Important information for patients switching from atazanavir (Reyataz®) capsules boosted with ritonavir to Evotaz® (atazanavir/cobicistat film-coated tablets)

Atazanavir (Reyataz) is available in a new combination tablet which also contains a booster (like ritonavir) called cobicistat. This tablet is called Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat). Cobicistat replaces the ritonavir, so you no longer need to take ritonavir.

* not shown to scale

**Will the new Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat) tablet work in the same way?**
Yes. Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat) should work in the same way as atazanavir (Reyataz) and ritonavir.

**What will the new Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat) tablet look like?**
The Evotaz tablet is a pink, oval, film coated tablet with “3641” on one side and blank on the other side.

**Will there be any side effects when I switch?**
Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat) has a similar side effect profile to atazanavir (Reyataz) boosted with ritonavir, but do speak to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you experience any new side effects.

**How do I take Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat) tablets?**
Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat) should be swallowed whole with a drink such as water or milk. You must eat a meal or a snack within 30 minutes prior to taking your Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat).

**How do I switch to the new Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat) tablet?**
As soon as either your atazanavir (Reyataz) or ritonavir supply runs out, you should then switch to Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat).
Your other antiretroviral (ARV) medicines should remain the same when you switch to Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat), unless your doctor, pharmacist or nurse tells you otherwise. Check that you know exactly what you should be taking.
Tell your healthcare team about any other medicines you take (including those you buy without a prescription), as Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat) may affect certain other medicines (e.g. olanzapine and methadone) differently to atazanavir (Reyataz) with ritonavir.
REMEMBER, drugs that affect the acidity in your stomach such as omeprazole, lansoprazole and ranitidine can affect how atazanavir in Evotaz works. If you need to take these, or any other medicine which affects the acid in your stomach, speak first to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

**How does this affect me if I receive my medicines by home delivery?**
At your clinic appointment your doctor, pharmacist or nurse will explain the changes to you. Some clinics prefer to give you the first month of any new drug or formulation from the hospital pharmacy to ensure that you are tolerating it before they send more by home delivery.
If you are unsure about whether you will receive Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat) tablets on your next delivery please speak to your clinic or the home delivery company.

**Will I always remain on Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat) tablets?**
In about two years’ time the atazanavir part of Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat) tablets is likely to be available as a generic medicine. By using generic versions of medicines your clinic can continue to offer you the same high quality treatment and make cost savings, helping us look after our growing number of patients.
When this happens patients on Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat) are likely to be switched to this generic form of atazanavir, taken with either ritonavir or cobicistat as a separate tablet.

**If you have any questions about Evotaz (atazanavir/cobicistat) or any of your medicines please contact your clinic doctor, pharmacist or nurse.**

Contact:
Telephone number: