the gums; abnormal vaginal bleeding; bruises without a cause or that get bigger; or bleeding you cannot stop.
- Neck stiffness.
- Severe headache.
- Stomach pain that is severe or does not go away.
- Joint pain that does not go away, flu-like signs, purple rash or spots on the legs, scaley raised or red patches, or swelling and itching.

What are some other side effects of this drug?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother you or do not go away:

- Headache.
- Feeling tired or weak.
- Fever.
- Muscle pain.
- Bruising, itching, pain, redness, swelling, or other reaction where the injection was given.

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to your national health agency.

You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-332-1088. You may also report side effects at https://www.fda.gov/medwatch.

How is this drug best taken?

Use this drug as ordered by your doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

- It is given as a shot into the fatty part of the skin on the top of the thigh or the belly area.
- This drug may be given into the outer area of the upper arm if given by someone else.
- If you will be giving yourself the shot, your doctor or nurse will teach you how to give the shot.
- Wash your hands before and after use.
- Be sure you use this drug within 6 hours after you take it out of the carton. If

you have not used it within 6 hours after it is taken out of the carton, throw it away.

- This drug is clear and colorless to yellow. Do not use if the solution changes color.
- Do not use if the solution is cloudy, leaking, or has particles.
- Do not use this drug if it has been dropped or if it is broken.
- Do not shake.
- Do not give into tender, bruised, red, or hard skin.
- Do not give into skin within 2 inches (5 cm) of the belly button.
- Move the site where you give the shot with each shot.
- If your dose is more than 1 injection, you may give in the same body part. However, do not give injections within 2 inches (5 cm) of each other.
- Each prefilled syringe is for one use only. Throw away any part of the used prefilled syringe after the dose is given.
- Throw away needles in a needle/sharp disposal box. Do not reuse needles or other items. When the box is full, follow all local rules for getting rid of it. Talk with a doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions.
- Keep using this drug as you have been told by your doctor or other health care provider, even if you feel well.

What do I do if I miss a dose?

- Take a missed dose as soon as you think about it.
- If it is less than 3 days (72 hours) until your next dose, skip the missed dose. Take your next dose on your normal day.
- Do not take 2 doses at the same time or extra doses.

How do I store and/or throw out this drug?

- Store at room temperature in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.
- Do not freeze.
- Store in the outer carton to protect from light.
- Throw away this drug after 12 weeks. Write down the date you get this drug so you know when to throw it away.
- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
- Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back programs in your area.

General drug facts

- If your symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your doctor.
- Do not share your drugs with others and do not take anyone else's drugs.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. Check with your pharmacist. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

Consumer Information Use and Disclaimer

This generalized information is a limited summary of diagnosis, treatment, and/or medication information. It is not meant to be comprehensive and should be used as a tool to help the user understand and/or assess potential diagnostic and treatment options. It does NOT include all information about conditions, treatments, medications, side effects, or risks that may apply to a specific patient. It is not intended to be medical advice or a substitute for the medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment of a health care provider based on the health care provider's examination and assessment of a patient's specific and unique circumstances. Patients must speak with a health care provider for complete information about their health, medical questions, and treatment options, including any risks or benefits regarding use of medications. This information does not endorse any treatments or medications as safe, effective, or approved for treating a specific patient. UpToDate, Inc. and its affiliates disclaim any warranty or liability relating to this information or the use thereof. The use of this information is governed by the Terms of Use, available at https://www.wolterskluwer.com/en/know/clinical-effectiveness-terms.

Last Reviewed Date

2026-10-26

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If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.

Bepirovirsen - Last updated on October 29, 2026
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