

Generic Name: Vigabatrin
Brand Name: Sabril

What Is It Used For?

- Decreasing seizure activity in partial seizures.
- Infantile spasms
- Not helpful for myoclonic seizures

How Long Does The Medicine Take To Work?

- 2-5 days

What Are The Important Safety Concerns?

- When first starting this medicine, your child may be slightly drowsy and/or dizzy.
- Your child will need an evaluation by an ophthalmologist (eye doctor) usually within six months of starting this medication
- Only adjust the dosage as recommended by your health care provider. They will usually increase this medication slowly to avoid side effects. Never increase the dosage more than **once per week** unless directed otherwise.
- Once you have started with one brand of the medication stay with it. Avoid switching between different brands.
- Check with your pharmacist before taking herbal medication and/or over-the-counter medications. They may have adverse effects if taken with anti-seizure medications.
- Do not stop medicine all of a sudden because this could result in seizures.
- It is important to keep a record of your child's seizure and side effects to determine how well they are responding to the medication. **Please bring these records to all clinic appointments**

What Are The Possible Side Effects?

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| • Confusion* | • Fatigue* | • Hyperactivity* |
| • Constipation* | • Headache* | • Weight Gain* |
| • Nervousness* | • Trouble Sleeping* | • Loss of Coordination |
| • Double Vision* | • Vomiting | • Stomach Upset |
| • Drowsiness* | • Dry Mouth | • Dizziness* |
| • Peripheral (side) vision loss* | | |

*more common side effects

What Medications May Alter The Effectiveness Of This Drug?

- Vigabatrin increases the effect of Carbamazepine (Tegretol) in your child's body.
- May lower the amount of Phenytoin (Dilantin), Phenobarbital, or Primidone (Mysoline) in your child's body.

How Do I Give The Medication?

- Tablets can be taken with or without food.
- Dissolve sachet contents in 10ml of water, fruit juice, milk, or infant formula, and give only the amount prescribed. Discuss how to give the proper amount with your pharmacist or health care provider if using this method.
- Give with food or milk to reduce stomach upset and/or to improve the taste if needed. Do not take with an antacid medication.
- Give your child the medication as close to the same time as possible each day and only the amount prescribed.
- If your child misses a dose, give the dose as soon as you remember or can. If the next dose of the medicine needs to be given in less than 4 hours, do **not** give the dose you forgot. Give the next dose a little earlier and then return to giving the medicine at the usual times after that.
- If your child vomits within 30 minutes of taking the medication, repeat the dose.
- If your child vomits after 30 minutes of taking the medication, do not repeat the dose.

When Do I Call My Health Care Provider?

Call your health care provider or go to your nearest emergency room if you are concerned about your child in any way. With Vigabatrin the following would be of concern:

- Problems with vision
- Depression
- Aggression
- Rash
- Change in behaviour
- More seizures

What Are The Available Forms And Dosages?

- 500 mg tablet
- 500 mg powder sachet

Always bring all your child's medications to every clinic appointment