

Brand name:	Abamune	Generic name:	Abacavir
Dosage form:	Oral tablet	Presentations:	300mg 30 tablets
Availability:	Prescription only	Drug class:	Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs)
Uses:	Abacavir is an antiviral medicine that prevents human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) from multiplying in your body. It is for adults and children who are at least 3 months old. It is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. It can be taken with or without food. Do not change your dose without your doctor's advice.		
Side effects:	<p>Stop using abacavir and call your doctor at once if you have symptoms of an allergic reaction from two or more of these specific side effect groups: Group 1 – fever; Group 2 – rash; Group 3 – nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain; Group 4 – general ill feeling, extreme tiredness, body aches; Group 5 – shortness of breath, cough, sore throat.</p> <p>Once you have an allergic reaction, you must never use it again. Call your doctor at once if you have: severe upper stomach pain, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite; swelling around your midsection; dark urine, clay-colored stools, or jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes); unusual tiredness; or chest pain or pressure, pain spreading to your jaw or shoulder.</p> <p>Mild symptoms of lactic acidosis may worsen over time, and this condition can be fatal. Get emergency medical help if you have: unusual muscle pain, trouble breathing, stomach pain, vomiting, irregular heart rate, dizziness, feeling cold, or feeling very weak or tired.</p> <p>Tell your doctor if you have: signs of a new infection--fever, night sweats, swollen glands, cold sores, cough, wheezing, diarrhea, weight loss; trouble speaking or swallowing, problems with balance or eye movement, weakness or prickly feeling; or swelling in your neck or throat (enlarged thyroid), menstrual changes, impotence.</p> <p>Common side effects may include: feeling tired; sleep problems, strange dreams; headache, tiredness, fever, chills, general ill feeling; nausea or vomiting; rash; or (in children) stuffy nose, sneezing, sore throat, ear pain.</p>		
What to avoid?	Avoid drinking alcohol. It may increase your risk of liver damage.		
Storage instructions:	Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat. You may store the oral solution (liquid) in the refrigerator but do not let it freeze.		
Pregnancy & Breastfeeding:	Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, and use your medications to control your infection. Women with HIV or AIDS should not breastfeed a baby.		
Before taking this medicine:	Tell your doctor if you ever had: heart disease, high blood pressure; a risk factor for heart disease such as smoking, diabetes, or high cholesterol; liver disease; or if you ever have used any other HIV medication in the past. You may develop lactic acidosis, a dangerous build-up of lactic acid in your blood. It can also cause severe or life-threatening effects on your liver.		
Warnings:	Do not use if: you have moderate or severe liver disease; you have a gene variation called HLA-B*5701 allele (your doctor will test you for this).		