

# Maraviroc (Celsentri<sup>®</sup>)

This leaflet is designed to give you a general idea of the most important things you need to know about your new medicine. It is not supposed to replace the patient information leaflet (PIL) that comes with the medicine, but is designed to be read in conjunction with it. If you have any questions or are unsure about anything, ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

## What is maraviroc?

Maraviroc belongs to a group of antiretroviral medicines known as CCR5 antagonists.

Maraviroc is used for the treatment of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), in combination with other antiretrovirals. Please speak to your clinic doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you would like more information about how these drugs work.

## How should I take maraviroc?

The dose of maraviroc very much depends on the other medicines you take. This is because maraviroc levels in your blood are often increased or decreased by the other antiretrovirals you take. Your doctor or pharmacist will discuss with you the dose of maraviroc that is suitable for you.

## Do I need to take maraviroc with food?

No. Maraviroc can be taken with or without food.

## Do you have a peanut or soya allergy?

Maraviroc contains soya lecithin so you should not take maraviroc if you have a peanut or soya allergy.

## What are the common side effects with maraviroc?

Maraviroc, like all other medicines, has some side effects. Most of these are minor and will settle within a few days or weeks. Make sure you read the leaflet that came with maraviroc for a complete list.

- 'Head' side effects: Headache, sleepiness, difficulty in sleeping, changes in your mood, dizziness.
- 'Stomach' side effects: Feeling sick, diarrhoea, indigestion, constipation, stomach ache or flatulence.
- Changes in blood test: Changes in some of your liver or kidney tests.
- Other side effects including rash, weakness, tiredness

If you experience any side effects, and either they are troubling you or you develop any new symptoms after you start maraviroc, tell your doctor, nurse or pharmacist who will tell you what to do.

If you decide to take stop taking maraviroc, it is important that you tell your doctor first so that they can discuss other treatment options with you.

If you have a question about maraviroc or any of your medicines, speak to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

Contact: [kobler.pharmacy@chelwest.nhs.uk](mailto:kobler.pharmacy@chelwest.nhs.uk)

Telephone: 020 3315 5604

### What medicines should I avoid with maraviroc?

It is always important to make your doctor and pharmacist aware of any medicines you take, including herbal, complementary or over the counter medicines to ensure that they are compatible with maraviroc and any other antiretroviral drugs you are taking. Make sure you read the patient information leaflet you received with maraviroc and the other antiretroviral for a full list. Always tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any of the following before you take maraviroc and any other antiretrovirals or the new medicine:

Medicine	Why do your doctor & pharmacist need to know about this?
Cholesterol medicines called statins	Some antiretrovirals can either increase or reduce the amount of statins in your blood. Your HIV doctor will help choose the right statin for you
Inhalers or nasal sprays	Some inhalers and nasal sprays contain steroids which can build up in your body if taken with some antiretroviral drugs, leading to side effects
St Johns wort for depression	This can reduce the levels of some antiretrovirals within your body, meaning it may be less effective at suppressing the virus
Calcium or iron supplements, multivitamins, or other indigestion remedies	Medicines or supplements containing calcium, iron, magnesium, or aluminium can stop you from absorbing some antiretrovirals properly. Speak to your doctor or pharmacist before taking any of these
Contraceptives (birth control)	Some antiretrovirals can reduce the amount of contraceptive in your body, making it less effective. Your clinic will help choose the right method of contraception for you

### What if I:

#### **Get a headache or just need a pain killer?**

Paracetamol can be taken with maraviroc. Ibuprofen can also be taken, as long as you don't have any problems such as stomach ulcers or asthma, or unless your doctor has advised you to avoid NSAIDs (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs) for any reason.

#### **Get hayfever or have other allergies?**

The antihistamines cetirizine and chlorphenamine can be taken with maraviroc. If your allergy is related to maraviroc or your other antiretrovirals (such as a rash) or any other medicines, speak to your doctor or pharmacist before taking any medicines. You should speak to your doctor or pharmacist before using any nasal sprays or getting any injections to check for possible interactions with maraviroc and your other antiretrovirals and any other medicines you are taking.

#### **Get diarrhoea?**

For short-term diarrhoea relief, you can use loperamide. Remember to drink plenty of fluids. If you get a lot of diarrhoea and it lasts more than a few days, contact your clinic to ask for advice.

#### **Get heartburn, reflux, indigestion or need medicines for stomach ulcers?**

Antacids and proton pump inhibitors (used to treat stomach ulcers) can be taken with maraviroc but may affect other antiretrovirals such as atazanavir, rilpivirine, raltegravir, dolutegravir or elvitegravir. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before taking them.

#### **Am prescribed or take something for my mood, such as an antidepressant or St John's wort?**

Check with your clinic doctor or pharmacist before taking these. St Johns wort can reduce the levels of some antiretrovirals within your body, meaning they may be less effective at suppressing the virus

#### **Currently take, or would like to take supplements, including calcium or iron?**

Most supplements can be taken with maraviroc, but always check with your doctor or pharmacist before taking them. However, if you also take the antiretrovirals atazanavir, raltegravir, dolutegravir or elvitegravir, you should check with your doctor or pharmacist before taking the supplement.

#### **Miss my maraviroc!**

Antiretrovirals work best if there is a constant amount of the drugs in your body. It is really important that you take them regularly. However, occasionally you might forget a dose. Don't worry if this happens, just follow the guidance below. If you are having problems remembering to take your medicines speak with your clinic now and they may be able to help you.

- If you miss a dose of maraviroc, take the missed dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time.
- If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at its regular time.
- Do **not** take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.