

# Selecting an Initial ART Regimen

January 2026



**Table 9: Recommended Dose Adjustments for Use of Selected Fixed-Dose Combination Antiretroviral Medications in Patients With Hepatic or Renal Impairment**

Fixed-Dose Combination	Hepatic Impairment Dose Adjustment [a]	Renal Impairment Dose Adjustment		
		Recommended Dose Adjustment [a]	Individual FDC Components and Recommended Dose Adjustment [a]	Clinical Comments
<i>Integrase Strand Transfer Inhibitors</i>				
Abacavir/dolutegravir/ lamivudine (ABC/DTG/3TC; <a href="#">Triumeq</a> )	Child-Pugh A, B, C: Do not use.	CrCl <30 mL/min: Use of FDC is not recommended.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ABC: No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li>DTG: No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li>3TC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min: 150 mg once daily</li> <li>CrCl 15 to 29 mL/min: 150 mg first dose, then 100 mg once daily</li> <li>CrCl 5 to 14 mL/min: 150 mg first dose, then 50 mg once daily</li> <li>CrCl &lt;5 mL/min: 50 mg first dose, then 25 mg once daily</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CrCl &gt;30 mL/min: Limited data to support use of FDC; 21 patients with CrCl &gt;30 mL/min received full dose 3TC with minimal increases in AUC. No elevations in lactate or other ADRs reported [Fischetti, et al. 2018].</li> <li>CrCl &lt;30 mL/min, without HD: Renal adjustment should be based on individual components; 13 patients with CrCl &lt;30 mL/min not on HD received 100 to 150 mg of 3TC with minimal increases in AUC. No elevations in lactate or other ADRs reported [Fischetti, et al. 2018].</li> <li>CrCl &lt;30 mL/min, with HD: Limited data to support use of FDC. Case series evaluating safety and efficacy of FDC in 9 patients with end-stage renal disease on HD reported viral suppression achieved in all 9 patients. No change in immune function. FDC generally well tolerated; 1 patient complained of nausea, which resolved without drug discontinuation [Michienzi, et al. 2019].</li> <li><b>Note:</b> DTG serum concentrations appear to be reduced in uninfected healthy controls with eGFR &lt;30 mL/min/m<sup>2</sup> compared to those with normal kidney function. This may increase the risk of therapeutic failure among patients with HIV drug resistance to INSTIs [FDA(c) 2024].</li> </ul>

**Table 9: Recommended Dose Adjustments for Use of Selected Fixed-Dose Combination Antiretroviral Medications in Patients With Hepatic or Renal Impairment**

Fixed-Dose Combination	Hepatic Impairment Dose Adjustment [a]	Renal Impairment Dose Adjustment		
		Recommended Dose Adjustment [a]	Individual FDC Components and Recommended Dose Adjustment [a]	Clinical Comments
Bictegravir/emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide [b] (BIC/FTC/TAF; <a href="#">Biktarvy</a> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Child-Pugh A, B:</b> No dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>Child-Pugh C:</b> Do not use.</li> </ul>	<b>CrCl &lt;30 mL/min:</b> Use of FDC is not recommended.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>BIC:</b> No renal adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>FTC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 48 hours</li> <li><b>CrCl 15 to 29 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 72 hours</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 96 hours</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>TAF:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min, without HD:</b> Use is not recommended.</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min, with HD:</b> No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl &lt;30 mL/min:</b> No data to support use of FDC. Renal dose adjustment should be based on individual components.</li> <li><b>CrCl 15 to 29 mL/min:</b> No BIC dose adjustment is needed. In a study of 10 patients with CrCl 15–29 mL/min compared to 8 patients with normal renal function who received a single dose of BIC 75 mg, severe renal impairment did not produce clinically relevant changes in BIC exposure [Zhang, et al. 2017].</li> </ul>
Elvitegravir/cobicistat/emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (EVG/COBI/FTC/TDF; <a href="#">Stribild</a> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Child-Pugh A, B:</b> No dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>Child-Pugh C:</b> No data; do not use.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl &lt;70 mL/min:</b> Do not initiate therapy.</li> <li><b>Drop in CrCl to &lt;50 mL/min during treatment:</b> Discontinue therapy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>EVG:</b> No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>EVG/COBI:</b> No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>FTC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 48 hours</li> <li><b>CrCl 15 to 29 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 72 hours</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 96 hours</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>TDF:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min:</b> 300 mg every 48 hours</li> <li><b>CrCl 10 to 29 mL/min:</b> 300 mg every 72–96 hours</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;10 mL/min, without HD:</b> No data available.</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;10 mL/min, with HD:</b> 300 mg every 7 days</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl &lt;30 mL/min:</b> No data to support use of FDC. Renal dose adjustment should be based on individual components.</li> <li><b>EVG/COBI:</b> Dose adjustment not warranted. In 12 patients with eGFR &lt;30 mL/min/m<sup>2</sup> (not on HD) and 12 controls with normal renal function given 7 days of EVG/COBI, lower EVG AUC, C<sub>max</sub>, and C<sub>min</sub> values and higher COBI AUC, C<sub>max</sub>, and C<sub>min</sub> values were observed in severe renal impairment, but values were not considered clinically relevant [German(b), et al. 2012].</li> </ul>

