



Venlafaxine Regime in Headache

Venlafaxine is a serotonin and noradrenaline re-uptake inhibitor (SNRI) that is also 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 headaches, you reach the dose recommended by your doctor or you reach the maximum dose of 200mgs 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: | | 37.5mg |
| For 7 days take: | 37.5mg | 37.5mg |
| For 7 days take: | 75mg | 75mgs |
| For 7 days take: | 75mgs | 150mgs |
| Thereafter take: | 150mgs | 150mgs |

Side-effects:

As with all medications, there are potential side effects in a small number of patients. The most often reported effects are: nausea, vomiting, constipation, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, dry mouth, insomnia, dizziness, fatigue, drowsiness, abnormal dreams and weight changes.

Pregnancy and Breast feeding :

Venlafaxine is not recommended if you are pregnant, planning a pregnancy or are breastfeeding. Women of childbearing age should take adequate contraceptive precautions.

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.**