

Texas Department of State Health Services  
**Tuberculosis (TB) Medication Availability Notification**

**RIFABUTIN**

*Rifabutin is in stock at the DSHS Pharmacy Unit; however, manufacturer distribution to the pharmacy continues to fluctuate. As of October 14, 2024, TB programs no longer need TB Unit approval for rifabutin. TB programs must continue to prioritize rifabutin for patients on treatment for TB disease and latent TB infection as per criteria below.*

**Rifabutin Criteria**

**Patients in whom rifampin is contraindicated due to high-risk drug interactions:** TB programs may use rifabutin.

High-risk drug interactions are:

- Antiretrovirals (ARVs) for HIV (refer to Table 1).
- Anti-rejection medications for transplant patients (not limited to cyclosporine, tacrolimus).
- Methadone.
- Other medications where the provider is unsure if rifampin is contraindicated. Refer to Attachment 7 of the [DSHS Standing Delegation Orders](#) (SDOs) when deciding on rifabutin or rifampin.

**Patients needing a liver-friendly regimen for TB disease:** Rifampin is usually tolerated.

- Should use rifampin first (e.g., a regimen with rifampin/fluoroquinolone/ethambutol).
- For patients who failed the initial rifampin challenge, document results and proceed with rifabutin.

**Patients initially on rifampin but who developed a documented adverse reaction to rifampin:**

- Use rifabutin.

Table 1. Rifampin and Known Anti-Retroviral (ARV) Contraindications

**Rifampin is contraindicated in patients with HIV who are receiving one or more of the following anti-retroviral (ARV) medications:**

1. PI (PIs contraindicated with rifampin or rifapentine): **atazanavir, darunavir, lopinavir, nelfinavir, saquinavir, and tipranavir**. *NOTE: Though compatible with rifabutin, may require lower doses of rifabutin.*
2. NNRTI: **doravirine, etravirine, nevirapine, rilpivirine**. *NOTE: Efavirenz is an NNRTI that can decrease drug levels of rifabutin but can be used with weekly rifapentine and dose adjusted for use with rifampin.*
3. NRTI: **zidovudine, tenofovir alafenamide (TAF)**. *NOTE: TAF is incompatible with all rifamycins. Other NRTIs can be used with rifampin.*
4. INSTI: **dolutegravir**. *NOTE: raltegravir is compatible with weekly rifapentine; bictegravir is incompatible with ALL rifamycins.*

*For more information, see: Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in Adults and Adolescents with HIV. (2021)*

<https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/en/guidelines/hiv-clinical-guidelines-adult-and-adolescent-arv/tuberculosis-hiv-coinfection>