

## INFORMED CONSENT FOR MEDICATION

**Dosage and / or Side Effect information last revised on 04/05/2021**

Completion of this form is voluntary. If informed consent is not given, the medication cannot be administered without a court order unless in an emergency.

This consent is maintained in the client's record and is accessible to authorized users.

Name – Patient / Client (Last, First MI)	ID Number	Living Unit	Date of Birth
Name – Individual Preparing This Form	Name – Staff Contact	Name / Telephone Number – Institution	

MEDICATION CATEGORY	MEDICATION	RECOMMENDED DAILY TOTAL DOSAGE RANGE	ANTICIPATED DOSAGE RANGE
Anticonvulsant	Neurontin, Gralise (gabapentin)	300 mg – 3600 mg Note special instructions when beginning dosage.  Under age 12, dosage determined by physician	

The anticipated dosage range is to be individualized, may be above or below the recommended range but no medication will be administered without your informed and written consent.

Recommended daily total dosage range of manufacturer, as stated in *Physician's Desk Reference* (PDR) or another standard reference.

This medication will be administered ☐ Orally ☐ Injection ☐ Other – Specify:

### 1. Reason for Use of Psychotropic Medication and Benefits Expected (note if this is 'Off-Label' Use)

Include DSM-5 diagnosis or the diagnostic impression ("working hypothesis.")

### 2. Alternative mode(s) of treatment other than OR in addition to medications include

Note: Some of these would be applicable only in an inpatient environment.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment and/or staff changes           | <input type="checkbox"/> Rehabilitation treatments/therapy (OT, PT, AT)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Positive redirection and staff interaction | <input type="checkbox"/> Treatment programs and approaches (habilitation) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual and/or group therapy            | <input type="checkbox"/> Use of behavior intervention techniques          |

**Other Alternatives:**

### 3. Probable consequences of NOT receiving the proposed medication are

Impairment of ☐ Work Activities ☐ Family Relationships ☐ Social Functioning

#### Possible increase in symptoms leading to potential

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use of seclusion or restraint                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Limits on recreation and leisure activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Limits on access to possessions                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Intervention of law enforcement authorities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Limits on personal freedoms                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Risk of harm to self or others              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Limit participation in treatment and activities |  |

**Other Consequences:**

**Note:** These consequences may vary depending upon whether or not the individual is in an inpatient setting. It is also possible that in unusual situations, little or no adverse consequences may occur if the medications are not administered.

See Page 2

Client Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

4. Possible side effects, warnings, and cautions associated with this medication are listed below. This is not an all-inclusive list but is representative of items of potential clinical significance to you. For more information on this medication, you may consult further with your physician or refer to a standard text, such as the PDR. As part of monitoring some of these potential side effects, your physician may order laboratory or other tests. The treatment team will closely monitor individuals who are unable to readily communicate side effects in order to enhance care and treatment.

Continued – Possible side effects, warnings, and cautions associated with this medication.

**Most Common Side Effects:** increased risk of viral infections; slurred speech; stumbling; falling; incoordination; dizziness; drowsiness; fatigue.

More common for patients 3-12 years of age: Fever, aggressive behaviors or other behavior problems; anxiety; concentration problems and change in school performance; crying; false sense of well-being; hyperactivity or increase in body movements; mental depression; reacting too quickly, too emotionally, or overreacting; rapidly changing moods; restlessness; suspiciousness or distrust.

**Less Common Side Effects:** hypertension (high blood pressure); swelling of the legs, arms, feet, or ankles; feeling too warm or feverish; skin rash; new lesions or sores on the skin; high blood glucose; constipation; increased risk of disease of the teeth or mouth; diarrhea; regurgitation of stomach acid or acidic taste in the mouth; nausea; upset stomach; flatulence; dry mouth; the inability to obtain or maintain an erection; increased risk of urinary tract infections; abnormal walk; changes or abnormal thinking; confusion; depression; changes to speech; emotional changes; lethargy; impaired memory; generalized pain; seizures; back pain; abnormally low energy; overactive, uncontrollable muscle activity; joint swelling; tremor; changes to vision; ear infection; difficulty breathing; bronchitis; cough; dry throat; runny nose; pneumonia; respiratory tract infection; accidental injury due to incoordination/ confusion.

**Rare Side Effects:** Although rare, please contact your doctor as soon as possible if any of the following side effects occur: signs of an allergic reaction (difficulty breathing; swelling of the throat, lips, tongue, or face; hives or severe rash); severe rash or formation of lesions on the skin, especially when accompanied by a fever; severely altered blood sugars; loss of menstrual period; changes in sexual desire or function; breast swelling; inability to ejaculate; inability to control bladder; yellowing of the eyes or skin; agitation; coma; severe confusion or other mental changes; hallucinations; severe impairment to movement; seizures.

**Caution:**

**Driving and operating heavy machinery:**

This medication has the potential to impair judgment, thinking, or motor skills. Be cautious about operating hazardous machinery, including automobiles, until reasonably certain that this medication does not affect you.

