Some Frequently Asked Questions about Prezista

What is Prezista and how does it work?
Prezista is a medication used with other drugs to treat HIV infection in adults. It works by inhibiting the HIV-1 protease an enzyme that is needed for the virus to multiply. Prezista lowers the amount of HIV in your blood and it helps to increase the number of T-cells, which are important for your immune system.

Does Prezista reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?
Prezista does not reduce the risk of infecting other people with the HIV virus. Please continue to practice safe sex and do not share or use dirty needles.

How should I take Prezista?
The recommended oral dose of Prezista tablets is 600mg (two 300mg tablets) twice daily taken with ritonavir 100mg twice daily and with food. The type of food does not affect exposure to darunavir.

It is important that you do not miss any doses because the virus can become resistant to Prezista if you stop treatment. If a dose is missed by less than 6 hours, take it as soon as possible. If it is almost time for your next dose, take the next dose at you regular time.

What are the possible side effects of Prezista?
The most common side effects include diarrhea, nausea, headache and common cold. A mild to moderate rash has been reported; in some patients a more severe or life-threatening rash has been seen. Contact you doctor if you develop a rash.

Can Prezista be taken with other medications?
Tell your doctor about all medications you take including prescription and over the counter drugs. Prezista and other medications can interact. If you are taking estrogen-based contraceptives you must take additional precautions for birth control such as a condom. Prezista can be combined with other anti-HIV drugs but not all combinations are recommended.

Reproduction studies in animals did not show any embryotoxicity or teratogenicity, however, there are no adequate studies in pregnant women. Prezista should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk. To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to Prezista, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling 1-800-258-4263.

Take your medication at the same time each day.
This helps prevent missing doses.