

LOPINAVIR / RITONAVIR (Kaletra®)

What is *Kaletra* used for?

Kaletra contains Lopinavir, an antiretroviral agent that makes viruses less infectious. It is used to decrease the amount of viruses (viral load) to as low as possible, for as long as possible. It also contains Ritonavir that enhances action of Lopinavir.

When should I take the medication?

Kaletra is usually taken twice daily. It is usually given in combination with other antiretroviral agents, to achieve significant decrease in viral multiplication.

How should it be taken?

Kaletra should be taken with food. High fat meal increases absorption.

If your child is taking *Kaletra* together with Didanosine, give them at least two hours apart from each other.

What should I do if I miss a dose?

Missing doses makes *Kaletra* less effective and may also make the virus resistant to *Kaletra* and other possible antiretroviral agents.

If you forgot to give your child the medication within 4 hours, give the dose as soon as you remember and then continue to give it as per normal. Otherwise, skip the missed dose and give the next dose at the usual time. Do not double or increase the dose.

If your child vomits within 15 minutes of administration, give another dose if possible

What side effects can this medicine cause? What can I do about them?

Nausea and vomiting are common, and may be prevented by eating small frequent meals or sucking on candy. Headaches and pain can be alleviated with mild painkillers. Other common side effects are diarrhoea, rash and insomnia.

Inform your doctor if the side effects become severe and bothersome.

Special instructions:

Some medication may reduce its efficacy, or increase its toxicity. Do not give your child any other medications or herbal products without first consulting your doctor.

Storage:

Syrup preparation and oral capsules should be refrigerated (2°C-8°C). If stored at higher temperatures (<25°C), it should be used within 2 months.