
Department of Neurosciences

Pregabalin drug information

Drug brand name

- Pregabalin
- Lyrica

Uses

Pregabalin is one of the newer antiepileptic drugs introduced in the UK in the last three years. It is prescribed in combination with other antiepileptic drugs to reduce seizure frequency and severity. It is available in 25mg, 50mg, 75mg, 150mg and 300mg capsules. The variety of capsules makes it easy to make dose adjustments when the medication is being introduced. Pregabalin is also used to treat certain types of pain.

Side effects

The most common side effects are:

- Dizziness
- Sleepiness
- Decreased concentration

Others include:

- Increased appetite and weight gain
- Constipation
- Dry mouth
- Vomiting

Sometimes a person may experience confusion, irritability, disturbance in attention or feeling drunk. In the event of any of these side effects, contact the epilepsy nurse (contact number at the end of the leaflet) or your GP.

Contraception

There is no interaction between Pregabalin and the oral contraceptive pill. However you should always ensure that effective contraception is used. This includes barrier methods (such as condoms), contraceptive implants, and intra uterine device (coil) etc.

Pregnancy

If you are taking any anti-epileptic drug, you should ask to see your specialist and discuss the best preparations and doses before you conceive. Once you are already pregnant it is too late to make these changes. The risks to your baby from Pregabalin are unknown, as it is a new drug. We recommend you take folic acid 5mg daily from at least eight weeks prior to conception until at least 13 weeks of pregnancy.

Drug Interactions

Pregabalin is not known to interact with other medication. Inform your doctor about all the medication you may be taking before you start taking Pregabalin and those which you are required to take after you start taking Pregabalin.

Other useful information

- You can take Pregabalin with or without food.
- Avoid taking alcohol with your medication.
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If you remember less than four hours from the next dose, do not take your missed dose but carry on with the next one and return to your normal dosing pattern.
- Do not stop taking Pregabalin without consultation with your doctor. Slow withdrawal is advisable as a rapid stop in medicating can result in withdrawal seizures.
- Keep a record of your seizures when you start taking new medication. This will help determine future drug dosages.

Contact details

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the epilepsy nurse specialist on 01223 217992.

The information on this leaflet is not exhaustive. Please refer to the patient information leaflet prepared by the manufacturer of your drug which can be found in the medicine packaging.



Addenbrooke's is smoke-free. You cannot smoke on site. For advice on quitting, contact your GP or the NHS smoking helpline free, 0800 169 0 169

Please ask if you require this information in other languages, large print or audio format: 01223 216032 or patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Informacje te można otrzymać w innych językach, w wersji dużym drukiem lub audio. Zamówienia prosimy składać pod numerem: 01223 216032 lub wysyłając e-mail: patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Polish

Se precisar desta informação num outro idioma, em impressão de letras grandes ou formato áudio por favor telefone para o 01223 216032 ou envie uma mensagem para: patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Portuguese

Если вам требуется эта информация на другом языке, крупным шрифтом или в аудиоформате, пожалуйста, обращайтесь по телефону 01223 216032 или на вебсайт patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Russian

若你需要此信息的其他語言版本、大字體版或音頻格式，請致電 01223 216032 或發郵件到: patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Cantonese

Bu bilgiyi diger dillerde veya büyük baskılı ya da sesli formatta isterseniz lütfen su numaradan kontak kurun: 01223 216032 veya asagidaki adrese e-posta gönderin: patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Turkish

এই তথ্য বাংলায়, বড় অক্ষরে বা অডিও টেপে পেতে চাইলে দয়া করে 01223 216032 নম্বরে ফোন করুন বা patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk ঠিকানায় ই-মেইল করুন।

Bengali

Document history

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