**ENTECAVIR**

*Entecavir*

**Drug class:** Antiviral

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<th>Availability</th>
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<td>Tablet, film-coated 0.5 mg, 1 mg</td>
<td>Baraclude</td>
<td>![Warning icon]</td>
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**Effect of food**

Give on an empty stomach, 2 hours before or 2 hours after food.¹

**Warnings**

Hazard: Do not handle crushed or dispersed tablets. Contact a pharmacist or medicines information service for advice.

**What to do for people with enteral feeding tubes**

Tablet

See Warnings. Check local guidelines before proceeding. Strict safe handling practices are required. Do not break or crush the tablet.¹ Inhalation of the dust created by crushing may be harmful.³ Wear a mask, gloves and glasses. Use a closed system. Disperse the tablet in 10–20 mL of water in an oral dispenser. The tablet will disperse within 2 minutes.⁴ See Method A for instructions.

**Summary of options in order of preference:**

1. If local policies permit and strict safe handling practices can be followed, then disperse the tablet.
2. Contact a pharmacist, a medicines information service or the prescriber for advice.

**What to do for people with swallowing difficulties**

Tablet

See Warnings. Check local guidelines before proceeding. Strict safe handling practices are required. Do not break or crush the tablet.¹ Inhalation of the dust created by crushing may be harmful.³ Wear a mask, gloves and glasses. Use a closed system. Disperse the tablet in 10–20 mL of water in an oral dispenser. The tablet will disperse within 2 minutes.⁴ See Method D for instructions.

**Summary of options in order of preference:**

1. If local policies permit and strict safe handling practices can be followed, then disperse the tablet.
2. Contact a pharmacist, a medicines information service or the prescriber for advice.

**REFERENCES:**