**Allergic reaction:**

May occur after the first dose or at any time during treatment. Discontinue therapy and seek immediate medical care if signs or symptoms of anaphylaxis or angioedema occur. Symptoms include: difficulty breathing; swelling of the throat, lips, tongue, or face; hives or severe rash.

**Respiratory effects:**

Serious, life-threatening, and fatal respiratory depression may occur in patients using gabapentin; risk may be increased with conditions such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, in the elderly, and with use of opioids and other CNS depressants (such as alcohol) at the same time as gabapentin. Tell your doctor what medications you are currently taking before starting gabapentin, as this will help ensure the safe use of this medication.

**Withdrawal (especially for use in those with seizures/ epilepsy):**

This medication should not be discontinued abruptly because of the possibility of increasing seizure frequency in patients with epilepsy or other withdrawal symptoms (eg, confusion, irritability, tachycardia, diaphoresis). Therapy should be withdrawn gradually over  $\geq 1$  week to minimize the potential of increased seizure frequency and to minimize unwanted side effects.

**Warning: [Black Box Warning]: Suicidal Behavior and Ideation:** Antiepileptic drugs (AEDs), including gabapentin, increase the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior in patients taking these drugs for any indication. Patients treated with any AED for any indication should be monitored for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior, and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior.

The increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior with AEDs was observed as early as one week after starting drug treatment with AEDs and persisted for the duration of treatment assessed. Because most trials included in the analysis did not extend beyond 24 weeks, the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior beyond 24 weeks could not be assessed.

The risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior was generally consistent among drugs in the data analyzed. The finding of increased risk with AEDs of varying mechanisms of action and across a range of indications suggests that the risk applies to all AEDs used for any indication. The risk did not vary substantially by age (5-100 years) in the clinical trials analyzed.

The relative risk for suicidal thoughts or behavior was higher in clinical trials for epilepsy than in clinical trials for psychiatric or other conditions, but the absolute risk differences were similar for the epilepsy and psychiatric indications.

Anyone considering prescribing gabapentin or any other AED must balance the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior with the risk of untreated illness. Epilepsy and many other illnesses for which AEDs are prescribed are themselves associated with morbidity and mortality and an increased risk of suicidal thoughts and behavior. Should suicidal thoughts and behavior emerge during treatment, the prescriber needs to consider whether the emergence of these symptoms in any given patient may be related to the illness being treated.

Patients, their caregivers, and families should be informed that AEDs increase the risk of suicidal thoughts and behavior and should be advised of the need to be alert for the emergence or worsening of the signs and symptoms of depression, any unusual changes in mood or behavior, or the emergence of suicidal thoughts, behavior, or thoughts about self-harm. Behaviors of concern should be reported immediately to healthcare providers.

See standard reference text for an all-inclusive list of side effects.

**By my signature below, I GIVE consent for the named medication on Page 1 and anticipated dosage range. My signature also indicates that I understand the following:**

1. I can refuse to give consent or can withdraw my consent at any time with written notification to the institution director or designee. This will not affect my right to change my decision at a later date. If I withdraw consent after a medication is started, I realize that the medication may not be discontinued immediately. Rather, it will be tapered as rapidly as medically safe and then discontinued so as to prevent an adverse medical consequence, such as seizures, due to rapid medication withdrawal.
2. Questions regarding this medication can be discussed with the Interdisciplinary Team, including the physician. The staff contact person can assist in making any necessary arrangements.
3. Questions regarding any behavior support plan or behavior intervention plan, which correspond with the use of the medication, can be directed to the client's social worker, case manager, or psychologist.
4. I have the right to request a review at any time of my record, pursuant to § 51.30(4)(d) or § 51.30(5)(b).
5. I have a legal right to file a complaint if I feel that client rights have been inappropriately restricted. The client's social worker, case manager, or agency/facility client rights specialist may be contacted for assistance.
6. My consent permits the dose to be changed within the **anticipated dosage range** without signing another consent.
7. I understand the reasons for the use of the medication, its potential risks and benefits, other alternative treatment(s), and the probable consequences that may occur if the proposed medication is not given. I have been given adequate time to study the information and find the information to be specific, accurate, and complete.
8. This medication consent is for a period effective immediately and not to exceed fifteen (15) months from the date of my signature. The need for and continued use of this medication will be reviewed at least quarterly by the Interdisciplinary Team. The goal, on behalf of the client, will be to arrive at and maintain the client at the minimum effective dose.

**SIGNATURES****DATE SIGNED**

Client – If Presumed Competent to Consent/Parent of Minor/Guardian (POA-HC)	Relationship to Client <input type="checkbox"/> Self <input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian (POA-HC)	
Staff Present at Oral Discussion	Title	
Client / Parent of Minor / Guardian (POA-HC) Comments		

**As parent/guardian (POA-HC) was not available for signature, he/she was verbally informed of the information in this consent.**

**Verbal Consent**

Obtained by – PRINT – Staff Name	Date Obtained	Written Consent Received <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Obtained from – PRINT – Parent / Guardian (POA-HC) Name	Date Expires	Date Received