BCRenal
an agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Amitriptyline

PHARMACY INFO SHEET

WHAT IT DOES:

Amitriptyline helps to relieve the pain and discomfort associated with peripheral neuropathy. This medication has other uses also; ask your doctor or pharmacist for more information.

HOW IT WORKS:

This medication works in the brain to down regulate the sensation of pain in the nerves.

HOW TO TAKE IT:

The dose is usually taken at bedtime, but should be taken exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase, decrease or stop taking this medication without talking to your doctor first.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU MISS A DOSE:

If you miss a dose, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If the next regularly scheduled dose is due within the following 6 hours of taking the missed dose, omit this next dose and then resume your original dosing schedule. DO NOT DOUBLE DOSE TO MAKE UP FOR A MISSED ONE.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS:

Amitriptyline has some common side effects: drowsiness, anxiety, excitement, insomnia, nightmares, dry mouth and changes in appetite or weight. Tell your doctor if any of these symptoms are severe or persistent: constipation, blurred vision, changes in sex drive or ability, or excessive sweating. Call your doctor immediately if you experience jaw/neck/back muscle spasms, slow or difficult speech, persistent fine tremor or inability to sit still, fever, skin rash, difficulty breathing or irregular heartbeat.

RELATION TO DIET:

Amitriptyline can be taken with or without food. Avoid alcohol while taking this medication.

Use the space below to write down why you are taking this medication.