Gabapentin

PHARMACY INFO SHEET

WHAT IT DOES:

Gabapentin helps to relieve the pain and discomfort associated with peripheral neuropathy and restless legs syndrome. 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 or decrease the dose 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:

Side effects from gabapentin are not common, but can occur. Tell your doctor if any of these symptoms are severe or persistent: drowsiness, headache, fatigue, blurred vision, tremor or anxiety. Call your doctor immediately if you experience skin rash, itching, difficulty breathing, fever, irregular heartbeat or seizures.

RELATION TO DIET:

Gabapentin can be taken with or without food. If you experience stomach upset after taking this medication, take it with some food or milk. Avoid alcohol while taking this medication.

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

Version: October 20, 2011

BC Renal Agency • Suite 700-1380 Burrard St. • Vancouver, BC • V6Z 2H3 • 604.875.7340 • BCRenalAgency.ca