

# Raltegravir (Isentress)

**Indication(s):** HIV Post Exposure Prophylaxis

**Contraindications:** Hypersensitivity to raltegravir.

**Precautions:** Severe, potentially life-threatening, and fatal skin reactions have been reported. Discontinue raltegravir immediately if signs or symptoms of severe skin reactions or hypersensitivity reactions develop. Breast-feeding is not recommended while taking raltegravir.

**Drug Interactions:** Concomitant use or staggered administration of antacids (containing aluminium and/or magnesium) with raltegravir 400 mg BID is not recommended. Calcium carbonate may be used concomitantly.

**Adverse Effects:** Note 96% of Patients experience 1 or more side effects: Diarrhea (~25%); Fever (~15%); URTI (~15%); Nasopharyngitis (~14%); Fatigue (~12%); Rash (~9%); Vomiting (~9%); Hypertension (~9%); Cough (~7%); Dizziness (~7%); Insomnia (~7%); Arthralgia (~7%).

**Pharmacology:** Raltegravir inhibits the catalytic activity of HIV integrase, an HIV-encoded enzyme that is required for viral replication.

**Dosage and Administration:** HIV PEP - 400mg PO daily for 28 days. (Used in combination with Tenofovir/Emtricitabine (Truvada).