Treatment: Monthly Dosing

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A long-acting injectable HIV regimen of cabotegravir and Edurant (rilpivirine) dosed every four weeks is slated to advance to Phase III trials in late 2016 after eight-week dosing proved less successful. A Phase IIb study gave four- or eight-week dosing of the treatment or a daily tablet regimen to 309 people with HIV who were new to antiretroviral treatment. Five percent of those receiving injections every eight weeks had a detectable viral load after 48 weeks, compared with less than 1 percent of those in the four-week dosing group and no one on the oral regimen. (Five out of the six people in the eight-week dosing group did subsequently achieve a fully suppressed viral load, however.) Three participants experienced virologic failure during the study, including one in the oral treatment group and two in the eight-week dosing group.

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