Memantine (Namenda®)



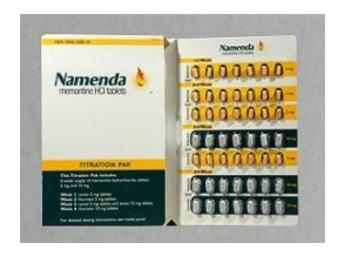
Drug Education Handout

Why is this drug is used?	Treatment of mild to severe stages of Alzheimer's Disease.		
Typical dosing:	Tablet or Solution: • Begin with 5 mg daily • Increase the dose by 5 mg weekly if well tolerated:		
	Interval	Morning Daily Dose	
	Week 1	5 mg	
	Week 2	5 mg	5 mg
	Week 3	10 mg	5 mg
	Week 4	10 mg	10 mg
	Target dose is 10 mg twice daily OR 20 mg once daily		
	 Capsule, extended release: Begin with 7 mg daily Increase the dose by 7 mg weekly if well tolerated: 14 mg daily → 21 mg daily → 28 mg daily Target dose is 28 mg daily ***If treatment is stopped for longer than 3 days, restart at a lower dose and increase weekly to the target dose*** 		
Available Formulations &	1. Tablet, immediate release (generic and brand): Strengths: 5 and 10 mg tablets		
Estimated Cost:	Estimated Cost 30 day supply: Generic=\$120; Brand=\$375 2. Solution, immediate release (brand only): Strengths: 2 mg/mL Estimated Cost (360 mL bottle): Generic=\$350; Brand=\$725 3. Capsule, extended release (brand only): Strengths: 7 mg, 14 mg, 21 mg, 28 mg Estimated Cost (30 day supply): Brand=\$356		
	★Titratation Kits also available★		

Contraindications & Precautions for this drug: Common Side Effects: - Headache - Hypersensitivity to memantine. May include: swelling, rash, hives, shortness of breath, seizures. - Headache - Constipation - Dizziness

Managing this medication:	1. Take with or without food.
	2. Take this drug at the same time each day.
	3. Inform your health-care provider if you experience: very bad dizziness, low mood, change in the way you act, seizures or other side effects.





References:

- 1. Lexicomp memantine, Namenda®
- 2. Red Book Average Wholesale Price of Drugs 2013
- 3. Kirby Lee, PharmD, MA, MAS and Ron Finley, RPh, UCSF Memory and Aging Center