

Please refer to the **What to Start** section of the Adult Guidelines for more detailed discussions.

**Table 8. Antiretroviral Components Not Recommended as Initial Therapy**  
(Updated November 3, 2008)

Antiretroviral drugs or components (in alphabetical order)	Reasons for <u>not</u> recommending as initial therapy
Abacavir/lamivudine/zidovudine (coformulated) as triple-NRTI combination regimen <b>(BI)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inferior virologic efficacy</li> </ul>
Abacavir + didanosine <b>(BIII)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insufficient data in treatment-naïve patients</li> </ul>
Abacavir + tenofovir <b>(BIII)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insufficient data in treatment-naïve patients</li> </ul>
Darunavir (unboosted)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Usage without ritonavir has not been studied</li> </ul>
Delavirdine <b>(BII)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inferior virologic efficacy</li> <li>• Inconvenient (three times daily) dosing</li> </ul>
Didanosine + tenofovir <b>(BII)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High rate of early virologic failure</li> <li>• Rapid selection of resistance mutations</li> <li>• Potential for immunologic nonresponse/CD4 decline</li> </ul>
Enfuvirtide <b>(BIII)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No clinical trial experience in treatment-naïve patients</li> <li>• Requires twice-daily subcutaneous injections</li> </ul>
Etravirine <b>(BIII)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insufficient data in treatment-naïve patients</li> </ul>
Indinavir (unboosted) <b>(BIII)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inconvenient dosing (three times daily with meal restrictions)</li> <li>• Fluid requirement</li> </ul>
Indinavir (ritonavir-boosted) <b>(BIII)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High incidence of nephrolithiasis</li> </ul>
Maraviroc <b>(BIII)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insufficient data in treatment-naïve patients</li> </ul>
Nelfinavir <b>(BI)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inferior virologic efficacy</li> </ul>
Raltegravir <b>(BIII)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insufficient data in treatment-naïve patients</li> </ul>
Ritonavir as sole PI <b>(BIII)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High pill burden</li> <li>• Gastrointestinal intolerance</li> </ul>
Saquinavir (unboosted) <b>(BI)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inferior virologic efficacy</li> </ul>
Stavudine + lamivudine <b>(BI)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant toxicities including lipoatrophy, peripheral neuropathy, and hyperlactatemia, including symptomatic and life-threatening lactic acidosis, hepatic steatosis, and pancreatitis</li> </ul>
Tipranavir (ritonavir-boosted) <b>(BI)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inferior virologic efficacy</li> </ul>