

EARMRK, the expanded access research program from Merck, is intended to provide early access to MK-0518, the company's investigational HIV medication, for patients who are resistant to

EARMRK

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existing classes of antiretroviral medications and who require an HIV treatment regimen containing a medication to which they may not be resistant. EARMRK is a global program that will provide free MK-0518 to qualified patients for the duration of the program through a research study.

To qualify for the EARMRK program, patients must have documented resistance or intolerance to at least 1 drug in each of the 3 major classes of anti-HIV medications — nucleoside analogues (RTIs), non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (nnRTIs), and protease inhibitors (PIs).

Patients who qualify must not be adequately suppressing viral load on their current regimen and be at risk of clinical or immunologic progression. Their physician must determine that they need such an investigational medication to construct a potentially viable regimen. To be eligible, patients must be at least 16 years old.

The safety and efficacy of MK-0518 has not been established. To increase the likelihood that patients will respond to treatment, patients are encouraged to optimize their current regimen when beginning therapy with MK-0518. To do this, it is recommended that patients failing their current regimen receive at least 2 new antiretroviral medications to which their virus is still sensitive.

Eligible patients will be able to use MK-0518 with any available antiretroviral medications, including other medications available through expanded access research programs sponsored by other manufacturers after review and approval by the sponsor.

Patients are ineligible if they are currently or were previously participating in a clinical trial with MK-0518. They also are ineligible if they are taking any medications prohibited by the study protocol, including phenobarbital, phenytoin, and rifampin. Patients with acute hepatitis and patients who are pregnant or breast-feeding are also ineligible. Other exclusions apply.

**For more information on the EARMRK program,
call 1-877-EARMRK1 or go to www.earmrk.com.**

Merck & Co., Inc. is a global research-driven pharmaceutical company dedicated to putting patients first. Established in 1891, Merck currently discovers, develops, manufactures and markets vaccines and medicines to address unmet medical needs. The Company devotes extensive efforts to increase access to medicines through far-reaching programs that not only donate Merck medicines but help deliver them to the people who need them. Merck also publishes unbiased health information as a not-for-profit service.

