

Pregabalin (Lyrica)

Anticonvulsant



FDA INDICATIONS

Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy
Neuropathic Pain
Post-herpetic neuralgia
Partial Seizures
Fibromyalgia



MECHANISM OF ACTION

Blockade of voltage-dependent calcium channels via the alpha-2 delta subunit
Modulates release of excitatory neurotransmitters



HALF-LIFE

6 hours



METABOLISM

Minimal. Excreted unchanged in urine.



PREGNANCY/ BREASTFEEDING

Little Safety Data Available (Not a contraindication)



DOSING

Start at 75mg BID and increase as tolerated to max dose of 300mg BID

HOW TO STOP: Gradual taper to avoid withdrawal symptoms, especially seizures. Lower dose by 25% every three days.



LABS

BASELINE AND EVERY 12 MONTHS:
Weight, blood pressure, pulse
Electrolytes (Na, Cl, K, PO₄, Mg, Ca)
Kidney function (Creatinine, GFR)
Liver function (Albumin, AST/ALT, Bili)
Thyroid function (TSH)
HbA1c
Lipid Panel (Cholesterol)



SIDE EFFECTS

Dizziness, peripheral edema, sedation, fatigue, weight gain, ataxia, Rare hypersensitivity reactions and angioedema. Rare cases of rhabdomyolysis.



DRUG INTERACTIONS

Caution in pts with renal impairment
Few drug interactions
Caution in pts taking ACE inhibitors (risk of angioedema and other hypersensitivity reactions)