Complera is an Antiretroviral Agent, Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor (Non-nucleoside); Antiretroviral Agent, Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor (Nucleoside); Antiretroviral Agent, Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor (Nucleotide) used in the treatment of HIV-1 infections. Rilpivirine binds to reverse transcriptase and does not require intracellular phosphorylation for antiviral activity; emtricitabine is a cytosine analogue while tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF) is an analog of adenosine 5'-monophosphate. Each drug interferes with HIV viral RNA dependent DNA polymerase activities resulting in inhibition of viral replication.

**Pre-Authorization Criteria:** For use as a complete regimen for the treatment of HIV-1 infection in antiretroviral treatment-naive adult patients with HIV-1 RNA ≤100,000 copies/mL at the start of therapy, and in certain virologically suppressed (HIV-1 RNA <50 copies/mL) adult patients on a stable antiretroviral regimen at start of therapy in order to replace their current antiretroviral treatment regimen.

**Note:**
VCHCP requires that Complera be prescribed by an Immunology Clinic physician with current American Academy of HIV medicine (AAHIVM) certification or a physician boarded in Infectious Disease.

**Dosing: Adult:**
HIV: Oral: One tablet once daily (200mg/25mg/300mg tablets)

**Dosing: Pediatric:**
Currently unavailable or not applicable

**Dosing: Geriatric:**
Refer to adult dosing.

**Dosing: Renal Impairment:**
Cl\text{cr} \geq 50 \text{ mL/minute}: No dosage adjustments necessary.
Cl\text{cr} < 50 \text{ mL/minute}: Use is not recommended.
ESRD requiring dialysis: Use is not recommended.

**Dosing: Hepatic Impairment:**
Mild-to-moderate impairment (Child-Pugh class A or B): No dosage adjustments necessary. Severe impairment (Child-Pugh class C): No dosage adjustment provided in manufacturer's labeling (has not been studied).

**Dosage Forms: U.S.:**
Excipient information presented when available (limited, particularly for generics); consult specific product labeling.
Tablet, oral:
Complera: Emtricitabine 200 mg, rilpivirine 25 mg, and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg

Generic Equivalent Available: U.S.-No

**Administration:**
Administer with food

**Adverse Reactions:**
>10%-Cholesterol increased, LDL increased, ALT increased, AST increased
See also individual agents
Other Severe Less Common Reactions: lactic acidosis, hepatomegaly, nephrotoxicity, rhabdomyolysis, myopathy, osteomalacia, fractures, pancreatitis, neutropenia, immune reconstitution syndrome, autoimmune disorders, hypersensitivity reaction, depression, suicidality, fat redistribution.

**Contraindications:**
Concurrent use of carbamazepine, dexamethasone (>1 dose), oxcarbazepine, phenobarbital, phenytoin, proton pump inhibitors (PPIs), rifabutin, rifampin, rifapentine or St. John’s wort.

**U.S. Boxed Warning:**
Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis have been reported with nucleoside analogues (eg, tenofovir), including fatal cases. Suspend treatment if clinical or laboratory findings suggest lactic acidosis or hepatotoxicity.
Safety and efficacy during coinfection of HIV and HBV have not been established; acute, severe exacerbations of HBV have been reported following discontinuation of antiretroviral therapy. Not indicated for treatment of chronic hepatitis B. Monitor hepatic function closely for at least several months in HBV/HIV co-infected patients who discontinue emtricitabine/rilpivirine/tenofovir; initiate anti-HBV treatment if needed.

**References:**


8. www.uptodate.com: Rilpivirine, emtricitabine and tenofovir: Drug information


REVISION HISTORY:

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<tr>
<th>Revision Date</th>
<th>Content Revised (Yes/No)</th>
<th>Contributors</th>
<th>Review/Revision Notes</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Catherine Sanders, MD; Robert Sterling, MD</td>
<td>Annual review</td>
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