

**Chapter 1**
**Abacavir: Mode of action**

Chemistry and mechanism of action	4
Metabolism	5

**Chapter 2**
**Pharmacology of Ziagen**

Pharmacokinetics/pharmacodynamics	6
Special populations	6
Drug interactions	7
Site penetration	8

**Chapter 3**
**Antiviral activity of Ziagen**

<i>In vitro</i> activity	12
<i>In vivo</i> activity	13
Resistance and cross-resistance	13
Resistance profile of Ziagen	14
Cross-resistance to Ziagen resulting from prior NRTI therapy	16
Phenotypic and genotypic assays	18

**Chapter 4**
**Clinical experience with Ziagen**

Introduction	22
Ziagen - The power of a protease inhibitor	22
Ziagen - Durable HIV-1 RNA suppression in triple NRTI combination in treatment-naïve patients	24
Ziagen - Potent and durable with PIs	26
Ziagen - Intensification of prior sub-optimal HIV suppression in treatment experienced patients	27
Ziagen - Potent in salvage therapy	30
Expanded access programme	31
Ziagen in paediatric patients	32

**Chapter 5**
**The safety and tolerability of Ziagen**

Clinical safety profile of Ziagen	36
Hypersensitivity to Ziagen	37
Diagnosing hypersensitivity to Ziagen	37
Patient counselling	39

**Chapter 6**
**Ziagen in clinical practice**

Dosing recommendations	42
Adherence and its implications for antiretroviral therapy	42
Ziagen - implications for adherence	42
Ziagen oral solution for children	43
Cost-effectiveness of Ziagen therapy	43

**Ziagen - Key points**

46

**Future directions**

49

**Glossary**

50

**Index**

54