

# How to take your

# CRIXIVAN

*(also called indinavir)*



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Protease Inhibitor (PI)

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## What is Crixivan? (KRICKS-ih-van)

Crixivan is a strong medicine that can reduce the amount of HIV in your body. Crixivan fights HIV best when you take it together with one or more other anti-HIV medicines.

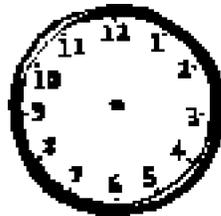
## How many pills do I take? And when do I take them?

Each day, take \_\_\_\_ pills every \_\_\_\_ hours.

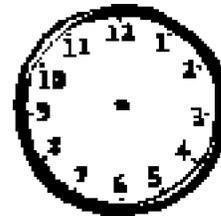
Take your pills at these times EVERY DAY:



*Morning*



*Afternoon*



*Evening*

**Important:** To be sure there is always enough Crixivan in your body to fight HIV, take your pills as close to these times as possible.

**Important:** Crixivan gets into your body best when there is **no food** in your stomach. Eat your meals or snacks **two full hours before** you take your pills. OR wait **one hour after** you take your pills, and then eat.

## Special Instructions for taking Crixivan:

- If you feel sick to your stomach, it is OK to take the pills with food.
- Drink a large (8 ounce) glass of water with your pills. **DO NOT** take the pills with grapefruit juice.
- Drink at least 6 large glasses of water or juice throughout the day.
- Keep your medicine box or pill bottle tightly closed and in a dry place. To work properly, the pills must stay dry.



## What if I forget to take my pills on time?

When you notice that you missed a dose:

- **If it is less than 2 hours after your planned pill-taking time,** take your pills right away.
- **If it is more than 2 hours after your planned pill-taking time,** skip those pills. Then take the next dose at your next planned pill-taking time.

**If you forget more than two doses in a week, call your doctor or nurse to talk about what to do.**



## What should I do if I have side effects?



Some people who take Crixivan have side effects (unwanted effects of the medicine). Possible side effects include:

- headache
- feeling sick to your stomach
- feeling tired or weak
- kidney stones
- pain in your stomach or belly

### If you have these or other side effects:

- Keep in mind that most side effects go away in a few days or weeks.
- Call your doctor or nurse. They may have ways to relieve your side effects.
- DO NOT take fewer pills or stop taking your pills. Talk to your doctor first.
- Try the ideas in the tip sheet, “Coping with Side Effects”.

- If you have blood in your urine, or pain in your sides, back or stomach, call your doctor **RIGHT AWAY**. You may have a kidney stone.

## What are the medicines I should NOT use now that I'm taking Crixivan?

Some medicines don't mix well with Crixivan. Taking Crixivan when you are using these medicines could make you very sick or cause the medicines not to work.



Your doctor knows which medicines are safe to take with Crixivan and which are not. **Be sure you have told your doctor ALL the medicines you are taking** . This includes:

- medicines prescribed to you by a doctor
- medicines you can buy without a prescription
- herbal medicines
- street drugs

## **Call your doctor or nurse if:**



- you have questions about how to take Crixivan
- you are being bothered by side effects
- you feel like stopping or taking less Crixivan
- you are having trouble taking Crixivan on time
- you want to start taking ANY medicine you are not now taking.

## **DON'T FORGET: You can still spread the virus.**

The anti-HIV medicines you are taking can help you stay healthier longer. But they do not cure HIV. To avoid passing HIV to others:  
Practice safe sex. Don't share needles or syringes.

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