

**ELVITEGRAVIR/  
COBICISTAT/  
TENOFVIR/  
EMTRICITABINE**

**Other NAMES:** Stribild®

**WHY is this drug prescribed?**

Stribild® is an antiretroviral (anti-HIV) drug made up of elvitegravir, emtricitabine (*Emtriva*), tenofovir (*Viread*) and cobicistat. Elvitegravir is an integrase inhibitor, emtricitabine and tenofovir are nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs) and cobicistat is a boosting agent. Stribild® is a complete regimen that contains 3 active ingredients and one boosting agent in a single tablet, and may be used alone to delay the progression of HIV infection. It is used for treating HIV infection by decreasing the viral load and increasing the CD4 cell count. You will be better protected against the chance of getting opportunistic infections that occur when the immune system is weak.

Stribild® does not cure AIDS or completely kill the HIV virus, but helps to prevent further damage by slowing down the production of new viruses. Treatment with Stribild® does not reduce the risk of passing infection on to others. You will still be able to pass HIV by sexual contact, by blood transfer or by sharing needles. You should always use appropriate precautions to prevent passing HIV on to others.

**HOW should this drug be taken?**

The usual adult dose of Stribild® is 1 tablet once a day with food. Stribild® should be taken at the same time every day.

**What should you do if you FORGET a dose?**

If you miss a dose of Stribild® and it is less than 12 hours from the usual time you take Stribild®, then take it as soon as possible. However, if it has been more than 12 hours since the usual time you take Stribild®, do not double the dose; skip that dose and take the next tablet at your usual scheduled time.

**Why should you not forget to take this drug?**

If you miss doses of Stribild®, the amount of HIV virus in your blood (known as the viral load) will start increasing again and your immune system will be further damaged. A few missed doses can be enough for Stribild® to stop being active. This is a phenomenon known as **resistance**. When this happens, other antiretrovirals that work in a similar way as Stribild® may also become inactive. **Therefore, missing doses of Stribild® can decrease treatment options for the future.** Please do not stop Stribild® or change your dose without talking to your doctor first.

**What ADVERSE EFFECTS can this drug cause? What should you do about them?**

Some people taking Stribild® may experience diarrhea, nausea and headache. Other side effects people may experience includes depression, vomiting, tiredness, stomach

pain, upset stomach, gas, dizziness, trouble sleeping, abnormal dreams, serious kidney problems and rash. Your doctor or pharmacist can recommend methods to decrease these adverse effects.

It is important that you keep your doctor appointments and come for your laboratory tests so that your progress can be followed.

**What other PRECAUTIONS should you follow while using this drug?**

Certain drugs can increase or decrease the effect of Stribild®. Also Stribild® might influence the effect of other drugs you are taking. Inform your doctor and pharmacist of all prescribed and non-prescribed drugs you are taking. As well, you should inform them of natural products or recreational (street drugs) you may be taking.

**The following drugs should not be taken with Stribild®:**

- Alfuzosin hydrochloride (*Xatral*)
- Ergot-containing medicines (dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine)
- Lovastatin (*Mevacor*)
- Rifampin (*Rifadin, Rifater, Rofact*)
- Salmeterol (*Advair, Serevent*)
- Sildenafil (*Revatio*), when used for treating lung problems
- Simvastatin (*Zocor*)
- St. John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- Triazolam

Do not take Stribild® with Atripla®, Complera®, Viread®, Truvada®, Combivir®, Emtriva®, 3TC®, Heptovir®, Kivexa®, Trizivir®, or Hepsera® since these drugs contain

ingredients which duplicate or are similar to ingredients in Stribild®.

Tell your doctor if you take:

- Antacids (aluminum hydroxide, magnesium hydroxide, calcium carbonate). **Take antacids at least 2 hours before or after you take Stribild®.**
- Antidepressants (trazodone)
- Antifungals (ketoconazole, itraconazole, voriconazole)
- Antiarrhythmics (amiodarone, flecainide, quinidine)
- Antibacterials (clarithromycin)
- Antimycobacterials (rifabutin)
- Anticoagulants (warfarin)
- Anticonvulsants (carbamazepine, phenobarbital, phenytoin)
- Antigout (colchicine)
- Beta-blockers (metoprolol, timolol)
- Calcium channel blockers (amlodipine, diltiazem, felodipine)
- Systemic corticosteroids (dexamethasone, fluticasone)
- Endothelial receptor antagonists (bosentan)
- Hormonal contraceptives (norgestimate/ethinyl estradiol)
- Immunosuppressants (cyclosporine, sirolimus, tacrolimus)
- Neuroleptics (risperidone, perphenazine)
- PDE-5 Inhibitors (sildenafil, tadalafil, vardenafil)
- Sedatives/hypnotics (diazepam, flurazepam, buspirone)

**The safety of Stribild® in pregnancy is not well known.** Please inform your doctor if you are pregnant or if you wish to become pregnant in the near future. Your doctor can recommend the appropriate treatment to help

reduce the risk of passing the HIV virus on to your baby. Breastfeeding is NOT recommended if you have HIV as you can transmit the virus to your baby through your breast milk.

#### How should this drug be STORED?

Stribild® should be stored in a cool (15-30°C) dry place, protected from light and well out of the reach of children. Ensure that the drug has not expired by checking the expiry date ("EXP") shown on the outside of the package.

**If you have any questions or concerns about this drug or if you are experiencing adverse effects, please discuss them with your pharmacist, doctor or nurse. Write questions or concerns down to ensure they are addressed.**

The following pharmacist is available to answer questions:

**Pharmacist:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

Reference: Product Monograph *Stribild*  
(elvitegravir/emtricitabine/Tenofovir/cobicistat). Gilead  
Sciences Canada Inc: Mississauga, ON, 2014. Prepared by  
the Ontario HIV Pharmacy Professional Specialty Group,  
2014.

Additional medication fact sheets and updates may be found at: [www.hivclinic.ca](http://www.hivclinic.ca)

# *ELVITEGRAVIR/ COBICISTAT/ TENOFVIR/ EMTRICITABINE (Stribild®)*

## *MEDICATION*

## *FACT SHEET*