Roche in HIV / AIDS



Innovating HIV Care

Roche is at the forefront of efforts to combat HIV infection and AIDS, committed since 1986 to groundbreaking research and development of innovative new drugs and diagnostic technology.

Invirase (saquinavir) was the first protease inhibitor (PI) and was introduced by Roche in 1995. Invirase/r (saquinavir 1000/ritonavir 100mg twice daily) has shown high efficacy, an excellent safety and tolerability profile and is recommended as first choice boosted protease inhibitor in the International AIDS Society (IAS) guidelines.

Viracept (nelfinavir) has proven efficacy and safety in the treatment of HIV infection and has a unique cross-resistance profile, which is clinically proven to allow the future use of other drugs in its class. Viracept is supplied by Roche outside the USA, Canada, Japan and Korea.

Fuzeon (enfuvirtide) received approval from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in March 2003, from the European Commission and Switzerland in May 2003 and Canada in July 2003.

In addition, Roche successfully markets the AMPLICOR HIV-1 MONITOR TEST, version 1.5. This test from Roche Diagnostics is considered to be a highly sensitive measurement of the amount of HIV circulating in a patient's blood ("viral load"). With a limited number of treatment regimens available, the accurate monitoring of viral load levels is essential to establish and monitor the effectiveness of therapeutic regimens and assess the potential onset of drug resistance.

Roche is a committed partner of the Accelerating Access Initiative to increase access to HIV care in sub-Saharan Africa and the world's Least Developed Countries. For more information on Roche policy and pricing of HIV protease inhibitors for these regions and research in HIV, visit the website, www.roche-hiv.com.

About Roche

Headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, Roche is one of the world's leading research-focused healthcare groups in the fields of pharmaceuticals and diagnostics. As a supplier of innovative

products and services for the early detection, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease, the Group contributes on a broad range of fronts to improving people's health and quality of life. Roche is a world leader in diagnostics, the leading supplier of medicines for cancer and transplantation and a market leader in virology. In 2004 sales by the Pharmaceuticals Division totalled 21.7 billion Swiss francs, while the Diagnostics Division posted sales of 7.8 billion Swiss francs. Roche employs roughly 65,000 people in 150 countries and has R&D agreements and strategic alliances with numerous partners, including majority ownership interests in Genentech and Chugai. Additional information about the Roche Group is available on the Internet at www.roche.com.

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