

Descovy[®] (FTC/TAF) Use in Bariatric Surgery

This document is in response to your request for information regarding Descovy (emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide [FTC/TAF]) and its use in individuals who have undergone bariatric surgery, including gastric bypass or gastric sleeve surgery.

Some data may be outside of the US FDA-approved Prescribing Information. In providing this data, Gilead Sciences, Inc. is not making any representation as to its clinical relevance or to the use of any Gilead product(s). For information about the approved conditions of use of any Gilead drug product, please consult the FDA approved prescribing information.

The full indication, important safety information, and boxed warnings are available at: www.gilead.com/-/media/files/pdfs/medicines/hiv/descovy/descovy_pi.

Product Labeling¹

There is no information in the FTC/TAF product labeling about the use of FTC/TAF in individuals who have undergone bariatric surgery.

Clinical Data

Currently, there are no data from randomized clinical trials in this patient population. Please see below for a case report considered relevant to your inquiry.

Literature Search

A literature search was conducted in Ovid MEDLINE and Embase databases for studies published between 1946 and March 16, 2026 using search terms that included Descovy, emtricitabine, tenofovir alafenamide, gastric bypass, gastric sleeve surgery, bariatric surgery, sleeve gastrectomy, and other related search terms. One case series was identified which included HIV-infected patients who underwent roux-en-y gastric bypass or sleeve gastrectomy and received FTC/TAF as part of their antiretroviral regimen.

There are limitations in the interpretation of case series or case reports. Case series and case reports cannot be generalized. Unlike controlled clinical trials, causality cannot be inferred based on uncontrolled observational data and incidence or prevalence cannot be estimated due to the lack of a representative population sample. Additional limitations of case reports include retrospective design and publication bias.²

Case Report

- Kaip EA, Nguyen NY, Cocohoba JM. Antiretroviral therapy efficacy post-bariatric weight loss surgery: a case series of persons living with human immunodeficiency virus. *Obes Surg.* 2022;32(5):1523-1530. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35171391/>

References

1. Enclosed. Gilead Sciences Inc, DESCOPY® (emtricitabine and tenofovir alafenamide) tablets, for oral use. U. S. Prescribing Information. Foster City, CA.
2. Nissen T, Wynn R. The Clinical Case Report: A Review of Its Merits and Limitations. *BMC Res Notes*. 2014;7:264. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24758689>

Product Label

For the full indication, important safety information, and boxed warning(s), please refer to the Descovy US Prescribing Information available at:

www.gilead.com/-/media/files/pdfs/medicines/hiv/descovy/descovy_pi

Follow Up

For any additional questions, please contact Gilead Medical Information at:

☎ 1-866-MEDI-GSI (1-866-633-4474) or 🌐 www.askgileadmedical.com

Adverse Event Reporting

Please report all adverse events to:

Gilead Global Patient Safety ☎ 1-800-445-3235, option 3 or

🌐 www.gilead.com/utility/contact/report-an-adverse-event

FDA MedWatch Program by ☎ 1-800-FDA-1088 or ✉ MedWatch, FDA, 5600 Fishers Ln, Rockville, MD 20852 or 🌐 www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/medwatch

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