



Brainwave The Irish Epilepsy Association
249 Crumlin Road
Dublin 12

Tel: 01-4557500 Email: info@epilepsy.ie Web: www.epilepsy.ie

Anti Epileptic Drug (AED) Treatment of Epilepsy
Brand Name / branded generic name
(Generic Name)

Drug	Treatment	Possible side effects
Ativan (Lorazepam)	Add-on for all seizure types Rescue use	Drowsiness, light-headedness
Diamox (Acetazolamide)	Has a specific role in treating epilepsy associated with menstruation. It can also be used with other anti-epileptics for tonic-clonic and partial seizures. It is occasionally helpful in atypical absence, atonic and tonic seizures	Nausea, vomiting, taste disturbance, loss of appetite, headache, dizziness, flushing, Increased urine output
Epanutin (Phenytoin)	All forms of epilepsy except absence seizures. Serum level monitoring essential	Gastro Intestinal Disturbance Skin rash, drowsiness, constipation, tremor, unsteadiness and slurred speech. Coarsening of facial features, overgrowth of gums and acne may be a problem with prolonged therapy.
Epilim Epilim chrono Epilim chronosphere Episenta (Sodium Valproate)	All forms of epilepsy	Drowsiness and tremor are infrequent side effects. Hair loss occurs in some people and on occasions excessive weight gain may occur. However these effects are usually reversible if the dose is reduced.
Epistatus buccal (Midazolam)	For prolonged or clusters of all seizure types Rescue use Status Epilepticus	Drowsiness
Felbatol (Felbamate)	Add-on for all seizure types which have failed all other AEDs. Used under strict specialist supervision	Constipation, diarrhoea, difficulty sleeping, dizziness, headache, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting.
Frisium (Clobazam)	Add-on for all seizure types Generalised tonic-clonic and partial seizures, but tolerance frequently develops	Drowsiness, light-headedness, confusion, gastro-intestinal disturbances

Gabitril (Tiagabine)	Add-on treatment for partial seizures with or without secondary generalisation not satisfactorily controlled with other anti-epileptic medication.	Diarrhoea, dizziness, tiredness, nervousness, tremor, impaired concentration, low mood
Inovelon (Rufinamide)	Add-on treatment of seizures in Lennox-Gastaut syndrome	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, weight loss, abdominal pain, drowsiness, insomnia, fatigue, rash and fever
Kepra (Levetiracetam)	Mono-therapy and add-on treatment of partial seizures with or without secondary generalisation and for add-on therapy of myoclonic seizures and generalised tonic-clonic seizures	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, weight changes, cough, drowsiness, dizziness, headache, low mood
Lamictal (Lamotrigine)	Mono-therapy and add-on treatment of partial seizures and primary and secondarily generalised tonic-clonic seizures; seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome; mono-therapy of typical absence seizures in children.	Gastro Intestinal Disturbance Skin rash, drowsiness, double vision, dizziness and headache, insomnia
Lyrica (Pregabalin)	Add-on therapy for partial seizures with or without secondary generalisation	Dry mouth, constipation, nausea, vomiting, drowsiness, dizziness, changes in mood, attention difficulties, weight gain
Mysoline (Primidone)	All forms of epilepsy except absence seizures (Primidone is partly metabolised to phenobarbitone in the body)	Nausea, visual disturbances, unsteadiness and drowsiness may occur initially but sedation and slowing of mental performance may persist
Neurontin (Gabapentin)	Mono-therapy and add-on treatment of partial seizures with or without secondary generalisation	Gastro Intestinal Disturbance Diarrhoea, dry mouth, drowsiness, dizziness headache, fatigue, weight gain
Phenobarbitone (Phenobarbital)	All forms of epilepsy except absence seizures	Nausea, unsteadiness and drowsiness may occur initially but sedation and slowing of mental performance may persist
Rivotril (Clonazepam)	Add-on for all seizure types Partial seizures, absences and myoclonic jerks	Drowsiness, fatigue, dizziness, restlessness
Sabril (Vigabatrin)	Initiated and supervised by appropriate specialist, add-on treatment of partial seizures with or without secondary generalisation not satisfactorily controlled with other anti-epileptic drugs; mono-therapy for management of infantile spasms (West's syndrome)	Drowsiness, nausea, behaviour and mood changes. Visual field defects. Psychotic reactions have been reported

Tegretol Tegretol Retard (Carbamazepine)	Partial and secondary generalised tonic-clonic seizures, primary generalised tonic-clonic seizures	Nausea, Vomiting, dizziness, drowsiness, skin rash, double vision, unsteadiness
Topamax (Topiramate)	Mono-therapy and add-on treatment of generalised tonic-clonic seizures or partial seizures with or without secondary generalisation; add-on treatment of seizures in Lennox-Gastaut syndrome	Nausea, abdominal pain, diarrhoea, dry mouth, taste disturbance, weight loss, headache, fatigue, dizziness, word finding difficulties, pins and needles in hands and feet
Trileptal (Oxcarbazepine)	Mono therapy and add-on treatment of partial seizures with or without secondary generalised tonic-clonic seizures	Nausea, vomiting, constipation, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, dizziness, headache and drowsiness Skin rash
Vimpat (Lacosamide)	Add-on therapy in the treatment of partial-onset seizures with or without secondary generalisation	Nausea, vomiting, dizziness, headache, constipation, depression, double vision, drowsiness
Zarontin Emeside (Ethosuximide)	Typical absence seizures; it may also be used in atypical absence seizures. Rarely used for myoclonic or tonic seizures	Gastro Intestinal Disturbance Nausea, vomiting, headache, fatigue, dizziness, weight loss
Zebinix (Eslicarbazepine Acetate)	Add-on treatment in adults with partial seizures, with or without secondary generalisation	Dizziness, sleepiness, headache
Zonegran (Zonisamide)	Add-on treatment for drug-resistant partial seizures with or without secondary generalisation	Nausea, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, weight loss, drowsiness, dizziness, confusion, irritability, skin rash