

Information about Lamotrigine

This is an easy way to say...Lam...ot...ree...jean.



What is Lamotrigine?



Lamotrigine is a medication that will help if you have epilepsy and bipolar depression.

Lamotrigine can sometimes be called a different name like **Lamictal**.

It is important to always take medication with the same name.

Lamotrigine can be taken as tablets.

Where do I get Lamotrigine?



You can only get this medication with a prescription.

The doctor or consultant

- Will ask you questions about your health.
- May also check your blood pressure.
- Will ask you if you are taking other medication.
- Will tell you when you need to have a blood test.

How do I take Lamotrigine?



The doctor will talk to you about how much Lamotrigine you need to take.

The doctor will tell you how to take your Lamotrigine. You need to take Lamotrigine for some time so that it works best.



You will usually take Lamotrigine in the morning and in the evening.



If you forget to take your medication you must tell your carer and ask your doctor for advice.



You should not stop taking your medication suddenly as this could make you feel unwell.



What is good about Lamotrigine?



Lamotrigine can help if you have epilepsy and bipolar depression.

Lamotrigine can help you get better quicker.



Lamotrigine also helps you to calm more quickly when you are very angry or tense



What is not good about Lamotrigine?



There are some health problems that people can get when they take Lamotrigine.

These problems are called **side effects** but not everyone gets them.

- Feeling tired
- Feeling dizzy
- Feeling sick
- Headache
- Constipation

You should eat a healthy diet and drink more water or fruit juice.

Usually these side effects go away after a few weeks.

You will need to speak to your doctor if you:

- Have a rash on your skin
- Problems with your eyes
- Swelling in your legs, face or mouth
- Feel tired
- Have bruises on your skin
- Feel unwell

What other things do I need to talk to the doctor about?



You should talk to your doctor if

- You are worried about your medication
- You want to know much alcohol is safe to drink when taking medication
- You are planning to have a baby

The information in this easy read leaflet should always be discussed with the service user and it should not be provided without support.

The full information sheet about Lamotrigine medication should also be given to the service user, carers and staff.

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