

## Gabapentin

**Gabapentin, brand name Neurontin, has many uses, including:**

Anti-convulsant/epilepsy treatment (adjunctive)

Partial and generalized seizures

Neuropathic and chronic pain syndromes

Postherpetic neuralgia & diabetic peripheral neuropathy

Bipolar disorder, social phobia disorder, agitation in dementia

Hot flashes

Essential tremor

Migraines

Hyperhidrosis

Uremic pruritis

**DOSING: Low doses for pain & other; higher doses for anticonvulsant effects**

Seizures: 300 mg 3 times/daily, withdraw slowly to prevent increased seizures (adult)

Pain & other uses: 100 mg 3 times daily, gradually increase (max 1800 mg/day)

Children ages 3 and older: 5-50 mg/kg day in 3 divided doses (seizures)

**PRECAUTIONS: Pregnancy Category C.**

Drowsiness is most common side effect; start doses at bedtime. Drowsiness decreases as patient tolerance increases over 2-3 weeks. Start dosage low and titrate up over 1-6 weeks.

May take without attention to food (any GI upset may be decreased by taking after food).

Excreted mainly by KIDNEY, so reduce dose or frequency with renal insufficiency and in the elderly.