



Call to action to defend the compulsory license of dolutegravir in Colombia

July 17, 2024

In a significant effort to improve access to effective HIV treatments in Colombia encouraged by civil society, the Colombian government issued a compulsory license on dolutegravir, which has become final by Resolution 34716 of the Superintendency of Industry and Trade dated June 28, 2024.

This latest resolution of the Superintendency confirms the decision taken by that body on April 23 ([Resolución 20049](#)) which was subject to appeal by the multinationals SHIONOGI & CO LTD and ViiV HealthCare Company and in which it was resolved: “GRANT to the MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION a compulsory license for reasons of public interest on the patent with certificate No. 1887, granted to application No. 07115501A, which includes the active ingredient dolutegravir, entitled “POLYCYCLIC CARBAMOYL PYRIDONE DERIVATIVE THAT HAS HIV INTEGRASE INHIBITORY ACTIVITY”, which will be intended solely and exclusively for government use.

Thus, the Colombian Ministry of Health was enabled to make an immediate purchase of this medicine. Currently, the monthly price of the patented version of dolutegravir is US\$98 for 30 tablets, compared to the available generic version which is priced at US\$3.53. This drastic reduction allows treatment to be provided to 27 people compared to one treatment at the owner's price.

We applaud Colombia for its efforts and categorically reject the judicial attack carried out by the multinational pharmaceutical company associated with AFIDRO through which they seek the declaration of nullity of the compulsory license.

The organized community and organizations working on HIV and Human Rights demand that AFIDRO, particularly GSK-ViiV and the other pharmaceutical companies that comprise it, withdraw the judicial lawsuit initiated and refrain from hindering public

policies that seek to protect the right to the Health of people with HIV who urgently need access to life-saving treatments.

Medicines are public goods, they are not commodities.

GSK-ViiV, Drop the case!

Access to dolutegravir Now!

