



ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE

Gabapentin

Scope (Staff): All WNHS Staff

Scope (Area): Obstetrics and Gynaecology

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#).

Quick Links

[Dose](#)

[Administration](#)

[Monitoring](#)

[Pregnancy and
Breastfeeding](#)

Restrictions

[Formulary: Restricted](#)

Medication Class

Gabapentinoid - Antiepileptic

Presentation

Capsule: 100 mg, 300 mg, 400 mg

Vaginal Cream: 6% in combination with other medications (KEMH only – *seek specialist advice*)

Storage

Store at room temperature, below 25°C

Dose

Menopausal Hot Flashes

Oral:

Start at 100 mg at night. Initial night-time dosing is preferable due to possible excessive sleepiness and dizziness.

If needed, gradually increase to 100 mg 3 times daily (increase dose every 3 – 5 days). The maximum recommended dose is 300 mg 3 times daily or equivalent (900 mg/ day).

Gabapentin dosing should be tapered over a 1 week period when it is discontinued.

Pelvic Pain 'Flares' in Absence of Acute Surgical Cause

Refer to Clinical Practice Guideline: [Pain: Acute on chronic pelvic pain management.](#)

Neuropathic Pain

Oral:

Initially 100 mg to 300 mg at night.

If needed, increase dose gradually every 3 to 7 days according to response.

Usual range: 900 mg to 2400 mg /day in 3 divided doses. Maximum 3600 mg daily.

Focal (Partial) Seizures

Oral:

300 mg on first day at bedtime; increase by 300 mg daily up to 900 mg to 1800 mg daily in 3 doses. Up to 3600 mg daily is required in some patients.

Administration

Oral:

Can be given without regard to food.

Vaginal Cream (KEMH Only): *Seek specialist advice.*

Wash hands well before and after use.

Pregnancy

1st Trimester: Consider alternative.

2nd Trimester: Consider alternative.

3rd Trimester: Consider alternative.

For more information, please contact [KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service.](#)

Breastfeeding

Considered safe to use.

Comments

Avoid stopping abruptly (may cause anxiety, insomnia, nausea, pain and sweating); gradually reduce dose over at least a week.

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

WNHS Clinical Practice Guidelines:

[Pain: Acute on chronic pelvic pain management](#)

[Gynaecology \(Non-oncological\)](#)

[Palliative Care – Use of adjuvant medications](#)

[Menopause and menopausal symptoms](#)

WNHS Pharmaceutical and Medicines Management Guidelines:

[Pre-operative Medication Management](#) (intranet only)

Patient Information Leaflet

[Gabapentin for Menopausal Symptoms](#)

References

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