



ADULT Medication Monograph



GABAPENTIN

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

[Formulary: Restricted](#)

Class	Anticonvulsant
Presentation	Capsule: 100mg, 300mg, 400mg Vaginal Cream: 6% in combination with other medications (KEMH Only – <i>seek specialist advice</i>)
Storage	Store at room temperature, below 25°C
Dose	<p><u>Menopausal Hot Flashes</u></p> <p>Oral:</p> <p>900mg/day in three divided doses.</p> <p>Start at 300mg daily - initial night time dosing is preferable due to possible excessive sleepiness and dizziness.</p> <p>Increase to 300mg three times a day over three to seven days.</p> <p>Gabapentin dosing should be tapered over a 1 week period when it is discontinued.</p> <p><u>Neuropathic Pain</u></p> <p>Oral:</p> <p>Initially 100mg - 300mg at night; increase dose gradually every 3 to 7 days according to response. Usual range: 900mg - 3600mg/day in 3 divided doses.</p> <p><u>Focal (Partial) Seizures</u></p> <p>Oral:</p> <p>300mg on first day at bedtime; increase by 300mg daily up to 900mg - 1800mg daily in 3 doses. Up to 3600mg daily is required in some patients.</p>
Administration	<p><u>Oral:</u></p> <p>Can be given without regard to food. Swallow capsules whole.</p>

	<p><u>Vaginal Cream (KEMH Only):</u> <i>Seek specialist advice</i></p> <p>Wash hands well before and after use.</p>
Pregnancy	<p>1st Trimester: Consider alternative</p> <p>2nd Trimester: Consider alternative</p> <p>3rd Trimester: Consider alternative</p> <p>For more information, please contact KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service.</p>
Breastfeeding	Considered safe to use
Monitoring	Avoid stopping abruptly (may cause anxiety, insomnia, nausea, pain and sweating); gradually reduce dose over at least a week.
Clinical Guidelines and Policies	<p>Clinical Practice Guidelines</p> <p>Management of Menopausal Symptoms</p> <p>Palliative Care - Use of Adjuvant Medications</p> <p>Patient Information Leaflet</p> <p>Patient Information Leaflet – Gabapentin for Menopausal Symptoms</p>
References	<p>Australian Medicines Handbook. Gabapentin. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2019 [cited 2020 Mar 26]. Available from: https://amhonline.amh.net.au/</p> <p>Therapeutic Guidelines. Neuropathic pain: treatment. In: eTG complete [Internet]. West Melbourne (Victoria): Therapeutic Guidelines; 2019 [cited 2020 Mar 26]. Available from: https://tgldcdp.tg.org.au</p> <p>BMJ Best Practice. Menopause. [Internet] 2019 [cited 2020 Mar 20]. Available from: http://bestpractice.bmj.com/topics/en-gb/194/treatment-algorithm</p> <p>Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists. Alternatives to HRT for the Management of Symptoms of the Menopause. [Internet] 2010 [cited 2020 Mar 27]. Available from: https://www.rcog.org.uk/globalassets/documents/guidelines/scientific-impact-papers/sip_6.pdf</p> <p>Stuenkel CA, Davis SR, Gompel A, Lumsden MA, Murad MH, Pinkerton JV, Santen RJ. Treatment of symptoms of the menopause: an endocrine society clinical practice guideline. The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism. 2015 Oct 7;100(11):3975-4011. [Internet] [cited 2020 Mar 27].</p> <p>The Royal Women's Hospital. Gabapentin. In: Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide [Internet]. Parkville (Victoria): The Royal Women's Hospital; 2018 [cited 2020 Mar 27]. Available from: https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/</p>

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