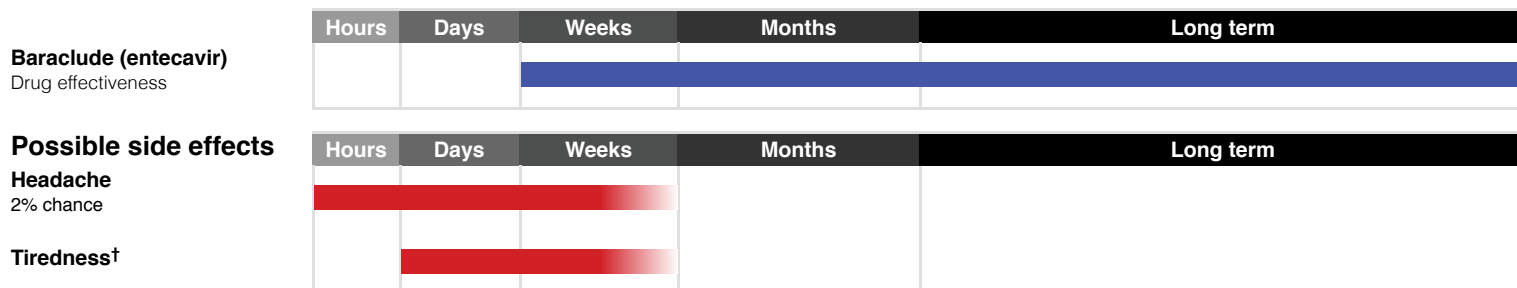


# Baraclude (entecavir) basics

**Treats hepatitis B.** Baraclude (entecavir) works well to treat hepatitis B, but tenofovir (Viread or Vemlidy) might be the better choice if you've taken other oral medicines for hepatitis B before or also have HIV.

## 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

- Take Baraclude (entecavir) on an empty stomach at least 2 hours before or 2 hours after a meal.
- Store the solution at room temperature, not in the fridge. Protect from light. Use the provided dosing spoon to measure the dose, and don't mix Baraclude (entecavir) with any other liquids. After opening, the solution can be used up to the expiration date on the bottle.
- Keep your regularly scheduled doctor's and lab appointments. These help ensure your medicine is working well and safely.
- Baraclude (entecavir) does not prevent you from spreading the hepatitis B virus. Always practice safe sex while taking Baraclude (entecavir). Don't share needles or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them.

## 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.

### Worsening of hepatitis B infection

Your hepatitis B infection can get worse if you stop taking Baraclude (entecavir), usually within 6 months after stopping Baraclude (entecavir). Don't suddenly stop taking Baraclude (entecavir) without talking to your doctor first. After stopping Baraclude (entecavir), your doctor will check your liver regularly, and there's a chance that you'll need to restart Baraclude (entecavir).

### Hepatitis B and HIV co-infection

Baraclude (entecavir) shouldn't be used by itself to treat HIV infections and can cause HIV resistance if taken alone in people who have both hepatitis B and HIV. You should be tested for HIV before starting Baraclude (entecavir). If you also have HIV, you should be on a separate antiviral regimen to treat HIV.

### Buildup of acid in the blood and swollen, fatty liver

Rarely, some people taking Baraclude (entecavir) and other medicines in the same class have had dangerously high blood acid levels and a swollen, fatty liver, which are serious and can lead to death. This can happen in people with or without liver disease. Seek medical help right away if you have deep and rapid breathing, nausea, vomiting, dark urine, or stomach pain.