

Tipranavir

A Ritonavir-Boosted Protease Inhibitor

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Abstract

- ▲ Tipranavir is a non-peptidic HIV-1 protease inhibitor. It binds strongly and selectively, has a favourable resistance profile, and is administered orally twice daily with a subtherapeutic dosage of ritonavir in a 'boosted' regimen (TPV/r) in order to increase its bioavailability.
- ▲ Analysis of clinical isolates from treatment-experienced patients identified the following tipranavir resistance-associated HIV protease mutations: L10V, I13V, K20M/R/V, L33F, E35G, M36I, K43T, M46L, I47V, I54A/M/V, Q58E, H69K, T74P, V82L/T, N83D, I84V.
- ▲ In two large, well designed phase III trials in protease inhibitor-experienced, HIV-infected patients, the RESIST (Randomised Evaluation of Strategic Intervention in multidrug reSistant patients with Tipranavir)-1 and -2 studies, oral TPV/r 500mg/200mg twice daily achieved a significantly better virological response after 24 weeks than standard ritonavir-boosted protease inhibitors. This held true for the proportion of patients achieving a ≥ 1 log₁₀ decrease in plasma HIV-RNA levels (viral load) [42% and 41% vs 22% and 15%; both $p < 0.0001$; primary endpoint] and other virological parameters (the proportion of patients with undetectable viral load and total viral load reduction).
- ▲ In addition, a significantly larger increase in CD4+ cell count was achieved with TPV/r than comparator regimens in these trials.
- ▲ The most common adverse events in clinical trials of tipranavir were gastrointestinal. The incidence of treatment discontinuation because of adverse events in the RESIST trials was 8% (pooled data).

Features and properties of tipranavir (Aptivus®; PNU-140690)	
Indication	
HIV infection	
Mechanism of action	
Antiviral	Non-peptidic protease inhibitor
Dosage and administration	
Dose	Tipranavir 500mg plus ritonavir 200mg
Frequency of administration	Twice daily
Route of administration	Oral
Pharmacokinetic profile of tipranavir (after oral administration of tipranavir/ritonavir 500mg/200mg twice daily to steady state in healthy volunteers [mean values unless otherwise stated])	
Time to steady state	7–10d
Trough plasma concentration	26 µmol/L
Peak plasma concentration	129 µmol/L
Area under the plasma concentration-time curve (over dose administration interval)	934 µmol/L • h
Median elimination half-life	4h
Adverse events	
Most frequent adverse events	Gastrointestinal (including diarrhoea and nausea)
Main laboratory abnormalities	Elevations of AST, ALT, cholesterol and triglycerides

The introduction of protease inhibitors (PIs) in the mid-1990s represented an advance in the treatment of HIV infection.^[1] However, as with all classes of anti-HIV drugs, resistance can be a problem,^[2] and there is an ongoing need for effective new agents with robust resistance profiles, in order to maintain virological control in highly-treatment experienced patients.

Tipranavir (Aptivus®)¹ is a non-peptidic PI, and has been evaluated in patients with extensive antiretroviral experience. Like most peptidomimetic PIs (including saquinavir, indinavir, amprenavir and lopinavir), tipranavir is administered in combination with low-dose ritonavir in order to increase its systemic availability ('boosted PI').^[3] Ritonavir-boosted tipranavir (TPV/r) is administered orally as part of multiple-drug therapy regimens, which also include nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs) and/or non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs).

Tipranavir has been reviewed previously in *Drugs*.^[4] The current article reviews the pharmacology of tipranavir and the efficacy and tolerability of oral TPV/r in the treatment of adult patients with HIV infection, with the main focus being on phase III clinical trial data.

