

## Generic tenofovir

You will notice that there has been a change in the brand of tenofovir you receive. This information will answer any questions you may have about this change.

### What's happening with my tenofovir tablets?

Viread® is the brand name for a medicine you currently take. It is made by a company called Gilead. It contains tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 245mg.

Other companies are now making tenofovir tablets. These new tablets do not have a brand name and are known as generic medicines. Using the new tablets provides the same medicine at the same dose as Viread® but at a lower cost to the NHS.



### Why is the NHS switching to generic medicines?

Generic medicines are just as carefully regulated and as effective as the original brands, but are often significantly cheaper to the NHS. This means your clinic can continue to offer you the same high quality treatment and make cost savings, helping us to look after our growing number of patients.

### Will Viread® and generic tenofovir work in the same way?

Yes. The generic tenofovir contains tenofovir disoproxil phosphate, which is a different salt from Viread® tenofovir disoproxil fumarate. However they both contain 245mg of the active medicine tenofovir disoproxil.

### Will there be any side effects when I switch?

New side effects are not expected when you switch to the generic tenofovir as it contains the same active medicine at the same dose. Contact the hepatology team if you experience any new side effects.

### How to contact us

If you have any questions or concerns, or need further information on your medication, please contact:

Your hepatology team on: 0118 322 6070

Alternatively contact:

Medicine Information Patient Helpline on: 0118 322 7642 (Mon-Fri 1pm-3pm)

or via email [medicines.information@royalberkshire.nhs.uk](mailto:medicines.information@royalberkshire.nhs.uk)

This document can be made available in other languages and formats upon request.

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