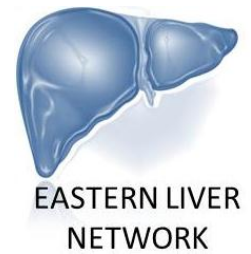


# OMBITASVIR/PARITAPREVIR/RITONAVIR (VIEKIRAX®)

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## What are ombitasvir, paritaprevir and ritonavir and what do they do?

Ombitasvir, paritaprevir and ritonavir are used to treat hepatitis C in combination, and come together in a single tablet. Ombitasvir and paritaprevir stop replication of the hepatitis C virus by directly affecting the mechanisms used by the virus to make copies of itself. They are therefore known as direct acting antivirals (DAA). Ritonavir is used to increase the level of paritaprevir in the body.

## How do I take my Viekirax® tablets?

Viekirax® comes as one tablet containing 12.5mg of ombitasvir, 75mg of paritaprevir and 50mg of ritonavir. You should take two tablets daily with food.

The duration of treatment will depend on your hepatitis C genotype and the extent of your liver disease. Usually treatment is taken for between 12 and 24 weeks.

Many patients will take Viekirax together with dasabuvir (Exviera®) and/or ribavirin and there are additional information leaflets for these drugs.

If you forget to take your dose but remember within 12 hours you should take your normal dose, but if it is after this then you should skip that day's dose

## Are there any side effects of Viekirax®?

It is common for patients taking Viekirax® to experience itching whilst taking this medication. Rarely, it can cause facial swelling (angioedema).

Other possible symptoms include nausea, difficulty sleeping, tiredness and physical weakness. These are more common when dasabuvir and ribavirin are taken alongside Viekirax.

If you experience any adverse effects you should contact your nurse specialist or prescriber. Some patients may require a dose adjustment.

## Do I need to have any tests or be monitored because I take Viekirax®?

You will need regular blood tests to check the level of hepatitis C virus in your blood while you are taking Viekirax®. These will be explained at your clinic appointment.

You will also need blood tests which look at the function of your liver and these will be taken at the same time.

## Special warnings and precautions when taking Viekirax®

Viekirax® can cause a worsening of liver function and you should contact your nurse specialist or consultant if you develop swelling/fluid in the abdomen, vomiting or coughing up blood, or confusion.

You should also report if you suffer from fatigue, weakness, lack of appetite, nausea and vomiting, jaundice or discoloured faeces whilst on treatment.

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding you must inform your doctor.

## Are there any problems taking Viekirax® with any other medications?

Viekirax® has a number of interactions with other medications and you should check that any medicines you are taking before starting treatment are checked with your doctor, nurse specialist or pharmacist. Interactions can be caused by, or affect Viekirax® itself.

You should always check with your doctor, nurse specialist or pharmacist before starting any new medication.

## Further information

Further information about your tablet can be found in the patient information leaflet found in the tablet/capsule box or on the container.

Further information on hepatitis C can be found on the following websites:

- The British Liver Trust ([www.britishlivertrust.org.uk](http://www.britishlivertrust.org.uk))
- The Hepatitis C Trust ([www.hepctrust.org.uk](http://www.hepctrust.org.uk))
- [www.patient.co.uk](http://www.patient.co.uk)
- [www.easternliver.net](http://www.easternliver.net)