1. Pharmacological Properties

Pharmacodynamic Profile

- Tipranavir is a sulfonamide-containing dihydroprone.^[5] It binds strongly and selectively to the active site of HIV-1 protease (inhibition constant <0.01 nmol/L against HIV-1 protease and <1 nmol/L against HIV-2 protease).^[5]

- *In vitro*, tipranavir suppresses viral replication of laboratory strains and clinical isolates of HIV-1, including isolates that are highly resistant to multiple peptidomimetic PIs (e.g. ritonavir, saquinavir or indinavir) and the non-peptidic PI nelfinavir.^[5-7] The 90% inhibitory concentration (IC₉₀) for tipranavir against a susceptible strain of HIV-1 was 0.16 µmol/L (protein-adjusted IC₉₀ of 2.0 µmol/L)^[5] and

against multiple-PI-resistant clinical isolates was 0.62 µmol/L.^[7] Elsewhere it was indicated that the protein-adjusted IC₉₀ for PI-resistant HIV-1 *in vitro* was no more than 2 µmol/L (specific value not stated).^[8]

- *In vitro* work suggests that tipranavir may sustain good inhibitory activity against protease mutants through a unique binding characteristic, whereby it gains, or undergoes a minimal loss in, binding enthalpy in response to mutations.^[9] In contrast, in most other agents that maintain activity against mutations, losses in enthalpy (reflecting protease mutations weakening the binding interactions) are compensated for by entropy gains.

- Additive-to-antagonistic antiviral effects were observed *in vitro* when tipranavir was combined with other PIs.^[10-14] It was generally additive in combination with NRTIs or NNRTIs^[5,14] and synergistic with the fusion inhibitor enfuvirtide.^[14]

- Resistance to tipranavir developed slowly *in vitro* and required the sequential development of multiple mutations in the protease gene.^[13] Tipranavir-resistant viruses derived from wild-type HIV displayed cross-resistance to other PIs except saquinavir.^[13]

- The development of resistance to PIs depends on the number and type of protease gene mutations; broad cross-resistance to traditional, peptidomimetic PIs is associated with substitutions at codons 33, 82, 84 and 90 (key protease mutations).^[15] Analysis of clinical isolates from treatment-experienced patients identified the following tipranavir resistance-associated mutations: L10V, I13V, K20M/R/V, L33F, E35G, M36I, K43T, M46L, I47V, I54A/M/V, Q58E, H69K, T74P, V82L/T, N83D, I84V.^[14]

- The effect of baseline HIV phenotype and genotype on response to treatment in comparative phase III trials with tipranavir is discussed in section 2.

Pharmacokinetic Profile

The pharmacokinetics of oral tipranavir alone^[16,17] and in combination with riton-

1 The use of trade names is for product identification purposes only and does not imply endorsement.

avir^[8,16,18-20] have been evaluated in healthy volunteers^[16-19] and HIV-infected patients.^[8,19,20]

- Tipranavir is metabolised by cytochrome P450 (CYP) isoenzyme 3A4.^[18] It also induces this enzyme.^[16] However, when tipranavir is coadministered with ritonavir (a potent CYP3A4 inhibitor) as a boosted regimen, there is net inhibition of the isoenzyme, leading to increased plasma tipranavir concentrations.^[16]

- Compared with non-boosted tipranavir, administration of TPV/r 500mg/200mg twice daily in healthy volunteers increased the mean minimum plasma steady-state concentration (C_{minss}) of tipranavir 45-fold (from 0.59 to 26 $\mu\text{mol/L}$) and mean area under the plasma concentration-time curve (AUC) over the 12-hour dose administration interval (AUC_{12}) 11-fold (from 83 to 934 $\mu\text{mol/L} \cdot \text{h}$), but increased the mean peak concentration only 4-fold (from 30 to 129 $\mu\text{mol/L}$).^[16] The median time to peak concentration for boosted tipranavir was 3 hours.^[18] Steady state was reached within 7–10 days (boosted and non-boosted tipranavir).^[14,16,18]

- The median C_{minss} values for tipranavir in 72 HIV-infected patients treated with TPV/r 500mg/200mg were 29–32 $\mu\text{mol/L}$,^[8] consistent with the median value in healthy volunteers receiving TPV/r 500mg/200mg (35 $\mu\text{mol/L}$).^[16]

