



Levetiracetam Regime in Headache

Levetiracetam is used to prevent the headaches from occurring. The dose has to be increased gradually as given below. Continue increasing the dose until it is effective at suppressing your headache attacks or you reach the maximum dose of 1500 mg twice daily. If you start to get any side effects please let your General Practitioner or Neurologist know as soon as possible.

	Morning	Evening
For 7 days take:	250 mg	250 mg
For 7 days take:	500 mg	500 mg
For 7 days take:	750 mg	750 mg
For 7 days take:	1000 mg	1000 mg
For 7 days take:	1250 mg	1250 mg
Thereafter take:	1500 mg	1500 mg

Side-effects:

As with all medications, there are potential side effects in a small number of patients. The most often reported effects are: tiredness, dizziness, hyperactivity, impaired coordinated movements (ataxia), involuntary trembling, loss of memory & forgetfulness, loss of concentration, agitation, depression, hostility or aggression, insomnia, nervousness or irritability, abdominal pain, nausea, indigestion, diarrhoea & vomiting, loss of appetite (anorexia), weight increase, muscle pain, cough (increase of pre-existing cough)

Tell your doctor immediately if you develop any of the following symptoms: mental/mood changes (e.g. anxiety, agitation, hostility, pressured/rapid speech, or thoughts of suicide); vision changes (e.g. double vision); and, rash

Levetiracetam can cause serious rashes requiring hospitalization and discontinuation of treatment including Steven -Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis.

Special note:

A routine blood test for liver profile and full blood count should be performed one month after starting this drug.

Do not stop taking Levetiracetam unless your doctor tells you to. If your treatment is stopped it should be done gradually.

Pregnancy and Breast feeding :

Levetiracetam is not recommended if you are pregnant, planning a pregnancy or are breastfeeding. Women of childbearing age should take adequate contraceptive precautions. Higher doses of the oral contraceptive pill are required whilst taking Levetiracetam. Women taking the oral contraceptive pill should discuss the dose with their GP.

This leaflet should be read in conjunction with the product characteristic leaflet that can be found inside all boxes of medication. The use of any medicine is based on considerations of how benefits outweigh potential side effects. **Your prescribing doctor will discuss the risks and benefits of the medication as it relates to you and answer any further questions you may have.**

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