

Lamotrigine

Usage

Lamotrigine is an anti convulsant used to control seizures/ fits. It is most commonly used in generalised epilepsies in children. It has also been found to be effective in focal seizure and secondary generalised tonic clonic seizure disorders. It must be prescribed by a doctor. You should never give your child anyone else's medications.

Side Effects

All medications have side effects. Not everyone will experience side effects. Below are some of the possible side effects your child may experience:

- **Rash** - Most serious. If your child develops any rash, red eyes, red mouth, or blisters around the mouth, nose or lips, please contact your doctor immediately or go to the nearest Emergency Department (ED). Patients on sodium valproate (Epilim) are more at risk. Rashes are potentially very serious.
- Patients can feel better on Lamotrigine as it is a mood stabiliser.
- Insomnia may occur. If this occurs sometimes it may be better to give the dose earlier in the day. Discuss with your doctor.
- Drowsiness
- Ataxia (unsteady walking)
- Double Vision and blurred vision
- Headache
- Tremors
- Blood disorders
- Behavioural changes

Rare Side Effects

- Liver and blood abnormalities

Can other medications be given with Lamotrigine?

Your Doctor will check and make sure that other drugs your child is taking are compatible with Lamotrigine.

Care must be taken when combining Lamotrigine with Sodium Valproate.

Epilepsy and Pregnancy

Lamotrigine may influence the oral contraceptive pill. It can decrease its effectiveness. Lamotrigine can have teratogenic effects on the unborn child. If a pregnancy is planned, a discussion with your neurologist is recommended. This is an important issue.

Any issues related to child bearing please refer to the PENNSW website: www.PENNSW.com.au. The issues are fully discussed on the website.

What else do I need to know?

If you have any questions please ask your doctor.

Monitoring and Levels

No blood monitoring is required.