- The absorption of non-boosted tipranavir increases when administered with food (≈ 2 -fold increase in AUC).^[17] Based on a population pharmacokinetic analysis of TPV/r 500mg/200mg ($n = 187$), it appears HIV status, bodyweight and gender may moderately affect tipranavir steady-state concentrations; however, dosage adjustments are not required.^[19] Age and race had no, or little, effect on the pharmacokinetics of the drug.^[19] Non-boosted tipranavir was highly protein bound ($>99\%$).^[16]

- Mild hepatic impairment had no significant effect on systemic exposure to tipranavir following multiple doses of TPV/r 500mg/200mg.^[21] There are limited data on the effects of moderate,^[21] and no data on severe, hepatic insufficiency and thus

tipranavir is contraindicated in patients with moderate to severe hepatic impairment.^[14]

- Tipranavir is excreted mainly in faeces (82% of a radioactive dose) with only 4% eliminated in urine.^[18] It is eliminated largely as unchanged drug (70–85% in faeces). The median tipranavir elimination half-life for TPV/r 500mg/200mg was 4 hours.^[18] Mean tipranavir clearance was 1.0–1.3 L/h for TPV/r 250–1000mg/200mg twice daily (not reported specifically for 500mg dosage).^[16]

Pharmacodynamic/Pharmacokinetic Considerations

- The mean^[16]/median^[8,16] tipranavir C_{minss} achieved with TPV/r 500mg/200mg in healthy volunteers^[16] and HIV-infected patients^[8] was >20 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ (i.e. >10 times the protein-adjusted 90% inhibitory concentration for PI-resistant virus [section 1.1]). In a clinical study (BI 1182.52; see section 2), a C_{minss} above this concentration was achieved in 79% of patients receiving this dosage.^[8]

- Based on data from 329 highly treatment-experienced patients who received TPV/r 500mg/200mg in phase III clinical trials (section 2), a median reduction in plasma HIV RNA levels (viral load) of >1 \log_{10} was achieved at week 4 in those with an inhibitory quotient (IQ) ≥ 45 .^[20] This was maintained through to week 24 in those with an IQ ≥ 60 , among whom 48% had a viral load of <400 copies/mL at this timepoint. Tipranavir IQ was calculated by dividing the C_{min} by the wild-type protein-adjusted IC_{50} .

Drug Interactions

As well as the interaction with ritonavir, which is used to boost tipranavir bioavailability, tipranavir has the potential to interact with other drugs. The net effect of the combination of tipranavir 500mg with ritonavir 200mg is inhibition of CYP3A and induction of P-glycoprotein (P-gp), while tipranavir itself is a substrate of both CYP3A and P-gp.^[14] Thus, there is the potential for interactions between TPV/r and drugs that are substrates of CYP3A and/or P-gp or induce these systems or inhibit P-gp; however, coadministration with other CYP3A inhibitors is

unlikely to affect tipranavir concentrations. Additional details are available in the manufacturer's prescribing information.^[14]

- Coadministration of fluconazole^[22] or clarithromycin^[23] with TPV/r increased the AUC₁₂ of tipranavir by 56% and 59% and C_{min} by 104% and 112%. Patients receiving these combinations require careful monitoring. Tipranavir inhibited the formation of the clarithromycin metabolite 14OH-CLR, which is relevant for some pathogens.^[23] Coadministration with antacids decreased tipranavir AUC by up to 33%.^[17,24]

- Coadministration with TPV/r increased the AUC_∞ of atorvastatin 9-fold,^[24] and that of rifabutin and its main metabolite by 3- and 21-fold.^[25] Patients should be monitored, and rifabutin regimens altered to three times weekly or alternate days.^[25]

- Although modest pharmacokinetic interactions occur, dosage adjustments are not required when TPV/r is administered with abacavir,^[26] didanosine,^[26,27] lamivudine,^[26] stavudine,^[26] tenofovir,^[27] zidovudine,^[26,27] efavirenz^[26,27] or nevirapine.^[26] However, enteric-coated didanosine should not be taken within 2 hours of TPV/r.^[14]

