Treatment: 2-Month Dosing

Long-acting injectables may be given once every other month, according to new findings.

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The long-acting injectable regimen of ViiV Healthcare's experimental integrase inhibitor cabotegravir and Janssen's non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor rilpivirine (sold in daily pill form as Edurant) is as effective when given every other month as when administered monthly. Two major studies have shown that the regimen, when given at monthly intervals, is highly effective among those starting HIV treatment for the first time as well as those switching from other antiretroviral regimens. Clinical trial participants have reported high levels of satisfaction with the regimen. In a new large trial, researchers randomized participants already taking antiretrovirals to switch to injections of the long-acting regimen administered either every four or every eight weeks. After 48 weeks of treatment, rates of viral suppression were comparable between the two study groups. An FDA decision about the monthly regimen is imminent.

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