**Table 9: Recommended Dose Adjustments for Use of Selected Fixed-Dose Combination Antiretroviral Medications in Patients With Hepatic or Renal Impairment**

Fixed-Dose Combination	Hepatic Impairment Dose Adjustment [a]	Renal Impairment Dose Adjustment		
		Recommended Dose Adjustment [a]	Individual FDC Components and Recommended Dose Adjustment [a]	Clinical Comments
Elvitegravir/cobicistat/emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide [b] (EVG/COBI/FTC/TAF; <a href="#">Genvoya</a> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Child-Pugh A, B:</b> No dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>Child-Pugh C:</b> Do not use.</li> </ul>	CrCl <30 mL/min: Use of FDC is not recommended.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>EVG:</b> No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>EVG/COBI:</b> No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>FTC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min: 200 mg every 48 hours</li> <li>CrCl 15 to 29 mL/min: 200 mg every 72 hours</li> <li>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min: 200 mg every 96 hours</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>TAF:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min, without HD: Use is not recommended.</li> <li>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min, with HD: No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li>ESRD, with HD: 1 tablet once daily; administer after HD on HD days.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl &lt;30 mL/min, without HD:</b> No data to support use of FDC. Renal adjustment should be based on individual components.</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min, with HD:</b> In a study of 55 patients on FDC for up to 96 weeks, 18 (33%) had grade 3 or higher ADR during treatment, and 3 patients discontinued treatment due to adverse effects. The authors concluded that, at 48 weeks, the FDC regimen was well tolerated in patients on HD [Eron(b), et al. 2018].</li> </ul>
Dolutegravir/lamivudine (DTG/3TC; <a href="#">Dovato</a> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Child-Pugh A, B:</b> No dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>Child-Pugh C:</b> Do not use.</li> </ul>	CrCl <30 mL/min: Use of FDC is not recommended.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>DTG:</b> No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>3TC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min: 150 mg once daily</li> <li>CrCl 15 to 29 mL/min: 150 mg first dose, then 100 mg once daily</li> <li>CrCl 5 to 14 mL/min: 150 mg first dose, then 50 mg once daily</li> <li>CrCl &lt;5 mL/min: 50 mg first dose, then 25 mg once daily</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	CrCl <50mL/min: No data to support use of FDC. Renal dose adjustment should be based on individual components.
Dolutegravir/rilpivirine (DTG/RPV; <a href="#">Juluca</a> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Child-Pugh A, B:</b> No dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>Child-Pugh C:</b> No data; do not use.</li> </ul>	CrCl <30 mL/min or ESRD: No dose adjustment is needed; increased monitoring is recommended.	—	—

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		Recommended Dose Adjustment [a]	Individual FDC Components and Recommended Dose Adjustment [a]	Clinical Comments
<i>Non-Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor</i>				
Emtricitabine/rilpivirine/tenofovir alafenamide (FTC/RPV/TAF; <a href="#">Odefsey</a> ) [b]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Child-Pugh A, B:</b> No dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>Child-Pugh C:</b> No data.</li> </ul>	CrCl <30 mL/min: Use of FDC is not recommended.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>FTC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 48 hours</li> <li><b>CrCl 15 to 29 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 72 hours</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 96 hours</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>RPV:</b> No renal dose adjustment needed.</li> <li><b>TAF:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min, without HD:</b> Use is not recommended.</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min, with HD:</b> No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl &lt;30 mL/min, without HD:</b> No data to support use of FDC. Renal dose adjustment should be based on individual components.</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;30 mL/min, with HD:</b> 1 FDC tablet once daily. On HD days, administer after dialysis [DHHS 2024].</li> <li><b>Note:</b> Dose recommended based on data using FTC/TAF as part of FDC with EVG/COBI in patients on HD. In a study of 55 patients on EVG/COBI/FTC/TAF for up to 96 weeks, 18 (33%) had grade 3 or higher ADRs during treatment, and 3 patients discontinued treatment due to adverse effects. The authors concluded that, at 48 weeks, the FDC regimen was well tolerated in patients on HD [Eron(b), et al. 2018].</li> </ul>
Doravirine/lamivudine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (DOR/3TC/TDF; <a href="#">Delstrigo</a> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Child-Pugh A, B:</b> No dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>Child-Pugh C:</b> No data.</li> </ul>	CrCl <50 mL/min: Use of FDC is not recommended.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>DOR:</b> No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>3TC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min:</b> 150 mg once daily</li> <li><b>CrCl 15 to 29 mL/min:</b> 150 mg first dose, then 100 mg once daily</li> <li><b>CrCl 5 to 14 mL/min:</b> 150 mg first dose, then 50 mg once daily</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;5 mL/min:</b> 50 mg first dose, then 25 mg once daily</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>TDF:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min:</b> 300 mg every 48 hours</li> <li><b>CrCl 10 to 29 mL/min:</b> 300 mg every 72–96 hours</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;10 mL/min, without HD:</b> No data available.</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;10 mL/min, with HD:</b> 300 mg every 7 days</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>CrCl &lt;50 mL/min:</b> No data to support use of FDC. Renal dose adjustment should be based on individual components.