- Coadministration of TPV/r with other PIs led to decreased exposure to saquinavir, amprenavir and lopinavir among HIV-infected patients in an ongoing clinical trial (BI 1181.51; interim analysis).^[28,29] AUC values were reduced by 45–70% (n = 134) and C_{min} values were reduced by 55–81% (n = 173), and these combinations are not recommended.^[14]

2. Therapeutic Efficacy

The efficacy of TPV/r 500mg/200mg twice daily has been evaluated in two large, randomised, nonblind, comparative phase III trials in HIV-infected adults with extensive antiretroviral experience.^[30,31]

These trials, known as RESIST (Randomized Evaluation of Strategic Intervention in multidrug reSistant patients with Tipranavir)-1^[30] and RESIST-2,^[31] compared TPV/r with a comparator ritonavir-boosted PI (CPI/r). Data from a planned interim analysis at 24 weeks have been reported for

each study.^[30,31] Analyses of pooled data from both trials are also available.^[32–35]

Based on resistance testing, an appropriate CPI/r (either lopinavir, saquinavir, amprenavir or indinavir, boosted with 100–200mg ritonavir^[36]) was pre-selected for each patient before randomisation took place.^[30,31] Ritonavir-boosted lopinavir (LPV/r) was specified as the comparator for patients who had not received it previously and had genotypic resistance testing showing sensitivity or possible (as opposed to definite) resistance to LPV/r.^[36] Patients who were resistant to all PIs could be enrolled. All patients received an optimised background regimen (which could include enfuvirtide [T20]).^[30,31]

RESIST-1 recruited patients from the US, Canada and Australia^[30] while RESIST-2 used centres in Europe and Latin America.^[31] Patients had received at least three classes of antiretroviral therapy previously (including at least two PI-containing regimens), had one or more primary PI mutations (but no more than two key mutations at codons 33, 82, 84 or 90) and were failing a PI-regimen at the time of entry (viral load ≥ 1000 copies/mL). There were no CD4+ cell count restrictions.^[30,31] Patients in the CPI/r arm who experienced virological failure after week 8 could receive tipranavir in a rollover study.

The primary efficacy variable was treatment response, which was defined as a confirmed ≥ 1 log₁₀ decrease in plasma HIV RNA levels (viral load) from baseline at 24 weeks. Secondary endpoints included the proportion of patients with undetectable viral load, absolute change in viral load and change in CD4+ cell count. TPV/r was compared with the composite results for the CPI/r arm. Results are reported for intention-to-treat analyses; noncompleters were counted as failures for the primary endpoint and for the proportion of patients with undetectable viral load, while for other endpoints the last observation was carried forward.^[30,31]

Additional data come from a randomised, double-blind phase II trial (known as BI 1182.52)^[15,37–39] that compared efficacy, safety and plasma concentration data for various TPV/r dosage regimens in order to determine the dosage for use in the phase III trials. It enrolled a similar patient population to the

phase III studies, with the exception that no more than one mutation at codons 82, 84 or 90 was allowed.^[37,39]

All data in this section were reported in abstracts and associated posters or presentations.

RESIST-1^[30] and RESIST-2^[31] randomised and treated 620 and 863 highly treatment-experienced patients (although the 24-week dataset for RESIST-2 included only 539 patients because the analysis was performed when the last patient had reached 16 weeks^[31]). Outcomes were similar for the two trials and while individual trial results are presented for the primary endpoint and baseline characteristics, pooled data from both studies are presented for secondary endpoints.

Baseline demographics were similar between groups in both studies. Median baseline plasma HIV RNA level (all patients) was 4.8 log₁₀ copies/mL in each trial;^[30,31] median CD4+ cell count was 123 cells/mm³ in RESIST-1^[30] and 185 cells/mm³ in RESIST-2.^[31] The median number of PI mutations was 15 in RESIST-1;^[30] this was not reported for RESIST-2 but in pooled data from both trials the median number per group was 16.^[34]

