

MEMANTINE (NAMENDA)

MEDICATION CLASS: NMDA receptor antagonist; Cognitive Enhancer

HALF-LIFE: 60-80 hours

METABOLISM: Minimal (mostly excreted unchanged in urine)

STARTING DOSE: 5mg per day

TARGET DOSING RANGE: 10mg per day

BEST TIME TO DOSE: Daytime

HOW TO DOSE: Start 5mg per day and increase by 5mg each week. Doses over 5mg should be divided. Maximum dose is 10mg twice daily.

PREGNANCY: Minimal data on safety.

BREASTFEEDING: Minimal data on safety.

SIDE EFFECTS: Dizziness, headache, constipation, seizures (RARE)

DRUG INTERACTIONS: Drugs that raise urine pH may reduce elimination of memantine and raise plasma levels

FDA INDICATIONS:

1) Alzheimer Disease (moderate, severe)

Off Label: Mild Alzheimer Disease, mild cognitive impairment, Delirium, Memory problems associated with other disorders, chronic pain, catatonia