

Virology Newsletter

APRIL, 2008

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
HOSPITALS & CLINICS

New Antiretroviral (ARV)

Etravirine, or Intelence™, is the fourth drug in the non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor class. It works by blocking reverse transcriptase, a protein HIV needs to replicate. It was approved January 2008 for the treatment of HIV-1 in treatment-experienced adult patients when used in combination with other antiretroviral treatment.

Cross-resistance to the other three non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (efavirenz, delavirdine and nevirapine) develops quickly. Etravirine has been shown to work against HIV, which is resistant to these other non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors. Resistance can still develop very quickly. **It is very important to take antiretroviral medications according to instructions,**

on schedule, and not to skip or reduce doses. If you'd like help avoiding missed doses, please speak to Dr. Dena Dillon, the pharmacist in clinic. Because etravirine is in a new class of antiretroviral drugs, it seems to have almost no cross-resistance with antiretroviral drugs in older classes.

Etravirine is taken by mouth as a tablet. The usual dose is 200 mg (two 100 mg tablets) twice daily. It should be taken with food.

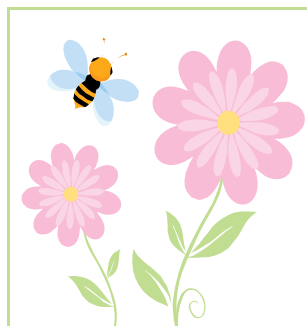
The most common side effects of etravirine include nausea and rash. The rash usually appears after taking etravirine for two weeks and then resolves after 1-2 weeks of continued therapy. People taking etravirine may also experience diarrhea, abdominal pain, vomiting, fatigue, peripheral neuropathy,

headache and increased blood pressure.

As with many of the antiretrovirals, etravirine has drug interactions so you should tell your healthcare provider about ALL medications, vitamins, and alternative products you are taking. Please ask to speak with Dr. Dena Dillon, the pharmacist in clinic, if you have any questions about this or any other medication.

References:

aidsinfonyet.org
aidsinfo.nih.gov



Ryan White Part C for 2008-2009

The next Ryan White fiscal year begins July 1, 2008 and runs through June 30, 2009. We have always sent applications to eligible patients in April but this year, we have decided to try something new. We ask that patients bring their income and insurance verification to their next appointment and Carol Paper or Tricia Kroll will assist you

in completing your application. If you do not have a clinic appointment scheduled between now and July 1st, please contact Tricia at 319-384-7307/ tricia-kroll@uiowa.edu or Carol Paper at 319-353-7917/ carol-paper@uiowa.edu and we will have an application mailed to you or e-mail one as an attachment.

Emergency Treatment Center Visits

Because Emergency Treatment Center visits are very costly, the HIV Program reserves the right to review Emergency Treatment Center claims and determine eligibility for Ryan White payment. We strongly encourage all patients who experi-

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Attend Iowa's 10th HIV/AIDS conference in Des Moines, IA!*
- *Pancake Breakfast hosted by ICARE and New Pioneer in Iowa City.*

FAREWELL...

- Paula Forest, MSN, ARNP has accepted a position in the Palliative Care Consult Service at UIHC. She most recently worked with patients in the HIV clinic, coordinated the HIV clinical trials and worked with the Respiratory Pathogen Trial group. Please wish her well in her new journey.
- We thank Paula for her hard work and contributions to our program.



The 2008 Wellness Summit:

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Tapping Into Your

Talents will take place at Wesley Woods in Warren County Sunday, May 4th to Tuesday, May 6th. This year's event is co-sponsored by the AIDS Project of Central Iowa and PITCH (Positive Iowans Taking Charge) and funded by the All Iowa

AIDS Benefit. Each region has been assigned a set number of slots for this event. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and learn from others living with HIV. Please contact your local AIDS Service Organization or case manager for more information about the Wellness Summit and availability.



Thank You...

We would like to thank all patients that completed the 2008 Consumer Needs Assessment. The feedback will assist the Iowa HIV/AIDS Community Planning Group and the Iowa Department of Public Health in providing better care and prevention services for Iowans living with HIV/AIDS.

Iowa's 10th HIV/AIDS Conference:

Unity And Diversity: the Challenge For Change

June 3-4, 2008 – Holiday Inn Conference Center – Des Moines, IA

Watch for online posting and registration details at

www.trainingresources.org

Save the date: June 8, 2008

21st Annual New Pioneer and ICARE

Pancake Breakfast



Volunteers and staff will be serving breakfast from 8 am to 1 pm on the Pedestrian Mall in downtown Iowa City. Tickets will be available for \$10 on the ICARE website starting May 1st. Visit www.icareiowa.org to purchase your tickets using PayPal or credit card. (Day of event: \$13.00). Children 7 and under eat free. If you have any questions, please contact Wendy Hogan at 319-248-3914 or e-mail whogan@meccaia.com.