The percentage of patients starting on specific ritonavir-boosted comparator PI regimens in RESIST-1^[30] and RESIST-2,^[31] respectively, were: lopinavir 61% and 38%; saquinavir 21% and 20%; amprenavir 14% and 40%; and indinavir 4% and 3%. Overall for both studies, 86% of patients had virus that was resistant or possibly resistant to the selected PI.^[14] Enfuvirtide was part of the background regimen for 36% of patients in RESIST-1^[30] and 12% in RESIST-2.^[31]

- After 24 weeks' therapy, significantly more patients treated with TPV/r 500mg/200mg than with CPI/r achieved a decrease from baseline in plasma HIV RNA levels of ≥ 1 log₁₀ copies/mL (treatment response) in both RESIST-1^[30] and RESIST-2.^[31] Treatment response rates with TPV/r and CPI/r were 42% versus 22% in RESIST-1 and 41% versus 15% in RESIST-2 ($p < 0.0001$ in both trials). The overall response rate from a pooled analysis of both trials is shown in figure 1.^[32]

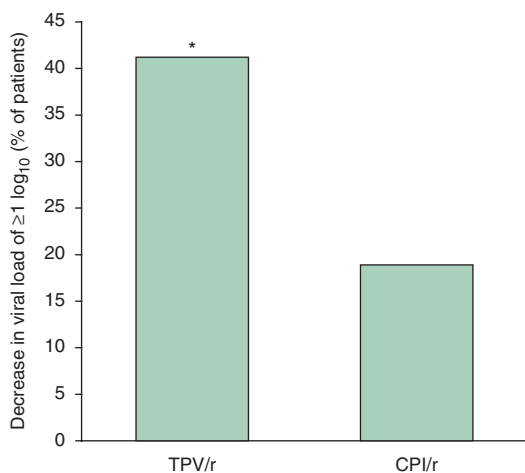


Fig. 1. Efficacy of ritonavir-boosted tipranavir (TPV/r 500mg/200mg) in highly treatment-experienced patients with HIV infection. Data are from a pooled analysis^[32] of 24-week data from two randomised, nonblind, multinational trials^[30,31] comparing TPV/r ($n = 582$) with an optimised regimen using currently available ritonavir-boosted protease inhibitors (CPI/r [$n = 577$] including lopinavir, saquinavir, amprenavir or indinavir. All patients received optimised background treatment with other antiretroviral drugs; enfuvirtide was received by 27% of TPV/r recipients and 22% of those receiving CPI/r.^[32] Treatment response (primary endpoint) was defined as a confirmed decrease in plasma HIV RNA level (viral load) of ≥ 1 log₁₀ copies/mL from baseline to 24 weeks. * $p < 0.0001$ vs CPI/r.

- In addition, a significantly ($p < 0.001$) higher proportion of patients treated with TPV/r 500mg/200mg achieved undetectable viral loads in both phase III trials.^[30,31] A viral load of <400 copies/mL or <50 copies/mL was achieved by 34% and 24% of those treated with TPV/r and by 15% and 9% of CPI/r recipients ($p < 0.0001$ for each comparison; pooled analysis).^[32]

- The median total reduction in viral load for the pooled RESIST population was 0.80 log₁₀ copies/mL with TPV/r and 0.25 log₁₀ copies/mL with CPI/r ($p < 0.0001$).^[32]

- Numerically more patients in the CPI/r than the TPV/r group had discontinued treatment by 24 weeks because of virological failure in both trials^[30,31] (37% vs 6% for pooled data; statistical analysis not reported^[32]).

- Based on a pooled analysis,^[33] among patients with one to six primary PI mutations at baseline ($n = 1151$), $>40\%$ of patients in the TPV/r group

achieved treatment response at 24 weeks compared with <30% of CPI/r recipients (between group difference significant for those with 1–2 or 3–4 mutations; $p = 0.0067$ and $p < 0.0001$). Treatment response was also more frequent with TPV/r than with CPI/r in the presence of 1 or ≥ 2 (but not 0) key mutations ($p = 0.0006$ and $p < 0.0001$).

