

Quetiapine (Seroquel®)



Dementia Drug Education Handout

Why is this drug used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To treat behavioral symptoms associated with Alzheimer's Disease.		
Typical dosing:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Begin with 12.5 mg once daily.• May slowly increase the dose if no significant side effects.• Maximum daily dose is 300 mg.		
Available Formulations & Estimated Cost:	<p>1. Tablet, immediate-release (generic available): <u>Strengths:</u> 25 mg, 50 mg, 100 mg, 200 mg, 300 mg, 400 mg <u>Cost (30 day supply):</u> Generic \$120 - \$600; Brand \$140 - \$700</p> <p>2. Tablet, extended-release (brand only): <u>Strengths:</u> 50 mg, 150 mg, 200 mg, 300 mg, 400 mg <u>Cost (30 day supply):</u> \$254 - \$772</p>		
Contraindications & Precautions for this drug:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A prior negative response to quetiapine. May include: swelling, rash, hives, etc.		
Common Side Effects:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dizziness• Headache• Feeling nervous	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excitable• Feeling sleepy• Dry mouth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Upset stomach• Belly pain• Weight gain

Managing this medication:

1. Take it with or without food.
2. Take at the same time every day.
3. Do not chew, break, or crush tablet.
4. *Inform your health-care provider if you experience: suicidal thoughts, very bad dizziness, very bad headache, a fast heartbeat, chest pain, twitching, change in balance, trouble swallowing or speaking, shakiness, drooling, seizures, bleeding, change in eyesight, enlarged breasts, change in sexual function, no menstruation, or other side effects.*



References:

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

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