



Date of report 27 Feb 2020

Reported case interaction between **Efavirenz** and **Orlistat**

Drugs suspected to be involved in the DDI

Victim

Efavirenz

Daily Dose

600 (mg)

Dose adjustment performed

No

Administration Route

Oral

Start date

Unknown

End date

Unknown

Perpetrator

Orlistat

Daily Dose

180 (mg)

Dose adjustment performed

No

Administration Route

Oral

Start date

Unknown

End date

Unknown

Complete list of drugs taken by the patient

Antiretroviral treatment

Emtricitabine/Tenofovir-DF
Efavirenz

Complete list of all comedications taken by the patient, included that involved in the DDI

Orlistat

Clinical case description

Gender

Female

Age

39

eGFR (mL/min)

>60

Liver function impairment

No

Description

HIV patient treated with efavirenz who voluntarily decided to buy over-the-counter (OTC) orlistat to lose body weight. Virological failure with mean HIV RNA of 101,810 copies/mL. TDM revealed suboptimal efavirenz concentrations during orlistat therapy (<150 ng/mL) compared with after orlistat discontinuation (3795 ng/mL). This case was published in AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses. 2012;28(9):961-2.

Clinical Outcome

Loss of efficacy

Drug Interaction Probability Scale (DIPS)

Score

7 - Probable

Editorial Comment

Orlistat reduces dietary fat absorption and may affect the absorption of antiretrovirals (especially if lipophilic). Although there are no specific data in this combination available, orlistat should only be used with efavirenz if separated by 4-5 hours. [Note: this interaction is not specific for atazanavir, but for any medication taken with orlistat.]

University of Liverpool Recommendation

⚠️ Potential interaction likely to be of weak intensity. Additional action/monitoring or dosage adjustment is unlikely to be required

For more information [click here](#)