

## Topiramate

I would be grateful if you would prescribe Topiramate as follows:

Week 1	25mg nocte
Week 2	25mg bd
Week 3	25 mg, mane; 50mg nocte
Week 4	50mg bd
Week 5	50mg mane: 75mg nocte
Week 6	75mg bd
Week 7	75mg mane: 100mg nocte
Week 8	100mg bd
Week 9	125mg bd
Week 10	150mg bd

Topiramate has a tendency to cause dose related neurotropic side effects such as drowsiness, slowed thinking and ataxia, and these effects may occur at a lower level than 150mg b.d. If so, then the no further dose increases should be made, and the dose should be reduced back one step, to a level just below that which caused the side effect. Please note that these side effects will not improve with time, unless the drug dose is reduced or the drug is withdrawn. Reduced appetite and weight loss are also commonly seen.

Topiramate may cause renal stones in 1% of patients, and patients should be advised to maintain their hydration, especially in hot climates, and to report any unusual back or abdominal pain, or any change in urinary colour, to yourself.

### Topiramate withdrawal:

Withdraw by 50mg a week until the dose is 100mg per day then by 25mg a week until the patient is off it.