Questions to ask your healthcare provider

Whether you’re just starting HIV treatment or are looking to switch, it’s important to find a treatment that's manageable and fits your lifestyle. Ask your healthcare provider the following questions and see if SYMTUZA® could be right for you.

• How will treatment affect my overall health?
• How can treatment help prevent HIV from being transmitted?
• Could my weight or health conditions, like obesity, diabetes or hypertension, be affected by the treatment I choose?
• Can depression, anxiety or insomnia be side effects of HIV medication?
• I have a hectic schedule—what happens if I miss a dose of my medication?
• What makes SYMTUZA® different from other HIV medications?

WHAT IS SYMTUZA®?
SYMTUZA® is a prescription medicine that is used without other antiretroviral medicines to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1 (HIV-1) infection in adults and in children who weigh at least 88 pounds (40 kg) who:
• have not received anti-HIV-1 medicines in the past, or
• when their healthcare provider determines that they meet certain requirements.

HIV-1 is the virus that causes Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). It is not known if SYMTUZA® is safe and effective in children weighing less than 88 pounds (40 kg).

SELECT IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION
WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SYMTUZA®?

SYMTUZA® can cause serious side effects including worsening of hepatitis B virus infection. Your healthcare provider will test you for hepatitis B virus (HBV) before starting treatment with SYMTUZA®. If you have HBV infection and take SYMTUZA®, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking SYMTUZA®. Do not stop taking SYMTUZA® without first talking to your healthcare provider.

Please read additional Important Safety Information on the next page and full Product Information including Boxed WARNING for SYMTUZA®, and discuss any questions you have with your doctor.

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IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SYMTUZA®?

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• Worsening of hepatitis B virus infection. Your healthcare provider will test you for hepatitis B virus (HBV) before starting treatment with SYMTUZA®. If you have HBV infection and take SYMTUZA®, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking SYMTUZA®.

• Do not stop taking SYMTUZA® without first talking to your healthcare provider.

• Do not run out of SYMTUZA®. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your SYMTUZA® is all gone.

• If you stop taking SYMTUZA®, your healthcare provider will need to check your health often and do blood tests regularly for several months to check your HBV infection or give you a medicine to treat your HBV infection. Tell your healthcare provider about any new or unusual symptoms you may have after you stop taking SYMTUZA®.

• Change in liver enzymes. People with a history of hepatitis B or C virus infection or who have certain liver enzyme changes may have an increased risk of developing new or worsening liver problems during treatment with SYMTUZA®. Liver problems can also happen during treatment with SYMTUZA® in people without a history of liver disease. Your healthcare provider may need to do tests to check your liver enzymes before and during treatment with SYMTUZA®.

• Severe liver problems. In rare cases, severe liver problems can happen that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms:
  • Skin or the white part of your eyes turn yellow
  • Dark “tea-colored” urine
  • Light-colored stool
  • Loss of appetite for several days or longer
  • Nausea
  • Vomiting
  • Stomach area pain

SYMTUZA® may cause severe or life-threatening skin reactions or rashes which may sometimes require treatment in a hospital. Call your healthcare provider right away if you develop a rash. Stop taking SYMTUZA® and call your healthcare provider right away if you develop any skin changes with symptoms below:

  • Fever
  • Mouth sores or ulcers
  • Tiredness
  • Red or inflamed eyes, like “pink eye” (conjunctivitis)
  • Muscle or joint pain
  • Blisters or skin lesions

Who should not take SYMTUZA®?

• Do not take SYMTUZA® with any of the following medicines: alfuzosin, carbamazepine, cisapride, colchicine (if you have liver or kidney problems), dronedarone, elbasvir and grazoprevir, ergot-containing medicines (such as: dihydroergotamine, ergotamine tartrate, methylergonovine), labradine, liotapide, lovastatin or a product that contains lovastatin, lurasidone, midazolam (when taken by mouth), naloxegol, phenobarbital, phenytoin, pimozide, ranolazine, rifampin, St. John’s wort (Hypericum perforatum) or a product that contains St. John’s wort, sildenafil when used for pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH), simvastatin or a product that contains simvastatin, or triazolam.

Please read above Important Safety Information and full Product Information including Boxed WARNING for SYMTUZA®, and discuss any questions you have with your doctor.

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Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit http://www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088. You may also report side effects to Janssen Products, LP at 1-800-JANSSEN (1-800-526-7736). Please click here for full Product Information, including Boxed Warning for SYMTUZA®.

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