



AMANTADINE - INFORMED CONSENT FOR MEDICATION

<u>Medication Category:</u> Antiparkinson — Dopaminergic agent (also called antidyskinetics and antiviral agent)	<u>Medications in this Category:</u> amantadine (Symmetrel)
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Anticipated dosage range: _____

About your medicine: Amantadine is used to reduce the frequency and severity of some of the muscle related side effects of antipsychotic medication. These are often referred to as “extrapyramidal side effects” or EPS. They are also referred to as pseudoparkinsonian side effects. Symptoms of EPS that can be treated with amantadine include: dystonias (muscle spasms), akathisia (restlessness, inability to be still), akinesia (loss of spontaneity, a “wooden” feeling), and tremors. Amantadine seems to work by increasing the effects of dopamine in specific parts of the brain.

Side Effects: Every drug is capable of producing side effects. Many people who take Amantadine experience no, or minor, side effects. The frequency and severity of side effects depend on many factors including dose, duration of therapy and individual susceptibility.

Possible side effects include:

More Common: Difficulty concentrating, dizziness or lightheadedness, irritability, nausea, nervousness, trouble in sleeping or nightmares.

Less Common: Blurred vision, constipation, dry mouth, headache, unusual tiredness or weakness, vomiting, fainting, depression, confusion, hallucinations, constipation swollen legs.

Precautions: In rare cases, may increase the risk of seizures or congestive heart failure in people who are prone to these disorders. Convulsions, problems making white blood cells, and liver problems are rare but have been reported.

- Always inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist if you have ever had an allergic reaction to any medication before starting on a new medication.
- This medicine works best when there is a constant amount in the blood. To help keep this amount constant, do not miss any doses. Also, it is best to take each dose at evenly spaced times, If you do miss a dose of this medicine, take it as soon as possible. However, if it is

almost time for your next dose, skip the dose and go back to your regular dosing schedule.

- This medicine may cause some people to become dizzy, confused, or lightheaded. Make sure you know how you react to this medicine before you drive, use machines or do other jobs that require you to be alert.
- This medicine may cause you to have a dry mouth. For temporary relief use sugarless gum or sugarless candy. The lack of normal amounts of saliva can increase the risk of both tooth cavities and mouth infections, which are more likely if you frequently use hard candy with sugar. It is also important to maintain good dental hygiene.
- Take with a meal or snack if you are having problems with stomach upset.
- Do not stop taking amantadine abruptly.
- Notify your doctor if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant or if you are breast-feeding.
- Keep out of the reach of children.

By my signature below, I give consent for the above-named medication to be administered and for a change of medication within this medication category. My signature also indicated that I have read and understand the reasons for the use of this medication, and its potential risks and benefits.

Client Signature: _____ Date Signed: _____

Witness Signature: _____ Date Signed: _____