



INFORMATION FOR CAREGIVERS

A caregiver is anyone who takes care of the child, such as a parent, another family member, or a guardian. It is important that caregivers know how to give LPV/r pellets to their child and what to do if problems arise. Caregivers will be more likely to remember simple information. It also helps to have caregivers repeat the information back to the health care worker, and to give them an opportunity to ask questions. The following checklist can help provide education to caregivers.

Introducing LPV/r to Caregivers

- One of the medications needed to keep your child healthy is called combination of two medications called lopinavir/ritonavir (LPV/r).
- LPV/r comes in three forms: solution, pellets, and tablets.
- The form of LPV/r your child takes depends on his/her age, weight, and ability to swallow.
- LPV/r is available in a pellet form that may be easier for babies and young children to swallow.
- LPV/r pellets have been proven safe and effective to give to babies and toddlers as young as 3 months old and who weigh 5 kilograms or more.
- It may be easier to give LPV/r pellets instead of the LPV/r solution, because many children dislike the unpleasant taste of the solution. LPV/r pellets are given with age-appropriate soft food or liquid to ease administration.
- The LPV/r pellets are packaged into capsules that should be opened according to instructions from your health care worker.
- The number of capsules that will be given [depends upon your child's weight](#).

Special Situations

- If your child misses a dose of LPV/r pellets, give the dose as soon as possible; but if it is more than 6 hours later, skip the missed dose and just give the next dose at the regular time. Do not give two doses at the same time to make up for a missed dose. If you are unsure whether to administer the dose, call your health care worker or health facility.
- If your child vomits or spits up within 10-15 minutes following a dose of LPV/r pellets and the pellets can be seen in the vomit, re-administer a new dose of pellets. If more than 10-15 minutes have passed and the pellets cannot be seen, do not re-administer the pellets.
- Notify your health care provider immediately if your child looks different after starting LPV/r as some of the side effects may be rare but serious. This may include if your child is eating

less; has yellow-colored skin or eyes, light-colored stool, dark-colored urine, or itchy skin; appears to have stomach pain; is repeatedly vomiting; or faints.

LPV/r Pellet Administration Information

- Pellets should be stored in the original container and kept in a cool, dark, dry place (not in the sun).
- Keep the medication out of reach of children in the house.
- Make sure your hands are dry when opening the capsules. Otherwise, the capsules may become sticky and will be difficult to open.
- Capsules are the containers that hold the pellets. They are yellow on the top half and clear on the bottom half. Capsules must be opened to administer pellets. **Capsules should NOT be swallowed whole.**
- Pellets should be swallowed whole. They should NOT be broken, crushed, chewed, or allowed to dissolve. Doing so may make the medication no longer work.
- Choose liquid or age-appropriate soft food that does not require chewing to minimize the chances of your child chewing or crushing the pellets.
- If mixing with liquid, breastmilk is best, but formula is also acceptable for children under 12 months; for children over 12 months, clean drinking water is also acceptable. Add liquid just before administering pellets. If pellets are left in contact with liquid they will become sticky and will taste bad.
- Depending on age and swallowing ability, only administer 1 or 2 capsules of pellets at a time. Otherwise the amount of pellets may be too much for child to swallow at once.
- If child is resistant or spitting up pellets, try to give fewer pellets at a time.
- Make sure no pellets remain in the mouth. Pellets will develop an unpleasant taste after a few seconds of being there. Provide additional age-appropriate soft food or liquid to the child to ensure that no pellets are retained in the mouth.

Also refer to [Administer LPV/r Pellets](#) for more information