

Medication Information Card

Gabapentin (Ga – ba – pen – tin)

Other names for this medication

Neurontin®

How this medication is used

This medication is used to control and prevent seizures. It is also used to stop nerve pain in legs that feels like a sharp, burning pain.

How to take this medication

Take this medication exactly as directed by your doctor. It must be taken regularly, even if you feel well.

Do not stop this medication without talking to your doctor first. Abrupt stopping of this medication when taken for seizure control may cause an increase in seizures. When it is time to stop taking this medication your doctor may slowly decrease the amount you take.

If you miss a dose of this medication, take it as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular time. Do not take 2 doses at one time.

This medication increases the effects of alcohol making you more sleepy and dizzy. Until you know how this medication affects you, avoid alcohol such as wine, beer and liquor.

Until you know how this medication affects you, do not drive or operate machinery.

Take this medication with food if it upsets your stomach. Avoid taking antacids such as Maalox for at least 2 hours before or after your dose of gabapentin.

While taking this medication you may notice

- drowsiness
- dizziness
- upset stomach or nausea
- loss of strength

Contact your doctor if you notice

- change in coordination – clumsy and awkward movements such as staggering when walking
- mood or mental changes unusual for you
- forgetfulness unusual for you
- increased number of seizures
- fatigue or feeling very tired
- shaking
- changes in eyesight
- vertigo – a feeling that you are dizzily turning around or that things are dizzily turning around you