
Department of Neurosciences

Tiagabine drug information

Drug brand names

- Tiagabine
- Gabitril

Uses

Tiagabine is used to reduce seizure frequency and severity in people who have epilepsy. It is used in combination with other antiepileptic drugs. It is only available in form of tablets with the following strengths: 5mg, 10mg and 15mg.

Side effects

Some side effects are experienced one to two hours after taking Tiagabine. These include:

- Dizziness
- Lightheadedness
- Unsteadiness

These can be avoided by taking the tablets after food.

Some people may experience:

- Muscle weakness
- Tiredness, sleepiness
- Nervousness
- Tremor
- Diarrhoea, nausea, and abdominal pain

Occasionally patients may experience:

- Headaches
- Depression
- Mood swings
- Abnormal thinking and confusion

Other side effects include skin rash, infection and flu like symptoms. These symptoms disappear on reducing the dose or stopping the drug. Do not stop taking your medication suddenly and without consultation with your doctor or epilepsy specialist nurse.

Medically serious side effects are very rare. Blood tests will be performed where appropriate.

In the event of any of these side effects, contact the epilepsy nurse (contact details are at the end of the leaflet), or your GP.

Contraception

Tiagabine is not known to affect the contraceptive pill.

Pregnancy

The effects of Tiagabine in pregnancy are unknown. You should ask to see your specialist and discuss your treatment before you conceive. Once you are pregnant it is too late to make these changes. 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

Tiagabine is known to reduce the amount of Valproate in the blood but the effect is not significant enough to increase the risk of seizures. Therefore, if you have been prescribed Valproate as well, it is acceptable to take the two drugs together. Your specialist will ensure that relevant adjustments are made to your dosages so that seizures are kept under control.

Tiagabine does not affect a lot of medication but it is important to inform your specialist or GP if you are taking other medication as they may affect the effect of Tiagabine.

Other useful information

- You can take Tiagabine at the same time as you take other medication.
- Keep a record of your seizures when you start any new medication. This will help to determine future drug dosages.
- Take Tiagabine at least one hour away from meals. However doses of 30mg and above should be taken with food.
- Do not stop taking your medication suddenly and without consultation with your doctor.
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember but do not take two doses at the same time or within six hours of each other.

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.



We are currently working towards a smoke free site. Smoking is only permitted in the designated smoking areas.

For advice and support in quitting, contact your GP or the free NHS stop smoking helpline on 0800 169 0 169

Help with this leaflet:



If you would like this information in another language, large print or audio format, please ask the department to contact Patient Information: 01223 216032 or patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Polish

Jeżeli chciałbyś uzyskać te informacje w innym języku, w dużej czcionce lub w formacie audio, poproś pracownika oddziału o kontakt z biurem Informacji Pacjenta (Patient Information) pod numerem telefonu: 01223 216032 lub pod adresem patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Portuguese

Se precisar desta informação noutra língua, em impressão de letras grandes ou formato áudio, por favor peça ao departamento que contacte a secção de Informação aos Doentes (Patient Information) pelo telefone 01223 216032 ou através do e-mail patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Arabic

إذا كنت تود الحصول على هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى، بالأحرف الكبيرة أو بشكل شريط صوتي، يمكنك أن تطلب من القسم الاتصال بمعلومات المريض على الرقم: 01223216032 أو عبر البريد الإلكتروني: patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Cantonese

如您需以另一語言版本、特大字體或錄音形式索取本資料，請要求部門聯絡病人諮詢服務：電話 01223 216032，電郵地址 patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Turkish

Eğer bu bilgileri başka bir dilde veya büyük baskılı veya sesli olarak isterseniz, lütfen bulunduğunuz bölümdeki görevlilere söyleyin Hasta Bilgilendirme servisini arasinlar: 01223 216032 veya patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Urdu

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی دیگر زبان میں، بڑے الفاظ میں یا آڈیو طریقہ سے درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی اس شعبہ سے پیشینٹ انفارمیشن سے ذیل کے ذریعہ رابطہ کرنے کی درخواست کریں: 01223 216032 یا patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Bengali

আপনি যদি এই তথ্য অন্য কোন ভাষায়, বড় অক্ষরে বা অডিও রেকর্ডিং পেতে চান তাহলে 'প্যাশেন্ট ইনফরমেশান' এর সঙ্গে 01223 216032 নম্বরে ফোন করে বা patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk ঠিকানায় ই-মেইল করে যোগাযোগ করার জন্য ডিপার্টমেন্টটিতে অনুরোধ জানান।

Document history

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