

# IMPORTANT - ALERT CARD

## Medicines containing Abacavir

Carry this card with you at all times

Since your medicine contains Abacavir some patients taking it may develop a hypersensitivity reaction (serious allergic reaction) which can be life-threatening if treatment is continued.

### CONTACT YOUR DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY

for advice on whether you should stop taking Abacavir if:

**1** you get a skin rash **OR**

**2** you get one or more symptoms from at least **TWO** of the following groups:

- fever
- shortness of breath, sore throat or cough
- nausea or vomiting or diarrhoea or abdominal pain
- severe tiredness or achiness or generally feeling ill

If you have stopped taking Abacavir because of this reaction, **YOU MUST NEVER TAKE** any Abacavir containing medicine again, as within hours you may experience a life-threatening lowering of your blood pressure or death.

(see reverse of card)

**You should immediately contact your doctor if you think you are having a hypersensitivity reaction to Abacavir.**

**Write your doctor's details below:**

**Doctor: .....**

**Tel: .....**

**If your doctor is not available, you must urgently seek alternative medical advice (e.g. the emergency unit of the nearest hospital).**

Suspected Adverse Drug Reactions (side effects) or medication errors may be reported using the Medicines Authority via the ADR reporting form, which is available online at <http://www.medicinesauthority.gov.mt/adrportal>, and sent by post or email to: Pharmacovigilance Section at Post-Licensing Directorate, Medicines Authority, 5th Temi Zammit Buildings, Malta Life Sciences Park, San Gwann SGN 3000 E. [postlicensing.medicinesauthority@gov.mt](mailto:postlicensing.medicinesauthority@gov.mt)