

TIAGABINE

**Other names**

Gabitril

Drug category

GABA reuptake inhibitor

Uses

Tiagabine is an add-on drug for focal seizures. Some have used it for anxiety

Available forms

Tablet (5/10/15 mg)

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

Dizziness, drowsiness, tremor, headache, diarrhoea, low mood, visual disturbance .

Rare: Psychosis, seizures, visual field defects

Not to be used if:

Porphyria

Liver failure

Absence, atonic, myoclonic, tonic seizures (may worsen)

Contraception, pregnancy and breastfeeding

Should avoid in pregnancy as likely increased risk of birth defects. Avoid during breastfeeding.

Interactions with other drugs

Carbamazepine, phenytoin, phenobarbital, primidone can reduce tiagabine levels.

Monitoring

Consider blood tests for liver function

How to use it

Day	Morning dose	Evening dose
Start date	Nil	5mg
2 weeks later	5mg	5mg
4 weeks later	5mg	10mg
6 weeks later	10mg	10mg
After 6 weeks	Continue same dose	Continue same dose

If 10mg twice daily 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 5mg every 2 weeks but the maximum dose should be no more than 45mg in a day (15mg three times a day).

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