

Vigabatrin

Usage

Vigabatrin is an anti convulsant used to control seizures/fits. It can be useful in several types of seizures, such as focal and generalised. It has been found to be effective in Infantile Spasms and in patients with Tuberous Sclerosis. Vigabatrin 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.

- Decreased peripheral vision (see less at the edges of their vision). This is a potential serious side effect and requires monitoring by an eye doctor on a regular basis
- Sedation
- Dizziness, ataxia
- Double vision
- Memory, learning and behavioural difficulties
- Crankiness
- Depression
- Fatigue
- Nausea and abdominal pain
- Weight gain
- Headache

Rare Side Effects

- Inflammation of the optic nerve (the nerve of the eye)
- Rash
- May cause increase in seizure frequency particularly myoclonic or absence seizures
- Psychosis

Can other medications be given with Vigabatrin?

Your Doctor will check and make sure that other drugs your child is taking are compatible with Vigabatrin. Vigabatrin may interact with other anticonvulsants. Your doctor will monitor these potential problems.

Epilepsy and Pregnancy

Vigabatrin can rarely cause malformations of a baby in the uterus. If a pregnancy is planned a discussion with your neurologist is recommended.

Any issues related to child bearing please refer to the PENNSW website:
www.PENNSW.com.au.

What else do I need to Know?

If you have any questions please ask your doctor.

Monitoring and Levels

Eye testing before starting the drug and continued monitoring of eyes throughout treatment.

An electric test called the ERG is used in young patients or those with developmental disability.