

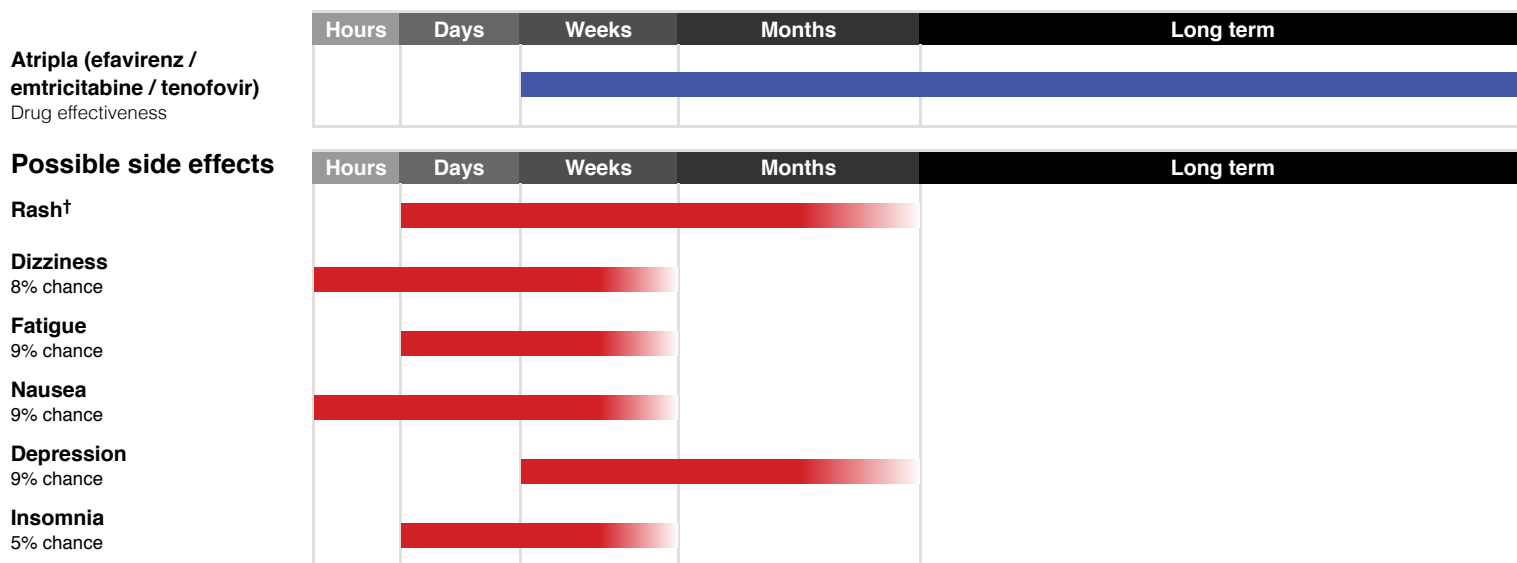
# Atripla (efavirenz / emtricitabine / tenofovir) basics

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**Treats HIV infection.** Atripla (efavirenz / emtricitabine / tenofovir) is a convenient 3-in-1 medication used to treat HIV infections. It is a second-line choice due to its high incidence of undesired side effects.

## What to expect when starting

Here's when people typically experience benefits as well as some possible side effects. Your experience may be different.



† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

## Tips from pharmacists

- Side effects such as dizziness, insomnia, and/or abnormal dreams are common within the first few weeks of starting Atripla (efavirenz / emtricitabine / tenofovir). Talk to your doctor if these side effects last longer or are preventing you from taking your medication regularly.
- Should be taken on an empty stomach at bedtime to reduce side effects.
- Women taking Atripla (efavirenz / emtricitabine / tenofovir) should be on effective form(s) of contraception, as Atripla (efavirenz / emtricitabine / tenofovir) can cause birth defects.
- Keep your regularly scheduled doctor's and lab appointments. These help ensure your medication is working well and safely.

## Risks and warnings

The FDA has identified these as possible serious or life-threatening risks with this medication. Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

**Lactic acidosis | Enlarged, fatty liver**  
Atripla (efavirenz / emtricitabine / tenofovir) can cause this rare but life-threatening condition. Symptoms include difficulty breathing, nausea, vomiting, right sided stomach pain, and dark urine. This is a medical emergency and you should get help right away.

**Cannot be used to treat Hepatitis B Virus (HBV)**  
If you have hepatitis B while taking Atripla (efavirenz / emtricitabine / tenofovir), stopping Atripla (efavirenz / emtricitabine / tenofovir) can worsen the hepatitis infection. Your doctor will test you before and during HIV treatment to see if you have hepatitis B. If you do have it, your doctor will provide regular blood tests to make sure your liver is ok, and might put you on medicines for your hepatitis.

**Mood and behavior changes**  
Atripla (efavirenz / emtricitabine / tenofovir) has been associated with depression, thoughts of suicide, aggression, and psychosis. If your mood starts to change while taking Atripla (efavirenz / emtricitabine / tenofovir), let your doctor know. If you start thinking about wanting to harm yourself, seek medical attention immediately.