



Information for
patients and
carers

**Kidney Transplant patients and
conversion to once-daily Advagraf®
(tacrolimus) capsules**

What is a Advagraf®?

Advagraf® is a once-daily preparation of tacrolimus. Tacrolimus is an immunosuppressant drug that prevents transplant rejection.

This is an image of Advagraf® 1mg capsules, they also come as 0.5mg and 3mg strength.



These are images of Prograf® and Adoport®. These are twice daily preparations of tacrolimus.



Why has my tacrolimus been switched?

Conversion from twice-daily tacrolimus preparations (Prograf® or Adoport®) to once-daily tacrolimus (Advagraf®) is more convenient for some patients.

The decision to convert you from Prograf®/Adoport® to Advagraf® will be made by your kidney/transplant consultant following discussion with you.

It is hoped that this will improve the tacrolimus blood levels, prevent rejection, and prolong the survival of the transplant.

Studies have shown that once-daily tacrolimus (Advagraf®) is as safe as twice-daily Tacrolimus (Prograf® or Adoport®) in kidney transplant patients.

Will my dose change?

The total daily dose of tacrolimus remains the same.

For example, if you have been on Prograf®/Adoport® 2mg twice a day then the new dose of Advagraf® will be 4mg once a day.

What do I need to do with my old tablets?

Only your kidney/transplant consultant should change the preparation. When you collect your prescription from the pharmacy: Double-check the preparation and dose.

Make sure that you do not keep stocks of Prograf®/Adoport® or Advagraf® together (you may confuse them). If unsure, please ask us for help.

There is no transition period: You are either on Prograf®/Adoport® or Advagraf® but not on both. **Please return any capsules you are no longer taking to your pharmacy.**

When do I need to repeat my blood test?

Once you change from Prograf®/Adoport® to Advagraf® you will need to repeat your bloods test including renal function and tacrolimus level in one week. This is to check the dose is appropriate.

The Blood test should be done **24 hours after your last dose, before you take the next dose.**

For example, if you take your Advagraf® at 0900 hours, you should aim to have the blood test at around 0900 hours the following morning, prior to taking the next dose.

Contact details

Should you require further advice or information please contact.

Renal Transplant Office **01772 522668**

Sources of further information

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk

www.nhs.uk

www.accessable.co.uk

www.patient.co.uk

All our patient information leaflets are available on our website for patients to access and download:

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets

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If you want to stop smoking, you can also contact the Quit Squad Freephone 0800 328 6297.

Please ask if you would like help in understanding this information. This information can be made available in large print and in other languages.

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