

# LEVETIRACETAM



## Other names

Kepra

## Drug category

Broad spectrum; binds to SV2A protein

## Uses

Levetiracetam is used for all seizure types, especially focal, tonic-clonic and myoclonic seizures.

## Available forms

Tablets, granule sachets, liquid, IV injection (same dose as tablet if switching)

## Some potential side-effects (inform your doctor if you think you have a serious side-effect)

Drowsiness, irritability, nausea, mood change

## Not to be used if:

Severe liver disease (use with caution)

Kidney disease (<2000mg daily if eGFR <80 ml/min, 1500 if <50, 1000 if <30)

## Contraception, pregnancy and breastfeeding

Should avoid in pregnancy as slightly increased risk of birth defects (3%). Avoid during breastfeeding.

## Interactions with other drugs

Increases methotrexate levels

## Monitoring

Drug level can be checked especially for a fall during the third trimester of pregnancy.

## How to use it

Day	Morning dose	Evening dose
Start date	Nil	250mg
2 weeks later	250mg	250mg
4 weeks later	250mg	500mg
6 weeks later	500mg	500mg
After 6 weeks	Continue same dose	Continue same dose

If the final dose does not help and you have no side-effects, then it can be increased to a higher dose, and this can be done by adding 500mg every 2 weeks but the maximum dose should be no more than 3000mg in a day (1500mg twice a day). If reducing it, do this in steps of 250mg every week until stopped.

**This information is for guidance only. Always read the medicine information leaflet with any new medicine for full details.**