

MEDICINES FOR EPILEPSY

Brand Name (generic name)	Average Daily Dose	Common Use Seizure Types	Some Side Effects
Ativan (lorazepam)	1mg-10mg	Generalized Tonic-Clonic, Absence, Partial	Drowsiness, sleepiness, fatigue, poor coordination, unsteadiness, behavior changes
Carbatrol (extended release carbamazepine)	600mg – 1200mg	Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized, Generalized Tonic-Clonic	Dizziness, drowsiness, blurred or double vision, nausea, skin rashes, abnormal blood counts (rare)
Depakene (valproate)	1750mg – 3000mg	Absence, Myoclonic, Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized, Generalized Tonic-Clonic	Upset stomach, altered bleeding time, liver toxicity, hair loss, weight gain, tremor
Depakote (divalproex sodium)	1750mg-3000mg	Absence, Myoclonic, Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized, Generalized Tonic-Clonic	Upset stomach, altered bleeding time, live toxicity, hair loss, weight gain, tremor
Diamox (acetazolamide)	250mg-1000mg	Adjunctive hormonal therapy for women	Appetite loss, frequent urination, drowsiness, confusion, numbness of extremities, kidney stones
Diastat (diazepam rectal gel)	0.2mg-0.5mg/kg	Seizure clusters-as needed only	
Dilantin (phenytoin)	200mg-400mg	Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized, generalized Tonic-Clonic	Clumsiness, insomnia, motor twitching, nausea, rash, gum overgrowth, hairiness, thickening of features
*Felbatol (felbamate)	1200mg-3600mg	Lanox-Gastaut, Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized	Anorexia, vomiting, insomnia, nausea, headache, liver and blood toxicity
*Gabitril (tiagabine)	32mg-56mg	Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized, Generalized Tonic-Clonic	Tremor, dizziness, nervousness, difficulty concentrating, sleepiness, weakness
*Keppra (levetiracetam)	1000mg-3000mg	Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized	Sleepiness, fatigue, poor coordination, loss of strength, dizziness
Klonopin (clonazepam)	1.5mg-20mg	Absence, Atonic, myoclonic, Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized	Drowsiness, sleepiness, fatigue, poor coordination, unsteadiness, behavior changes
*Lamictal (lamotrigine)	100mg-500mg (Chewable tablets also available)	Partial-secondarily generalized, Generalized Tonic-Clonic, Absence, Myoclonic	Dizziness, headache, blurred vision, clumsiness, sleepiness, nausea, skin rash
*Lyrica (pregabalin)	150-600 mg	Partial Onset	Dizziness, blurred vision, weight gain, sleepiness, trouble concentrating, swelling of hands and feet, dry mouth
Mysoline (primidone)	250mg-1000mg	Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized, Generalized Tonic-Clonic	Clumsiness, dizziness, appetite loss, fatigue, drowsiness, hyperirritability, insomnia, depression, hyperactivity (children)
*Neurontin (gabapentin)	900mg-3600mg	Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized	Sleepiness, dizziness, clumsiness, fatigue, twitching
Phenobarbital (phenobarbital)	100mg	Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized, Generalized Tonic-Clonic	Drowsiness, irritability, hyperactivity (children), behavioral problems, difficulty concentrating, depression

* Newer Drugs

See reverse side ->

Phenytek (extended phenytoin sodium)	200-400mg	Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized, Generalized Tonic-Clonic	Clumsiness, insomnia, motor twitching, nausea, rash, gum overgrowth, hairiness, thickening of features
Tegretol (carbamazepine)	600mg-1200mg	Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized, Generalized Tonic-Clonic	Dizziness, drowsiness, blurred or double vision, nausea, skin rashes, abnormal blood counts (rare)
Tegretol XR (extended release carbamazepine)	600mg-1200mg	Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized, Generalized Tonic-Clonic	Dizziness, drowsiness, blurred or double vision, nausea, skin rashes, abnormal blood counts (rare)
*Topamax (topiramate)	200mg-400mg (Sprinkle capsules also available)	Partial, Partial-secondarily generalized, Generalized Tonic-Clonic	Confusion, sleepiness, dizziness, clumsiness, difficulty thinking or talking, tingling sensation of the skin, nausea, decreased appetite
Tranxene (clorazepate)	15mg-45mg	Complex partial Typically as needed only	Drowsiness, sleepiness, fatigue, poor coordination, unsteadiness, behavior changes
*Trileptal (oxcarbazepine)	600mg-2400mg (Liquid also available)	Partial	Difficulty concentrating, sleepiness, fatigue, dizziness, double vision, nausea, unsteadiness, rash
*Valium (diazepam)	2mg-10mg	Seizure Clusters Typically as needed only	Drowsiness, sleepiness, fatigue, poor coordination, unsteadiness, behavior changes
Vimpat (lacosamide)	200 to 400 mg	Partial onset Over age 17	Dizziness, headache, nausea and blurred vision (Discuss heart rhythm problems with physician)
Zarontin (ethosuximide)	500mg-1.5Gm	Absence	Appetite loss, nausea, drowsiness, headache, dizziness, fatigue, rash, abnormal blood counts (rare)
*Zonegran (zonisamide)	100mg-600mg	Partial, Complex partial, Partial-secondarily generalized	Sleepiness, dizziness, loss of appetite, headache, nausea, irritability, difficulty concentrating, unsteadiness, fever, kidney stones, rash (should not be used in individuals allergic to sulfa drugs)

Excerpted from "Medicines from Epilepsy," Epilepsy Foundation, Landover, MD 2004 and Common Oral Antiepileptic Medications, MINCEP, Minneapolis, MN, 1999 Vimpat added 2009

SEIZURE TYPES

Current Name	Former Name
Absence	Petit Mal
Simple Partial	Focal, Focal Motor, Jacksonian
Complex Partial	Psychomotor, Temporal Lobe
Tonic-Clonic	Grand Mal

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