

Lenacapavir (PrEP)

Side Effects & Adverse Drug Reactions

FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

What you will see most often: Common and expected side effects

Injection Site Reactions:

- Pain or tenderness
- Swelling / oedema
- Bruising
- Warmth at injection site
- Discolouration
- Small nodule
- Itching (pruritus)
- Redness (erythema)
- Induration (hardness)

Clinical action:

- ✓ Reassure client
- ✓ Provide symptomatic management (e.g. cold compress, paracetamol)
- ✓ Document and monitor
- ✓ Continue LEN if mild-moderate

Other side effects: General systemic side effects

- Headache
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Dizziness
- Fatigue
- Diarrhoea

Usually mild and self-limiting

Quick check: Severity guide assessment

MILD:

Does not interfere with daily activities

MODERATE:

Some limitation of daily activities

SEVERE:

Prevents daily activities or requires intervention

Severe injection site reactions: Requires urgent action

- Ulceration
- Fluctuant abscess
- Infection at injection site

Clinical action:

- ✓ Treat or refer urgently
- ✓ Consider delaying or discontinuing LEN
- ✓ Report to SAHPRA

Adverse drug reactions: Must report to SAHPRA

- Severe rash with blistering or mouth sores
- Persistent or severe nausea
- Persistent or severe vomiting
- Persistent or severe diarrhoea

Report to SAHPRA following this link:
<https://www.sahpra.org.za/Publications/Index/8>

Client counselling messages:



Mild side effects are expected



Most resolve within days to weeks



Return immediately if symptoms worsen



Do not miss follow-up visits

REMEMBER: Early recognition, reassurance, and reporting support safe LEN rollout.