

**RILPIVIRINE/  
EMTRICITABINE/  
TENOFIVIR  
ALAFENAMIDE**

**Other NAMES:** Odefsey® is a grey colored tablet that is a combination of rilpivirine 25 mg, emtricitabine 200 mg and tenofovir alafenamide 25mg

**WHY is this drug prescribed?**

This tablet contains tenofovir alafenamide and emtricitabine, two antiretroviral (anti-HIV) reverse transcriptase inhibitors (“nukes”) AND rilpivirine, a non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (“non-nuke”). It is a convenient single tablet regimen for treatment of HIV infection in adults and may be used in combination with other anti-HIV drugs. By using Odefsey® consistently, your immune system should improve (increase in CD4<sup>+</sup> count) and you will be better protected against infections.

**Odefsey® does not** cure AIDS or completely kill the HIV virus, but helps to prevent further damage by slowing down the production of new viruses.

**HOW should this drug be taken?**

Generally, the dose is 1 tablet once a day, **with food**. Try to take it at same time of the day and swallow it with plenty of water.

**Always take Odefsey with a meal.**

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

If you miss a dose of Odefsey® and it is less than 12 hours from when you normally take it, take the dose immediately with a meal. If it is more than 12 hours from when you normally take Odefsey®, do not take the dose and wait until your next scheduled dose. Do not take 2 doses of Odefsey® at the same time, and do not take more than 1 dose in the same day.

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

If you miss doses of this drug, 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 the three components, to stop being active, a phenomenon known as **resistance**. When this happens, other antiretrovirals that work in a similar way may also become inactive. **Therefore, missing doses of this drug can decrease treatment options for the future.** Please do not stop this drug without talking to your doctor first.

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

**Most common** adverse effects reported with Odefsey® are trouble sleeping, abnormal dreams, headache, nausea, tiredness and depression.

**Less common** side effects include skin rashes, abdominal pain, bloating and decreased appetite. If these effects occur

and are bothersome, please discuss this with your doctor or pharmacist.

**Rare but serious** adverse effects that have been observed are damage to the liver, especially in patients with long-term hepatitis B or C. This can manifest as jaundice (skin or eyes turn yellow), dark urine and stools and loss of appetite.

**If you have hepatitis B and are taking Odefsey®, do not stop taking the medication without consulting your doctor first. Stopping Odefsey® may worsen the hepatitis B infection.**

**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?**

You must make sure that you are taking the right dose. If you take higher doses than what is prescribed, you may increase the chance of having side effects. If you take lower doses of than what is prescribed, the HIV virus may become resistant to Odefsey® .

Certain drugs can increase or decrease the effect of rilpivirine, tenofovir alafenamide and emtricitabine. Drugs that interact with Odefsey® and may alter its effect include:

- **Anticonvulsants:**  
Carbamazepine (Tegretol®, Carbatrol®, Epitol®), oxcarbazepine (Trileptal®), phenobarbital and phenytoin (Dilantin®)
- **Antimycobacterials:**  
Rifampin (Rifadin®, Rofact®)

- **Antacids**

Aluminium hydroxide, magnesium hydroxide or calcium carbonate. Take at least 2 hours before or 4 hours after you take Odefsey®

- **Antifungals:**

Ketoconazole (Nizoral®), Itraconazole (Sporanox®), Fluconazole (Diflucan®)

- **Antibacterials:**

Clarithromycin (Biaxin®)

- **Immunosuppressants:**

Cyclosporine (Neoral®), tacrolimus (Prograf®), sirolimus (Rapamune®)

Drugs that should not be taken with Odefsey® are:

- Other medications containing **tenofovir** (Atripla®, Complera®, Descovy®, Genvoya®, Odefsey®, Stribild®, Truvada®, Viread®)
- Other medications containing **emtricitabine** or lamivudine (Atripla®, Complera®, Emtriva®, Descovy®, Genvoya®, Stribild®, Odefsey®, Truvada®, 3TC, Combivir®, Heptovir®, Kivexa®, Triumeq®, Trizivir®)
- Other medications containing **rilpivirine** (Complera®, Edurant®, Juluca®)
- Adefovir (Hepsera®)
- **Proton pump inhibitors:** dextlansoprazole (Dexilant®), esomeprazole (Nexium®, Vimovo®), lansoprazole (Prevacid®), omeprazole (Losec®, Olex®), pantoprazole sodium (Pantoloc®, Panto IV®), rabeprazole (Pariet®)

including natural health products you are taking. Some products such as **St. John's wort** influence the effect of Odefsey® and should **not be taken together**.

Please inform your doctor if you are pregnant. Your doctor can recommend the appropriate treatment to help to 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?**

Odefsey® tablets should be stored in a cool dry place (below 30°C), protected from light and well out of the reach of children.

**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 Odefsey™(rilpivirine/tenofovir alafenamide/emtricitabine). Gilead Canada Inc, Mississauga, ON, 2018.  
Prepared by Zubeir Khan (PharmD student 2019).

Additional medication fact sheets and updates may be found at: <https://hivclinic.ca/>

***RILPIVIRINE***  
+  
***EMTRICITABINE***  
+  
***TENOFOVIR***  
***ALAFENAMIDE***  
  
***(ODEFSEY®)***  
  
***MEDICATION***  
  
***FACT SHEET***

Inform your doctor and pharmacist of all prescribed and non-prescribed drugs