Long-Acting HIV Antiretroviral Therapy (ART): Cabotegravir/Rilpivirine (CAB/RPV)



Storage and Administration Considerations for HIV Care Teams

CAB/RPV Storage Considerations



- Store CAB/RPV medicines in the refrigerator at 2 to 8 degrees Celsius (36 to 46 degrees Fahrenheit) in the original carton until ready to use.
- Do not freeze or mix the medicines with any other product or diluent.

- Before administration, leave both vials¹ out for at least 15 minutes to bring them to room temperature, typically 20 to 25 degrees Celsius (68 to 77 degrees Fahrenheit) and not to exceed 25 degrees Celsius (77 degrees Fahrenheit).
- Once at room temperature, medicines cannot be placed back in the refrigerator.
- Medicines can remain at room temperature for up to six hours.
- If medicines remain at room temperature for more than six hours, discard them.



¹Complete regimen = one CAB injection + one RPV injection. Ensure appropriate volume of 2 or 3 milliliters, based on regimen dosing, of each medicine.

CAB/RPV Administration Considerations



- When ready to draw up, shake vials well and ensure no discoloration or particulates.
- Draw up CAB/RPV medicines²⁻⁴ into syringes, do not refrigerate, and administer within two hours.
- If medicines are not administered within two hours, discard them.

 When ready to administer CAB/RPV medicines, check prepared syringes²⁻⁴ for appropriate medicine volume, needle length, and "use by" times.





- During the same visit, administer each injection at a separate gluteal site⁵ (on opposite sides or at least 2 centimeters apart) using a Z-track injection technique.
- Discuss common side effects and tips on management with the client.
- Monitor the client in the clinic for 10 minutes after administration.

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²Complete regimen = one CAB injection + one RPV injection. Ensure appropriate volume of 2 or 3 milliliters, based on regimen dosing, of each medicine.

³ Evaluate whether the needle length is appropriate given body habitus, adipose tissue, or musculature. Use a 2-inch needle for clients with a thicker layer of adipose tissue over the injection site of the gluteal muscle.

⁴Label drawn-up syringes with "use by" times to ensure the medicine is safe for administration.

⁵The ventrogluteal site is recommended, but the dorsogluteal site is an alternative.