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Fixed-Dose Combination	Hepatic Impairment Dose Adjustment [a]	Renal Impairment Dose Adjustment		
		Recommended Dose Adjustment [a]	Individual FDC Components and Recommended Dose Adjustment [a]	Clinical Comments
Efavirenz/lamivudine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (EFV/3TC/TDF; <a href="#">Symfi Lo</a> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Child-Pugh A:</b> No dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>Child-Pugh B, C:</b> No data; do not use.</li> </ul>	CrCl <50 mL/min: Use of FDC is not recommended.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>EFV:</b> No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>3TC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min: 150 mg once daily</li> <li>CrCl 15 to 29 mL/min: 150 mg first dose, then 100 mg once daily</li> <li>CrCl 5 to 14 mL/min: 150 mg first dose, then 50 mg once daily</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>TDF:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min: 300 mg every 48 hours</li> <li>CrCl 10 to 29 mL/min: 300 mg every 72–96 hours</li> <li>CrCl &lt;10 mL/min, without HD: No data available.</li> <li>CrCl &lt;10 mL/min, with HD: 300 mg every 7 days</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	CrCl <50 mL/min: No data to support use of FDC. Renal dose adjustment should be based on individual components.
Efavirenz/emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (EFV/FTC/TDF; <a href="#">Atripla</a> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Child-Pugh A:</b> No dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>Child-Pugh B, C:</b> No data; do not use.</li> </ul>	CrCl <50 mL/min: Use of FDC is not recommended.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>EFV:</b> No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>FTC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min: 200 mg every 48 hours</li> <li>CrCl 15 to 29 mL/min: 200 mg every 72 hours</li> <li>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min: 200 mg every 96 hours</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>TDF:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min: 300 mg every 48 hours</li> <li>CrCl 10 to 29 mL/min: 300 mg every 72–96 hours</li> <li>CrCl &lt;10 mL/min, without HD: No data available.</li> <li>CrCl &lt;10 mL/min, with HD: 300 mg every 7 days</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	CrCl <50 mL/min: No data to support use of FDC. Renal dose adjustment should be based on individual components.

