

# Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation Consortium Guidelines for *HLA-B* Genotype and Abacavir Dosing: 2014 Update

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**The Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation Consortium (CPIC) Guidelines for *HLA-B* Genotype and Abacavir Dosing were originally published in April 2012. We reviewed recent literature and concluded that none of the evidence would change the therapeutic recommendations in the original guideline; therefore, the original publication remains clinically current. However, we have updated the Supplementary Material online and included additional resources for applying CPIC guidelines to the electronic health record. Up-to-date information can be found at PharmGKB (<http://www.pharmgkb.org>).**

The Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation Consortium (CPIC) of the Pharmacogenetics Research Network (<http://www.pgrn.org>) and the Pharmacogenomics Knowledge Base (PharmGKB, <http://www.pharmgkb.org>) provide peer-reviewed, evidence-based, freely accessible, genotype-based drug guidelines to help clinicians understand how available genetic test results could be used to optimize drug therapy.<sup>1</sup> CPIC guidelines undergo continuous peer review, and information that would modify prescribing recommendations pertaining to gene-specific alleles and nomenclature is updated periodically on the PharmGKB website. Furthermore, published CPIC guidelines are currently systematically reviewed for updates every 2–3 years.

The Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation Consortium Guidelines for *HLA-B* Genotype and Abacavir Dosing were originally published in April 2012.<sup>2</sup> To update this guideline, we conducted a focused review of the literature published between April 2011 and November 2013 on *HLA-B* genotype and abacavir use (see **Supplementary Material** online). The minor

allele frequency table based on ethnicity is already extensive and has not been updated at this time (see **Supplementary Tables S1 and S2** online). The literature review yielded one additional study that we added to the evidence table in the supplementary material<sup>3</sup> (see **Supplementary Table S3** online). We found no new evidence that would change our original recommendations; therefore, the original guideline publication remains current.<sup>2</sup> However, recent studies have been published that further describe the mechanism by which abacavir can elicit an immune response through *HLA-B\*57:01*. Discussion of these studies was added to the **Supplementary Material** online. **Supplementary Figures S1 and S2** online also remain unchanged.

Recently, the CPIC Steering Committee recommended that authors address dosing in pediatrics in all updated and new CPIC guidelines. Although much of the evidence linking *HLA-B\*57:01* to abacavir hypersensitivity was conducted in adults, there is no reason to suspect that children positive for *HLA-B\*57:01* would be at less risk for abacavir hypersensitivity reactions than adults positive for *HLA-B\*57:01*. Furthermore, the Panel on Antiretroviral Therapy and Medical Management of HIV-Infected Children (Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in Pediatric HIV Infection; <http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/contentfiles/lvguidelines/pediatricguidelines.pdf>) recommends against the use of abacavir in children who test positive for *HLA-B\*57:01*.

CPIC guidelines are designed to help clinicians use genetic information to optimize drug therapy; to do this effectively, pharmacogenetic information must be incorporated into electronic health records (EHRs) with clinical decision support.<sup>4–6</sup> To provide additional resources for applying CPIC guidelines to the EHR, in 2013, CPIC created an informatics working group

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focused on supporting the adoption of CPIC guidelines within a clinical electronic environment. This guideline is the first to provide these new clinical implementation resources as part of the **Supplementary Material** online, which includes workflow diagrams that illustrate the storage of a pharmacogenetic result in an EHR and the design of clinical decision support alerts (see **Supplementary Figures S3 and S4** online). New tables that correspond to these workflow diagrams are provided that translate genotype test results into an interpreted phenotype (see **Supplementary Tables S4–S8** online). These tables provide a summary of genotype/phenotype terms, example text for documentation in the EHR and point-of-care alerts, and cross-references for drug and gene names to widely used terminologies and standardized nomenclature systems.

We recognize that each organization and EHR vendor may have different requirements and preferences for implementing pharmacogenetics within a given electronic environment. The intent of these resources is to synthesize foundational knowledge that provides a common starting point for clinical implementation so that individual organizations do not have to create a similar knowledge base for each new gene–drug pair for which pharmacogenetics is implemented. Future CPIC guidelines and guideline updates will provide similar resources to guide the implementation of gene–drug pairs in the EHR with clinical decision support.

**SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL** is linked to the online version of the paper at <http://www.nature.com/cpt>

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CPIC guidelines reflect expert consensus based on clinical evidence and peer-reviewed literature available at the time they are written and are intended only to assist clinicians in decision making and to identify questions for further research. New evidence may have emerged since the time a guideline was submitted for publication. Guidelines are limited in scope and are not applicable to interventions or diseases not specifically identified. Guidelines do not account for all individual variations among patients and cannot be considered inclusive of all proper methods of care or exclusive of other treatments. It remains the responsibility of the health-care provider to determine the best course of treatment for the patient. Adherence to any guideline is voluntary, with the ultimate determination regarding its application to be solely made by the clinician and the patient. CPIC assumes no responsibility for any injury to persons or damage to property related to any use of CPIC's guidelines or for any errors or omissions.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

T.E.K. is a consultant for Personalis. D.W.H. has been a consultant to Merck. The other authors declared no conflict of interest.

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