

PREGABALIN (Lyrica)

Posted by helen - 09 Sep 2009 22:56

Dear Doc

Has anyone taken this drug for A nerve pain. I can't find any reference to it on this web site, but there are plenty of articles on www which don't endear me to trying it. Would appreciate input from anyone who's had any experience or info!

Thanks Helen

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Re: PREGABALIN (Lyrica)

Posted by marg.trow - 30 Sep 2009 14:33

Hi Helen

I've been taking it since June, because I was intolerant of Gabapentin. I thought i'd had stroke because I was stumbling around and my speech was slurred so my Dr changed me to pregabalin and so far it appears to be suiting me. I take 75mg BD at the moment but can increase to 150mg BD if necessary.

I had a dry mouth with amitriptyline but other than that ok. I take it 4 hours before going to bed so i'm not to sleepy in the morning,

I don't know if i've got arachnoiditis but i have all the symptoms! My dr said it was epidural fibrosis and i'm due to have an epiduroplasty on Nov 5th! How can I find out if it is Arachnoiditis? Any help would be appreciated!

I'm off work at the moment as I can't stand or walk very well, but when I was at work i really struggled and used to go straight to bed when I got home. Hope this helps Regards Margaret.

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Re: PREGABALIN (Lyrica)

Posted by helen - 30 Sep 2009 15:19

Hi Margaret

Thanks for your response €“ very helpful. I can€™t tell you if you have Arachnoiditis. All I know is that consultants are very loath to give a diagnosis. I had to challenge my neurologist on the basis that my GP should know and my medical notes should be up to date €“ that was in 2005, 7 years after injury. I€™ve just been for an assessment and had a full spine MRI, but have been told its not showing up €“ only deterioration of the spine which I believe is caused by the crushing muscle cramps in my back which I€™ve had for 11 years! I also have extensive bowel damage and that doesn€™t show up on an MRI either.

Best wishes for the surgery €“ I hope it gives you some relief.

Helen

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Re: PREGABALIN (Lyrica)

Posted by kev - 02 Oct 2009 02:42

marg.trow wrote:

Hi Helen

I've recently started taking pregabalin 75mg bd and it is expensive compared to gabapentin, but it has helped my nerve pain but I am constipated but don't know if its that or the morphine. hope this helps

regards margaret

Hi Margaret,

It is almost certainly the morphine and not the pregabalin that is causing the constipation.

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Re: PREGABALIN (Lyrica)

Posted by fergiesgirl - 04 Oct 2009 18:52

Hi Margaret

The only way to get a cprecise diagnosis of AA is to have an mri with contrast, and have a neuro-radiologist interpret the film. It has been suggested that doctors are reluctant to diagnose AA and may choose to diagnose epidural fibrosis instead. You may have to (I'm only making a suggestion!) approach your specialist (once the mri has been done) making it very clear from the start that you will

need to have a copy on cd of the mri, and will have it analysed independently if necessary. You are entitled to have a copy of both the mri and the film or cd as part of your medical records & under the freedom of information act. If I give the impression that I'm a bit bolshy, well I am! We've got this disease because we were not informed of the risks of treatments we received from medics. The least they can do now, when our lives have been changed so drastically, is to be honest and give us an accurate diagnosis so we can get the meds we need to help us live with it.

Good luck, if you need any help just let me know

Marie

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Re: PREGABALIN (Lyrice)

Posted by helen - 05 Oct 2009 13:27

Hi Marie

I feel the same as you, and have stopped feeling intimidated by the medics - I learnt a long time ago that they can write whatever they like in their letters to our GP's and from my experience its never the whole truth!. Just a word of caution about contrast agents - they contain metal and are not good for you, especially people with A. Anyone offered one should look it up on the internet first.

fayetteville.injuryboard.com/toxic-subst...aspx?googleid=249844

Best wishes Helen

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Re: PREGABALIN (Lyrice)

Posted by kev - 06 Oct 2009 13:53

I also echo Helen warning about the contrast dye in the mri you are to have, if you do indeed have AA the dye has a good possibility of worsening your AA. Doc Sarah will know more than me but from what I have read even the modern dye agents they put in are BAD news for an AA sufferer!

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