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Fixed-Dose Combination	Hepatic Impairment Dose Adjustment [a]	Renal Impairment Dose Adjustment		
		Recommended Dose Adjustment [a]	Individual FDC Components and Recommended Dose Adjustment [a]	Clinical Comments
<i>Protease Inhibitor</i>				
Darunavir/cobicistat/emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide (DRV/COBI/FTC/TAF; <a href="#">Symtuza</a> ) [b]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Child-Pugh A, B:</b> No dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>Child-Pugh C:</b> Do not use.</li> </ul>	CrCl <30 mL/min: Use of FDC is not recommended.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>DRV; DRV/COBI:</b> No renal dose adjustment required unless when combined with TDF. Renal dose adjustment for CrCl &lt;70 mL/min is recommended when combined with TDF.</li> <li><b>FTC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 48 hours</li> <li><b>CrCl 15 to 29 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 72 hours</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 96 hours</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>TAF:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min, without HD:</b> Use is not recommended.</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min, with HD:</b> No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl &lt;30 mL/min, without HD:</b> No data to support use of FDC. Renal adjustment should be based on individual components.</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;30 mL/min, with HD:</b> 1 FDC tablet once daily. On HD days, administer after dialysis [DHHS 2024].</li> <li><b>Note:</b> Dose recommended based on data using FTC/TAF as part of FDC with EVG/COBI in patients on HD. In a study of 55 patients on EVG/COBI/FTC/TAF for up to 96 weeks, 18 (33%) had grade 3 or higher ADRs during treatment, and 3 patients discontinued treatment due to adverse effects. The authors concluded that, at 48 weeks, the FDC regimen was well tolerated in patients on HD [Eron(b), et al. 2018].</li> </ul>
<i>Nucleoside/Nucleotide Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors</i>				
Emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide (FTC/TAF; <a href="#">Descovy</a> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Child-Pugh A, B:</b> No dose adjustment is needed.</li> <li><b>Child-Pugh C:</b> No data.</li> </ul>	CrCl <30 mL/min: Use of FDC is not recommended.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>FTC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 48 hours</li> <li><b>CrCl 15 to 29 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 72 hours</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min:</b> 200 mg every 96 hours</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>TAF:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min, without HD:</b> Use is not recommended.</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min, with HD:</b> No renal dose adjustment is needed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CrCl &lt;30 mL/min, without HD:</b> No data to support use of FDC. Renal adjustment should be based on individual components.</li> <li><b>CrCl &lt;30 mL/min, with HD:</b> 1 FDC once daily. On HD days, administer after HD [DHHS 2024].</li> <li><b>Note:</b> Dose recommended based on data using FTC/TAF as part of FDC with EVG/COBI in patients on HD. In a study of 55 patients on EVG/COBI/FTC/TAF for up to 96 weeks, 18 (33%) had grade 3 or higher ADRs during treatment, and 3 patients discontinued treatment due to adverse effects. The authors concluded that, at 48 weeks, the FDC regimen was well tolerated in patients on HD [Eron(b), et al. 2018].</li> </ul>

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Fixed-Dose Combination	Hepatic Impairment Dose Adjustment [a]	Renal Impairment Dose Adjustment		
		Recommended Dose Adjustment [a]	Individual FDC Components and Recommended Dose Adjustment [a]	Clinical Comments
Emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (FTC/TDF; <a href="#">Truvada</a> )	Child-Pugh A, B, C: No dose adjustment is needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min: FTC 200 mg/TDF 300 mg every 48 hours</li> <li>CrCl &lt;30 mL/min: Use of FDC is not recommended.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>FTC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min: 200 mg every 48 hours</li> <li>CrCl 15 to 29 mL/min: 200 mg every 72 hours</li> <li>CrCl &lt;15 mL/min: 200 mg every 96 hours</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>TDF:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CrCl 30 to 49 mL/min: 300 mg every 48 hours</li> <li>CrCl 10 to 29 mL/min: 300 mg every 72 to 96 hours</li> <li>CrCl &lt;10 mL/min, without HD: No data available.</li> <li>CrCl &lt;10 mL/min, with HD: 300 mg every 7 days</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	CrCl <30 mL/min: No data to support use of FDC. Renal dose adjustment should be based on individual components.

**Abbreviations:** ADR, adverse drug reaction; AUC, area under the curve;  $C_{\max}$ , maximum plasma concentration;  $C_{\min}$ , minimum plasma concentration; CrCl, creatinine clearance; FDC, fixed-dose combination; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; ESRD, end-stage renal disease; HD, hemodialysis; INSTI, integrase strand transfer inhibitor.

**Notes:**

- Per prescribing information; see links.
- Per prescribing information, FTC can be used at standard dose in FDCs that contain FTC/TAF when CrCl is >30 mL/min. FTC as an individual component requires renal dose adjustment when CrCl is <30 mL/min.

**Other ARVs, not included above:**

- Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate/emtricitabine/rilpivirine (TDF/FTC/RPV; [Complera](#)):
  - Renal dose adjustment: CrCl <50 mL/min: Do not use.
  - Hepatic dose adjustment: Child-Pugh A, B—no adjustment; Child-Pugh C—no data.
- Atazanavir (ATV; [Reyataz](#)):
  - Renal dose adjustment: No adjustment, but use only 300 mg dose with 100 mg RTV; do not use in treatment-experienced patients on HD.
  - Hepatic dose adjustment: Child-Pugh A, B—no adjustment; Child-Pugh C—no data.
- Atazanavir/cobicistat (ATV/COBI; [Evotaz](#)):
  - Renal dose adjustment: Do not use in patients with CrCl <70 mL/min taking a TDF-containing regimen; do not use in treatment-experienced patients on HD.
  - Hepatic dose adjustment: No data; not recommended.
- Raltegravir (RAL; [Isentress](#)):
  - Renal dose adjustment: None.
  - Hepatic dose adjustment: 400 mg twice daily: Child-Pugh A, B—no adjustment; Child-Pugh C—no data. 600 mg once daily: No data; use with caution.

## References

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