

# Bupropion

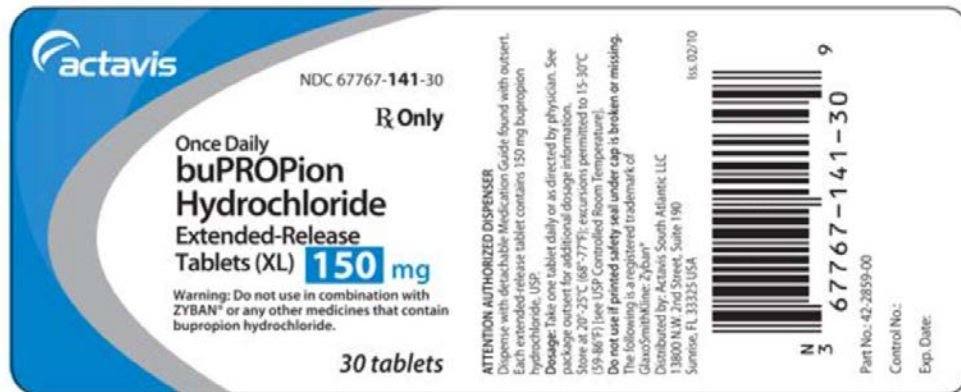
(Welbutrin XL<sup>®</sup>, Aplenzin<sup>®</sup>, Budeprion<sup>®</sup>, Forfivo<sup>®</sup>)

## Dementia Drug Education Handout



<b>Why is this drug used?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To treat behavioral symptoms associated with dementia.</li> </ul>
<b>Typical dosing:</b>	<p><b>Tablet, immediate release:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin with 37.5 mg 1 - 2 times daily.</li> <li>• May increase the dose every 3-4 days if no significant side effects.</li> <li>• Maximum daily dose is 300 mg given in divided doses.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tablet, sustained release:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin with 100 mg daily.</li> <li>• May increase the dose every 3-4 days if no significant side effects.</li> <li>• Maximum daily dose is 300 mg.</li> </ul>
<b>Available Formulations &amp; Estimated Cost:</b>	<p><b>1. Tablet, immediate release (brand &amp; generic):</b>  <u>Strengths:</u> 75 mg, 100 mg  <u>Cost (30 day supply):</u> \$150 - \$390</p> <p><b>2. Tablet, sustained release (brand &amp; generic):</b>  <u>Strengths:</u> 100 mg, 150 mg, 200 mg, 450 mg (Forfivo<sup>®</sup>)  <u>Cost (30 day supply):</u> Generic \$80 - \$105; Brand \$140 - \$155</p>
<b>Contraindications &amp; Precautions for this drug:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hypersensitivity to Bupropion. May include: swelling, rash, and hives.</li> <li>• Seizure disorder</li> <li>• History of anorexia/bulimia</li> <li>• Patients undergoing abrupt cessation of alcohol or sedatives. Including benzodiazepines, barbiturates, antiepileptic drugs</li> <li>• Combined use with or within 14 days of use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▸ MAOI (phenelzine, procarbazine, hydracarbazine, isoniazid, nialamide, isocarboxazid, trancycypromine, moclobemide, pirlindole, toloxatone, rasagiline, selegiline)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Combined use with: Linezolid or Methylene Blue</li> </ul>

<b>Common Side Effects:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weight gain</li> <li>• Confusion</li> <li>• Constipation</li> <li>• Abdominal pain</li> <li>• Anorexia</li> <li>• Infection</li> <li>• Tinnitus</li> <li>• Suicidal thoughts</li> <li>• Tremor</li> <li>• Muscle pain</li> <li>• Weakness</li> </ul>
<b>Managing this medication:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Take this drug at the same time each day.</li> <li>2. Take it with or without food.</li> <li>3. Do not chew, break, or crush tablet</li> <li>4. If the decision is made to stop the drug, gradually taper the dose to prevent withdrawal symptoms.</li> <li>5. <i>Inform your health-care provider if you experience: Abnormal heart beat, severe skin reaction, seizure, depression, mania, or suicidal thoughts.</i></li> </ol>



#### References:

1. Lexicomp – Bupropion, Wellbutrin®
2. MICROMEDEX - Bupropion