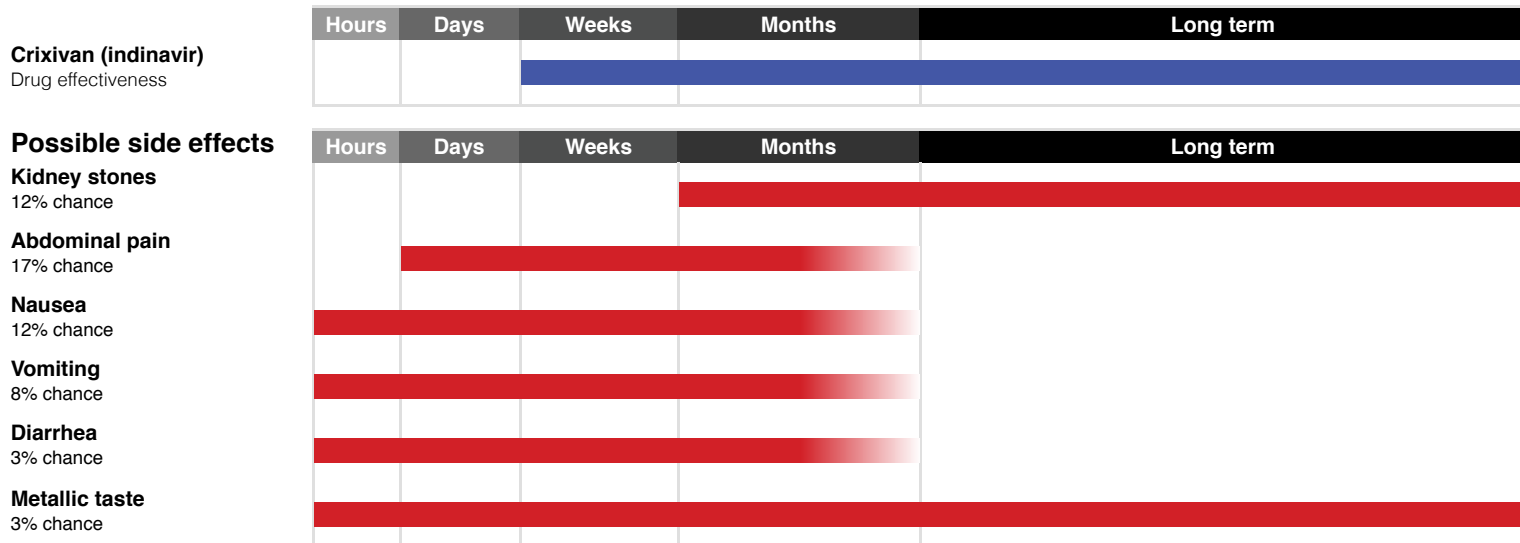


Crixivan (indinavir) basics

Treats HIV infection. Crixivan (indinavir) is a good alternative drug used with other medications to treat HIV, but is not a first-choice treatment because of its side effects and many drug interactions.

What to expect when starting

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



Tips from pharmacists

- Take with water 1 hour before or 2 hours after meals.
- You can also take Crixivan (indinavir) with skim milk, juice, coffee, tea, or a light meal, such as cornflakes or toast. Crixivan (indinavir) isn't well-absorbed when you take it with a big meal.
- If taking this drug with Norvir, you can take it with food.
- Unless told otherwise by your doctor, you should try to drink at least 1.5 liters of water daily.
- This drug interacts with many other drugs. Check with your doctor and pharmacist to make sure that it is safe for you to take this drug with all of your other drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins).
- Store in the original container. Do not take out the antimoisture cube or packet.

Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

New onset or worsened diabetes

Crixivan (indinavir) can raise your blood sugar levels, leading to a new diagnosis of diabetes or worsening of existing diabetes. Be sure to keep your regularly scheduled doctor and lab appointments to check your blood sugar.

Hemolytic anemia

People taking Crixivan (indinavir) may develop hemolytic anemia, which is a very bad and sometimes deadly type of low red blood cells. Call your doctor right away if you have pale skin, dizziness, or you feel very tired or weak. Your doctor will order regular blood tests to make sure Crixivan (indinavir) is still safe for you to take.

Liver damage

Crixivan (indinavir) can damage your liver or worsen existing liver damage or hepatitis. Your doctor will do blood tests to check your liver regularly. If you notice yellowing of the eyes or skin, dark urine, or abdominal pain, talk to your doctor.