





ADULT Medication Monograph

# CARBAMAZEPINE

This document should be read in conjunction with this [DISCLAIMER](#)

<b>Presentation</b>	Tablet (Immediate release): 100mg, 200mg Tablet (Controlled release): 200mg Oral Suspension: 100mg/5mL
<b>Dose</b>	<b><u>Epilepsy</u></b> <b>Oral:</b> Initially 100mg twice daily; increase daily dose by 100 - 200mg every 2 to 4 weeks according to response. Usual range 400mg - 1.2g daily in 2 or more doses; up to 2g daily may be required  <b><u>Bipolar Disorder</u></b> <b>Oral:</b> Initially 400mg daily in divided doses; increase gradually according to response up to 1.6g daily  <b><u>Trigeminal Neuralgia</u></b> <b>Oral:</b> Initially 50 - 100mg twice daily; increase gradually if needed up to 400-800mg daily in 2-4 doses. Up to 1.2g daily may be required
<b>Administration</b>	<b><u>Oral</u></b> Take with food to help prevent stomach upset Swallow controlled release tablets whole; do not chew or crush them
<b>Pregnancy</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Trimester:</b> Monitoring Required <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester:</b> Monitoring Required <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester:</b> Monitoring Required Carbamazepine has been associated with an increased risk of congenital malformations; for further information, contact the KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service on (08) 6458 2727 (x82723 if calling from within the hospital)
<b>Breastfeeding</b>	Considered safe to use

<b>Monitoring</b>	<p>Monitor for rash, carbamazepine can cause severe skin reactions including SJS, TEN and DRESS.</p> <p>Consider BMD monitoring in long term use.</p> <p>Check FBC before treatment and periodically. Cease if bone marrow suppression occurs.</p> <p><b>Therapeutic Drug Monitoring:</b></p> <p>Therapeutic range (epilepsy): trough level 4-12 mg/L (17-50micromol/L).</p> <p>Steady state levels may not be reached 2-4 weeks after initiation due to enzyme auto-induction.</p> <p>Metabolism changes during pregnancy may affect level so periodic monitoring is recommended.</p>
<b>Clinical Guidelines and Policies</b>	KEMH Clinical Guideline: O&G: <a href="#">Childbirth and Mental Illness (CAMI) Clinic</a>
<b>References</b>	<p>Australian Medicines Handbook. Carbamazepine. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2018 [cited 2018 August 23]. Available from: <a href="https://amhonline.amh.net.au/">https://amhonline.amh.net.au/</a></p> <p>The Royal Women's Hospital. Carbamazepine. In: Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide [Internet]. Parkville (Victoria): The Royal Women's Hospital; 2018 [cited 2018 August 23]. Available from: <a href="https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/">https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/</a></p>

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