PrEP to Prevent HIV and Promote Sexual Health

October 2025



Box 2: Dosing, Preparation, and Administration of Long-Acting Injectable Cabotegravir as Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis [a]

Initiation and continuation doses:

- Long-acting injectable cabotegravir (CAB LA) as pre-exposure prophylaxis is given as a 600 mg (3 mL) deep intramuscular (IM) gluteal injection. After the first injection, a second injection is administered 4 weeks later, after which injections are administered every 8 weeks (within 1 week before or after the next planned dose).
- If a planned injection is missed by 4 weeks or more (i.e., 12 weeks after the previous dose), then the next 2 injections should be administered 4 weeks apart before returning to a bimonthly injection schedule.

Preparation and administration:

- For aspiration, use a vial adaptor or general-use syringe with a sterile 21-gauge x 1 ½ inch hypodermic needle (adjust needle length based on body mass index).
- Shake the vial vigorously before aspiration.
- Once CAB LA has been drawn up into the syringe, it must be administered within 2 hours.
- This deep IM injection is not appropriate for self-injection, and the only site currently recommended for injection is the gluteus.
- Inject into the gluteus medius muscle at a 90-degree angle using a Z-track method, ventrogluteal (preferred) or dorsogluteal (upper-outer quadrant of the buttock), with care that the compound is not injected into a vein.

Note

a. See prescribing information.