

## **Sodium Valproate**

Please prescribe sodium valproate as follows:

Week 1	200mg bd
Week 2	400mg bd
Week 3	500mg bd

An increase to 500mg mane and 1000mg nocte can be made after a further month, but only if seizures continue on 500mg bd.

Drowsiness, hair loss and tremor may occur. Weight gain (due to increase in appetite) is common, and patients may have to modify their diet.

Measurement of plasma levels of valproate as a guide to dose is not indicated: plasma level has no correlation with drug effect.

## **Sodium Valproate (JME)**

Week 1	200mg bd
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Increase to 400 bd if further seizures occur, but not sooner than 2 weeks after start of therapy

An increase to 500mg mane and 1000mg nocte can be made after a further month, but only if seizures continue on 500mg bd.

Drowsiness, hair loss and tremor may occur. Weight gain (due to increase in appetite) is common, and patients may have to modify their diet.

Measurement of plasma levels of valproate as a guide to dose is not indicated: plasma level has no correlation with drug effect.