

## Levetiracetam (Keppra)

Levetiracetam (Keppra) is an antiepileptic medication used to treat seizures in epilepsy. It works by reducing the activity of nerve cells in the brain that cause seizures. Levetiracetam can be used alone or in combination with other medications to control seizures. It is also used off-label to treat other neurological conditions such as myoclonus and neuropathic pain.

Levetiracetam is generally well-tolerated and has fewer side effects compared to other antiepileptic drugs. The most common side effects include dizziness, fatigue, headache, and mood changes such as irritability or depression. In rare cases, levetiracetam can cause more serious side effects such as allergic reactions, changes in blood counts, and liver problems.

Before starting levetiracetam, your doctor will perform a medical evaluation and discuss any other medications you may be taking. It is important to take levetiracetam exactly as prescribed and to report any side effects to your doctor.

Your doctor may adjust your dosage or recommend additional monitoring if needed. In some cases, regular blood tests may be required to monitor liver function and blood counts.

It is important to note that levetiracetam can interact with other medications, including over-the-counter drugs and herbal supplements. Always check with your doctor or pharmacist before taking any new medications while on levetiracetam.

Additionally, sudden discontinuation of levetiracetam can cause seizures, so it is important to gradually taper off the medication under the guidance of your doctor.