

Injectable Cabotegravir vs Injectable Lenacapavir: Key Differences

	Cabotegravir (CAB)	Lenacapavir (LEN)
ARV drug class	Integrase Strand Transfer Inhibitor	Capsid Inhibitor
Injection type	Intramuscular	Subcutaneous
Injection site	Gluteal muscle (buttocks)	Abdomen
Injection volume	One 3 ml injections	Two 1.5 ml injections
Frequency/interval	First injection followed by a second one month later, then every 2 months	First injection along with two oral tablets, followed by two more tablets on day 2 and then injections every 6 months
Efficacy	Very high efficacy in all populations	Very high efficacy in all populations
Regulatory approvals and guidelines	56 regulatory approvals as of December 2024; WHO recommendation as additional prevention option in July 2022	Regulatory submissions and potential normative guidance anticipated in 2025
Price in LMICs	±\$160/year	TBD
Developer/Manufacturer	ViiV Healthcare	Gilead Sciences
Generic Manufacturers	Three licenses through MPP to Aurobindo, Cipla and Viartis – all Indian-based manufacturers, with expected earliest market access in 2027	Six direct voluntary licenses with Eva Pharma (Egypt), Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Limited, Emcure, Hetero, and Viartis (India), and Ferozsons Laboratories Limited (Pakistan) with expected earliest market access in 2027