



health

Department:
Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X828, PRETORIA, 0001. Civitas Building Cnr Thabo Sehume & Struben Streets, PRETORIA 0001
Directorate: Affordable Medicines Tel: (012) 395 8130

TO:

CLINICIANS AND HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

USE OF FIXED-DOSE COMBINATIONS IN PLACE OF LAMIVUDINE SINGLE AGENTS

Fixed-dose combinations are preferred to single agent tablets as this reduces pill burden on patients on antiretroviral therapy, thereby increasing adherence. The following fixed dose combinations are available from contracted suppliers:

- Lamivudine and Abacavir (300mg/600mg)
- Lamivudine and Zidovudine (150mg/300mg)
- Emtricitabine and Tenofovir (200mg/300mg)

Note: Emtricitabine 200mg is used in place of lamivudine 300mg in certain fixed-dose combinations

Your attention is drawn to the attached circular dated 25 May 2015 which details the use of combinations in patients currently utilising the single antiretroviral agents.

The **lamivudine 300mg tablets will no longer be available on tender** as an adult patient who is able to take this dosage, is eligible for one of the abovementioned fixed-dose combinations.

You are kindly requested to utilise the fixed-dose combination products in line with the circular above and to reserve the lamivudine 150mg tablets for paediatric patients and patients with complex clinical needs.

Kind regards,

K Jamaloodien

MS K JAMALOODIEN

DIRECTOR: AFFORDABLE MEDICINES

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