- A baseline change in IC_{50} of <3-fold (reflecting phenotypic susceptibility) and a low baseline genotypic tipranavir score (the number of mutations known to be associated with tipranavir resistance) were associated with virological response to tipranavir in the RESIST studies.^[40] Virological response (defined as $\geq 0.5 \log_{10}$ decrease in HIV-1 RNA within the first 8 weeks^[36]) was achieved in 92% of those with baseline IC_{50} change <3-fold compared with 68% in those with a ≥ 3 -fold change, while tipranavir scores of ≤ 2 , 3–5 and ≥ 6 were associated with response rates of 94%, 84% and 72%, respectively.

- Pooled RESIST data indicate that treatment response in both TPV/r and CPI/r groups increased progressively with increasing total number of genotypically sensitive antiretroviral drugs used as background therapy (genotypic sensitivity score; GSS), from 13% vs 9% with no background therapy (GSS 0) to 54% vs 36% with three or more such drugs (GSS ≥ 3) [excluding enfuvirtide which was always considered to be genotypically sensitive; statistical analysis not reported].^[34]

- Among TPV/r and CPI/r recipients who received enfuvirtide, treatment response rates were 58% versus 26% compared with 35% versus 17% in those not treated with enfuvirtide.^[34] The proportion of patients with undetectable viral load also appeared to be increased among those patients receiving enfuvirtide; for example, a viral load of <50 copies/mL was achieved in 30% vs 13% of recipients of TPV/r or CPI/r plus enfuvirtide compared with overall results (regardless of additional therapy) of 24% vs 9% for the TPV/r and CPI/r groups.^[32]

- Efficacy outcomes in patients treated with TPV/r 500mg/200mg at 24 weeks in study BI 1182.52 ($n = 72$)^[37] were similar to those seen in RESIST-1^[30] and RESIST-2.^[31] In addition, a good antiviral

response was seen at 2 weeks in patients with HIV strains with <3 baseline key mutations, an IC_{50} <2-fold that of wild-type virus and an IQ >30,^[15,38,39] and the majority of isolates that were resistant to other PIs were susceptible to TPV/r 500mg/200mg.^[38,39]

- The median increase in CD4+ cell count was significantly greater with TPV/r than CPI/r in both RESIST-1 ($p < 0.001$)^[30] and RESIST-2 ($p = 0.022$).^[31] In a pooled analysis, it increased by 34 cells/mm³ (from a baseline of 155 cells/mm³) with TPV/r compared with 4 cells/mm³ (baseline 158 cells/mm³) for the CPI/r group ($p < 0.0001$).^[32]

- There was no significant difference in the number of AIDS progression events over the 24-week analysis period in the phase III trials (3.4% for TPV/r vs 4.6% for CPI/r; pooled data).^[32]

- The effect of TPV/r on health-related quality of life (assessed using the 35-item Medical Outcomes Study HIV instrument) was at least as good as that of CPI/r after 24 weeks' treatment in the phase III studies.^[35] There was no significant between-group difference in the primary endpoints (mental and physical health summary scores) in RESIST-1 ($n = 620$), while in RESIST 2 ($n = 494$) there was a significant difference between groups for change in mental health summary score (3.6; $p < 0.05$) in favour of TPV/r.

3. Tolerability

Tolerability data are largely derived from the clinical trials discussed in section 2^[30–32] and from another study (BI 1181.51) for which short-term safety data (but not the main efficacy analysis) have been reported.^[28,29]

- The most common adverse events with TPV/r 500mg/200mg (both overall and for moderate-to-severe events) were gastrointestinal, and included diarrhoea and nausea.^[30,31] See figure 2 for the incidence of grade 2–4 events in phase III trials.^[32]

- The types of adverse events seen with TPV/r were similar to those seen with CPI/r in RESIST-1^[30] and RESIST-2.^[31] However, the incidence of events was numerically higher in the TPV/r than the CPI/r group in both trials^[30,31] (82% vs 77%

for pooled data^[32]). More patients in the TPV/r than in the CPI/r arms discontinued treatment because of adverse events (pooled incidence 8% vs 4%).^[30-32]

