

## **Use of Gabapentin (Neurontin™) Fast Track**

### **Use**

In the Pain Clinic, Neurontin is used to help decrease activity in over stimulated nerves, thus decreasing pain sensation. In other clinical settings it may be used to help people with seizure disorders.

### **Instructions**

- Follow this schedule until you reach your target dosage of 600 milligrams (mg) 3 times daily, then stay at that dose.
- If you feel pain-free before you reach your target dosage, stay at that dosage.
- Do not stop taking this medication unless told to do so by your physician.
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you can. However, if it is less than one hour before your next dose, skip the missed dose and then follow your regular schedule.

### **Gabapentin Side effects**

Overall, most people tolerate Neurontin well. However, side effects may include the following symptoms, most of which may be minimized by adjusting the dose slowly, as described in the medication schedules shown here.

#### *More common*

- Dizziness
- Fatigue
- Itching
- Dry mouth

#### *Less common*

- Depression
- Memory loss
- Irritability or other mood and mental changes

#### *Rare*

- Fever
- Chills
- Cough
- Lower back or side pain
- Painful or difficult urination

#### *Overdose symptoms*

- Double vision
- Slurred speech
- Severe dizziness
- Severe diarrhea

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**Schedule A:**

<b>DAY</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>DATE</b>							
Morning	—	—	—	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg
Noon	—	—	—	—	—	—	300 mg
Night	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg
<b>DAY</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>DATE</b>							
Morning	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg	600 mg	600 mg
Noon	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg
Night	300 mg	300 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg
<b>DAY</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>DATE</b>							
Morning	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg
Noon	300 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg
Night	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg	600 mg

After Day 21, continue taking 600 mg three times daily.