

Medication Information

Pregabalin **(Pre – ga – ba – lin)**

Other names for this medication

Lyrica®

How this medication is used

This medication is used to lessen nerve pain which is also called neuropathic pain. Nerve pain feels like electric shocks or a sharp burning pain.

This medication can be used to treat nerve pain in fibromyalgia, diabetes, shingles, peripheral vascular disease and spinal injury.

How to take this medication

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

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.

Do not stop this medication without talking to your health care provider first. Abrupt stopping of this medication can cause severe headache, sleeplessness, anxiety and nausea. When it is time to stop taking this medication your health care provider may slowly decrease the amount you take.

How to take this medication (continued)

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

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

While taking this medication you may notice

- drowsiness
- dry mouth
- dizziness
- headache
- swelling of feet or lower legs
- weight gain

To help with dry mouth, try sucking sugar-free candy or chewing sugar-free gum. Sucking on ice chips also helps if you are not on a limited fluid diet.

Taking good care of your teeth is very important at this time.

Contact your health care provider if you notice

- change in coordination – clumsy and awkward movements
- mood or mental changes unusual for you
- fatigue or feeling very tired
- shaking
- changes in eyesight or blurred vision
- vertigo – a feeling that you are dizzily turning around or that things are dizzily turning around you