- TPV/r has been associated with clinical hepatitis and hepatic decompensation, including some episodes resulting in death (incidence not stated).^[14] Patients coinfecting with chronic hepatitis B or C are at increased risk of hepatotoxicity.^[14]

- In the phase III trials,^[30,31] grade 3 or 4 elevations of ALT and AST were more common in the TPV/r than the CPI/r groups (6% vs 2% for ALT and 4% vs 1% for AST based on pooled data^[32]); differences were statistically significant (all $p < 0.05$) except for AST in RESIST-1. Patients tended to be asymptomatic; $\approx 1\%$ discontinued treatment because of these elevations.^[30,31]

- Grade 3 or 4 abnormalities of lipid levels were also more frequent among recipients of TPV/r than

of CPI/r in the phase III studies (3% vs 0.3% for total cholesterol and 21% vs 11% for triglycerides for pooled data^[32]).^[30,31] Differences were statistically significant (all $p < 0.05$) in both studies.^[30,31]

- In an interim analysis of a study evaluating TPV/r 500mg/200mg alone and in combination with other ritonavir-boosted PIs (all twice daily) in 296 highly treatment-experienced patients with high levels of PI resistance,^[28,29] the incidence of adverse events was similar for all dual-boosted PI groups (ritonavir-boosted lopinavir/tipranavir, saquinavir/tipranavir and amprenavir/tipranavir) and the TPV/r group at weeks 2–4 (48%, 42%, 54% and 46%, respectively).

4. Dosage and Administration

Tipranavir 500mg (two 250mg capsules) is coadministered with ritonavir 200mg twice daily.^[14] Tipranavir must be administered with low-dose ritonavir to ensure adequate plasma concentrations of tipranavir are achieved and it should be taken with food to enhance absorption (section 1.2) and tolerability.^[36]

It is contraindicated in patients with moderate or severe hepatic insufficiency and in patients receiving certain drugs metabolised primarily by CYP3A. Patients with chronic hepatitis B or C coinfection require close monitoring. Further information, including other warnings, precautions and details of potential drug interactions, are available in the manufacturer's prescribing information.^[14]

5. Tipranavir: Current Status

TPV/r has recently been approved by the US FDA for use as part of combination antiretroviral treatment in HIV-1 infected adults with evidence of viral replication who are highly treatment-experienced or who have multiple PI-resistant virus.^[41] Two large, well designed phase III trials have demonstrated efficacy for TPV/r 500mg/200mg in this patient population.

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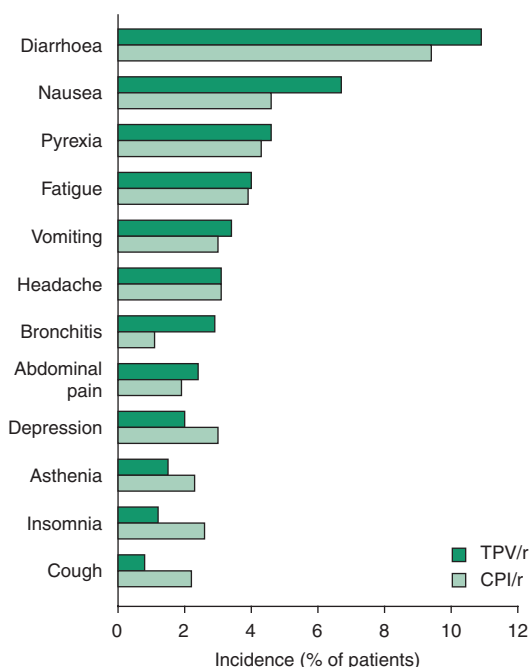


Fig. 2. Moderate to severe (grade 2–4) adverse events with ritonavir-boosted tipranavir (TPV/r) 500mg/200mg. Data are from a pooled analysis^[32] of 24-week data from two randomised, nonblind, multinational trials^[30,31] comparing TPV/r ($n = 746$) with an optimised regimen using a standard ritonavir-boosted protease inhibitor (CPI/r) [$n = 737$] such as lopinavir, saquinavir, amprenavir or indinavir. All patients received optimised background treatment with other antiretroviral drugs.^[32]

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