

### **TRILEPTAL (oxcarbazepine)**

Your child has received a prescription for oxcarbazepine. The brand name for oxcarbazepine is Trileptal. Trileptal is an anticonvulsant (a medication used to prevent seizures). It has been used in the United States for more than 9 years. The staff of the Neurology Center of Wichita has prepared this information sheet. Be sure to ask us if you have any questions. Our phone number is (316)686-6866.

#### **WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF TRILEPTAL?**

It is effective for partial complex seizures. It is also used as a mood stabilizer. It is generally well tolerated.

#### **WHAT FORMS OF TRILEPTAL ARE AVAILABLE?**

Trileptal comes in tablets (150mg, 300mg, and 600mg) as well as suspension (300mg/5ml). The tablets may be crushed up or chewed. It is generally given twice a day and occasionally three times a day.

#### **WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF TRILEPTAL?**

- \* Sleepiness may occur in the beginning. This side effect should resolve quickly.
- \* Dizziness and double vision. This side effect occurs occasionally and usually when the dose is at the higher end.

\*It doesn't affect liver function so generally lab tests are not required. Sometimes we check a Trileptal level to see if the medicine is working appropriately. Occasionally with high doses of Trileptal a patient can have hyponatremia. That means low sodium level. We may check a sodium level on your child if deemed appropriate.

\*Allergic reactions may occur with any medication and should be reported immediately. Allergies usually occur in the first two months, but may begin sooner or later. The usual reaction is a fine red rash all over the body. Rash or blisters inside of the mouth, nose or eyelids are more serious. Any rash which begins after starting a new medication should be discussed with the doctor or physician assistant. **DO NOT STOP TAKING THE MEDICATION WITHOUT CONTACTING THE DOCTOR.** It is important to note for patients that are allergic to Tegretol. Trileptal and Tegretol have some chemical similarities. Patients allergic to Tegretol have a 25% chance of being allergic to Trileptal. Please discuss with your physician or physician assistant if your child is allergic to Tegretol before starting Trileptal.

#### **WHAT SYMPTOMS SHOULD I REPORT TO THE DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY**

- \*Extreme sleepiness
- \*Dizziness

- \*Unsteady walking
- \*Slurred Speech
- \*Repeated vomiting or marked loss of appetite

#### **WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF TOO MUCH MEDICINE?**

If the medicine level is too high, your child will be sleepy, unsteady and may act or sound "drunk". Your child may be dizzy, complain of blurry vision or have slurred speech. High levels of medicine may cause vomiting. Large overdoses can cause excessive drowsiness. If you think someone has taken a Large Overdose of medication, CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY. Keep this and all medication out of the reach of children.

#### **WHAT ABOUT OTHER MEDICINES MY CHILD MAY NEED?**

If Trileptal is the only medicine your child is taking, then they may take over the counter medications such as Tylenol or ibuprofen. You are welcome to ask the staff or doctor if other prescription or over the counter medications are okay to take with Trileptal. Be sure to tell your child's other doctors that he or she is taking Trileptal.

#### **WHAT ABOUT TAKING TRILEPTAL DURING PREGNANCY?**

Trileptal is a newer medication, but so far research has indicated that Trileptal appears safer than other older anticonvulsants during pregnancy. Please discuss this with your doctor or PA if you are planning on becoming pregnant. If you discover that you are pregnant, please call the office immediately. Do Not stop taking your medication without consulting with the doctor.

This information is not a complete list of all possible reactions to Trileptal. It is important that you speak to your doctor or physician assistant about this medication, to discuss the risk, benefits, and danger signs. Do not change the dose or form of medicine without discussing it with our office.

**KEPPRA (levetiracetam)**

Your child has received a prescription for levetiracetam. The brand name for levetiracetam is Keppra. Keppra is an anticonvulsant (a medication used to prevent seizures). It has been used in the United States for more than 9 years. The staff of the Neurology Center of Wichita has prepared this information sheet. Be sure to ask us if you have any questions. Our phone number is (316)686-6866.

**WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF KEPPRA?**

It is effective for partial complex and generalized seizures. It is generally well tolerated.

**WHAT FORMS OF KEPPRA ARE AVAILABLE?**

Keppra comes in tablets (250mg, 500mg, 750mg, and 1000mg) as well as suspension (100mg/ml). The tablets may be crushed up or chewed. Keppra XR is also available in 500mg tablets and must be swallowed. It is generally given twice a day and occasionally three times a day.

**WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF KEPPRA?**

- \* Sleepiness may occur in the beginning. This side effect should resolve quickly.
- \* Rarely it can affect behavior adversely, such as aggression or agitation.
- \* It doesn't affect liver function so generally lab tests are not required. Sometimes we check a Keppra level to see if the medicine is working appropriately.
- \* Allergic reactions may occur with any medication and should be reported immediately. Allergies usually occur in the first two months, but may begin sooner or later. The usual reaction is a fine red rash all over the body. Rash or blisters inside of the mouth, nose or eyelids are more serious. Any rash which begins after starting a new medication should be discussed with the doctor or physician assistant. **DO NOT STOP TAKING THE MEDICATION WITHOUT CONTACTING THE DOCTOR.**

**WHAT SYMPTOMS SHOULD I REPORT TO THE DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY**

- \* Extreme sleepiness
- \* Aggressive behavior
- \* Unsteady walking
- \* Slurred Speech
- \* Repeated vomiting or marked loss of appetite

**WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF TOO MUCH MEDICINE?**

If the medicine level is too high, your child will be sleepy, unsteady and may act or sound "drunk". Your child may be dizzy, complain of blurry vision or have slurred speech. High levels of medicine may cause vomiting. Large overdoses can cause excessive drowsiness. If you think someone has taken a Large Overdose of medication, CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY. Keep this and all medication out of the reach of children.

**WHAT ABOUT OTHER MEDICINES MY CHILD MAY NEED?**

If Keppra is the only medicine your child is taking, then they may take over the counter medications such as Tylenol or ibuprofen. You are welcome to ask the staff or doctor if other prescription or over the counter medications are okay to take with Keppra. Be sure to tell your child's other doctors that he or she is taking Keppra.

**WHAT ABOUT TAKING KEPBRA DURING PREGNANCY?**

Keppra is a newer medication, but so far research has indicated that Keppra appears safer than other older anticonvulsants during pregnancy. Please discuss this with your doctor or PA if you are planning on becoming pregnant. If you discover that you are pregnant, please call the office immediately. Do Not stop taking your medication without consulting with the doctor.

This information is not a complete list of all possible reactions to Keppra. It is important that you speak to your doctor or physician assistant about this medication, to discuss the risks, benefits, and danger signs. Do not change the dose or form of medicine without discussing it with our office.

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