

Oxcarbazepine (Trileptal®)

ALAMEDA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Client's Name _____ Date _____

Initial Medication Instructions _____

What does this medication help to treat?

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Bipolar disorder or other conditions | <input type="checkbox"/> Depressive symptoms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mood swings or fluctuations in mood | <input type="checkbox"/> Fatigue or insomnia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agitation, aggression, or hostility | <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of interest in pleasurable activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poor concentration, rapid thoughts | <input type="checkbox"/> Social withdrawal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excessive behavior (e.g. spending, gambling, sex) | <input type="checkbox"/> Decreased energy or activity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irritability | <input type="checkbox"/> Overwhelming feelings of sadness |
- Oxcarbazepine is sometimes prescribed for other uses; ask your prescriber for more information.

Other Information

- You should start to notice some benefits of this medication within a few days after initiation of therapy. However, some individuals will experience these benefits earlier and some later than the stated period of time.
- If you have not experienced benefit after one month of treatment at the prescribed dose, contact your prescriber.
- This medication may cause birth defects in women taking it during pregnancy. Discuss the risks vs. benefits of oxcarbazepine therapy with your prescriber if you are planning a pregnancy.
- Breast-feeding: this medication may be excreted in breast milk. Discuss with your prescriber the risks versus benefits of therapy during lactation.
- Consult with your prescriber about monitoring your sodium level while on this medicine.
- This medicine may decrease the effectiveness of oral contraceptives. A back-up contraceptive method may be necessary.

Side Effects and Management

Common (greater than 10 in 100 clients on this medication)

Dizziness/Unsteadiness	Move slower; get up from a sitting or lying position slowly.
Drowsiness	Use caution when driving or operating machinery.
Headache	You may take acetaminophen or ibuprofen. The headache should subside over time. Talk to your prescriber if it persists for 3 days or more.
Nausea and Vomiting	Try taking your medicine with food. If vomiting persists, tell your prescriber.
Upset Stomach, Diarrhea	Try taking your medicine with food.
Low blood sodium level	Let your prescriber know if you have symptoms of nausea, drowsiness, impaired consciousness, or confusion.
Tremor	Let your prescriber know if you experience tremor. Your dose may be adjusted.
Double Vision	Your dose may need to be decreased. Talk to your prescriber.

Uncommon (~1 to 10 in 100 clients on this medication)

Rash	Rash can be mild or severe, contact prescriber/prescriber immediately.
Nervousness	Let your prescriber know if you experience this side effect. Your dose may need to be lowered.

Rare (less than 1 in 100 clients on this medication)

Call your prescriber immediately if you experience any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Swelling of face and mouth▪ Low blood pressure▪ Loss of short-term memory▪ Severe skin rash, life threatening	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Blood in urine or stool when coughing▪ Hair loss▪ Muscle weakness or spasms▪ Abnormally low sodium levels in the blood <p>**References: Clinical Pharmacology, LexiComp 2011**</p>
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NOTE: This information is not intended to cover all possible uses, precautions, interactions, or adverse effects for this medication. If you have further questions about the medications you are taking, check with your healthcare professional.