

PREGABALIN

D. Schmidt

Germany

dbschmidt@t-online.de

Pregabalin is an approved add-on treatment for patients with poorly controlled focal seizures. The most common dose is 300-450 mg/day. Approximately 6% of patients become seizure-free for at least one year, and about 40% of all patients have a 50% or more reduction in seizures from baseline. One-third of patients discontinue for lack of efficacy (Uthman et al, 2010). Pregabalin is generally well tolerated at doses of 300-450 mg/day. However, the adverse event are more frequent in those treated with 450-600 mg/day. Common adverse events include dizziness, somnolence, headache, and asthenia and weight gain. Rates of sudden unexpected death in epilepsy (SUDEP), mortality, cancer, and status epilepticus are within the expected range for this population (Uthman et al, 2010). In conclusion, adjunctive pregabalin is effective, generally well tolerated, and safe in the long-term treatment of refractory focal seizures.

Reference:

Uthman et al. Long-term add-on pregabalin treatment in patients with partial-onset epilepsy: pooled analysis of open-label clinical trials. *Epilepsia*. 2010;51:968-78