

NHS GREATER GLASGOW AND CLYDE

NB: This document should be read in conjunction with the current Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC)

DRUG AND INDICATION:

Generic drug name:	Adefovir dipivoxil	
Formulation:	Tablet containing 10mg adefovir dipivoxil	
Intended indication:	Chronic hepatitis B infection in adults with compensated liver disease with	
	evidence of active viral replication, liver inflammation and/or fibrosis.	
Status of medicine or	Licensed medicine	
treatment:	Formulary medicine	

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ACUTE CARE/SPECIALIST SERVICE (CONSULTANT):

- Undertake baseline investigations/monitoring and initiate treatment or ask GP to initiate treatment.
- If appropriate, ensure that the patient has an adequate supply of medication (usual minimum of 28 days) until the shared care arrangement are in place.
- Dose adjustments.

Acute care/specialist service will provide the GP with:

- An initiation letter (which includes diagnosis, relevant clinical information, treatment plan, duration of treatment before consultant review).
- Letter of outpatient consultations, ideally within 14 days of seeing the patient.

Acute care/specialist will provide the patient with relevant drug information to enable:

- Understanding of potential side effects.
- Understanding of the role of monitoring.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PRIMARY CARE (GENERAL PRACTITIONER):

- To prescribe in collaboration with the acute specialist according to this agreement.
- To ensure the continuous prescription of medication until treatment is discontinued at specialist instruction
- In the community Adefovir is distributed via Alcura (tel 01420 543400). Community pharmacies can order direct from this company with delivery the next working day if order is placed before 4pm Monday to Friday.
- Liaison with the hospital specialist in the event of symptoms or abnormal results thought due to this treatment.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PATIENT:

- To attend hospital and GP clinic appointments. Failure to attend appointments may result in medication being stopped.
- To report adverse effects to their specialist.
- To request repeat prescriptions from the GP prior to current prescription finishing.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

None

SEPTEMBER 2022 SEPTEMBER 2025



NHS GREATER GLASGOW AND CLYDE

CAUTIONS:

- Renal impairment: dosage adjustment is recommended for patients with creatinine clearance < 50 ml/min, (see SPC).
- Exacerbations of hepatitis.
- Patients with decompensated liver disease: a higher rate of serious hepatic adverse events.
- Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis.
- Liver transplant recipients.
- Co-infection with hepatitis C or D.
- Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)/HBV co-infected patients.
- Pregnancy and breastfeeding.

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients.

TYPICAL DOSAGE REGIMEN:

Route of administration:	Oral administration	
Recommended starting dose:	10mg every 24 hours with or without food	
Titration of dose:	None	
Maximum dose:	10mg daily	
Adjunctive treatment regimen:	Sometimes prescribed with Lamivudine	
Conditions requiring dose adjustment:	Renal impairment	
Usual response time:	Variable, depends on HBV viral load and host factors	
Duration of treatment	Treatment with adefovir dipivoxil is usually for many years. Treatment	
	may be discontinued if there is HBsAg loss or HBeAg seroconversion.	

All dose adjustments or discontinuations will be decided in acute care and directions specified in a medical letter to the GP

SIGNIFICANT DRUG INTERACTIONS:

- Caution if co administered with medicines which reduce renal function or have extensive renal elimination.
- Should not be used with tenofovir for Hepatitis B.

SEPTEMBER 2025



NHS GREATER GLASGOW AND CLYDE

UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS:

ADR details	Management of ADR		
(where possible indicate if common, rare or serious)	Wanagement of ADIC		
Weakness, fatigue, headache, dizziness, nausea,	These are the most frequent side-effects with adefovir.		
vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, rash			
Metabolic disturbance secondary to renal tubular			
toxicity:			
Increased creatinine, hypophosphataemia,	Monitoring for renal toxicity will take place in the acute		
hypokalaemia.	setting		
Rarely acute renal failure, acute tubular necrosis,			
Fanconi syndrome, nephritis, nephrogenic diabetes			
insipidus.			
ilisipidus.			
Osteomalacia, manifested as bone pain and possibly			
contributing to fractures, and myopathy			

The above list should not be considered exhaustive. For further documented ADRs and details of likelihood etc, see Summary of Product Characteristics or BNF.

BASELINE INVESTIGATIONS (ACUTE SECTOR):

Urea and electrolytes, eGFR, LFTs, HIV test and serum phosphate.

MONITORING (PRIMARY CARE):

No monitoring is to be undertaken in Primary Care.

MONITORING (ACUTE SECTOR):

The following monitoring is to be undertaken in the acute setting

SEPTEMBER 2025

Monitoring Parameters	Frequency	Laboratory results	Action to be taken
U&Es, LFTs, Phosphate	4 weeks after treatment initiation then every 3 months during first year of treatment, thereafter every 6 months if no abnormalities. More frequent monitoring in patients at higher risk of renal impairment	Falls in eGFR or serum phosphate may indicate toxicity	Discussion with responsible Consultant May require discontinuation
Hepatitis B Viral load	Every 3-6 months		
Hepatitis B e markers	Every 6 months		



NHS GREATER GLASGOW AND CLYDE

PHARMACEUTICAL ASPECTS:

- Shelf life of 3 years.
- Do not store above 30°C. Store in original package to protect from moisture. Keep bottle tightly closed.

Cost:

Approximate cost for 1 patient per year is £3069 (BNF accessed online 02/08/22).

INFORMATION FOR COMMUNITY PHARMACISTS:

In the community Adefovir is distributed via Alcura (tel 01420 543400). Community pharmacies can order direct from this company with delivery the next working day if order is placed before 4pm Monday to Friday.

ACUTE CARE/SPECIALIST SERVICE CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name	Designation	Acute Site	Department phone number
Dr David Bell	Consultant in Infectious	Brownlee Centre,	0141 301 7489
Dr Erica Peters	Diseases	Gartnavel General Hospital	
Dr Helen Cairns	Consultant	Gartnavel General Hospital	0141 301 7489
Dr Matt Priest	Gastroenterologist	Gartilavel General Hospital	
Dr Stephen Barclay	Consultant	Glasgow Royal Infirmary	0141 211 4911
Dr Ewan Forrest	Gastroenterologist	Glasgow Royal IIIII IIIai y	
	Consultant	Queen Elizabeth University Hospital	0141 201 2177
	Gastroenterologist	Victoria Infirmary	0141 347 8320
Dr Mathis Heydtmann		Inverclyde Royal Hospital	01475 633 777
	Consultant Gastroenterologist	Royal Alexandra Hospital	0141 314 6850
Dr Rizwana Hamid	Consultant Gastroenterologist	Vale of Leven Hospital	01389 817 239
Kathryn Brown			0141 211 3383
Fiona Marra	BBV Specialist Pharmacists	Gartnavel General Hospital	0141 211 3303
Alison Boyle			01112110017

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

NHS GGC Hepatitis B Treatment Guideline

 $\underline{https://clinicalguidelines.nhsggc.org.uk/media/1870/hepatitis-b-infection-assessment-and-management-in-adults.pdf}$