



## **Dose reduction schedule for Pregabalin according to Pfizer recommendations:**

<b><u>Final Dose</u></b>	<b><u>Reduce to</u></b>	<b><u>Reduce to</u></b>	<b><u>Reduce to</u></b>	<b><u>7 days</u></b>
600mg/day	450mg/day for 2 days	300mg/day for 2 days	150mg/day for 2 days	Pregabalin stopped
450mg/day	300mg/day for 3 days	150mg/day for 3 days	Pregabalin stopped	
300mg/day	150mg/day for 6 days	Pregabalin stopped		
150mg/day	Pregabalin stopped			

## **Dose reduction for Gabapentin:**

Pfizer advised that gabapentin (Neurontin) discontinuation should be tapered over a minimum of one week, however, this is in relation to seizure disorders. It is therefore suggested that the discontinuation of gabapentin in off-label prescribing should also be tapered for a minimum of one week. The prescriber should consider: the following and prescribe at their own discretion

- i) the individual
- ii) condition being treated/indication
- iii) dose and current regimen
- iv) observed case studies re: dose reduction and off-label prescribing

## **Withdrawal signs and symptoms for Pregabalin and Gabapentin:**

On discontinuation of pregabalin and gabapentin the prisoner should be monitored for potential withdrawal signs and symptoms. These can be managed symptomatically and may include:

1. Insomnia
2. Nausea
3. Headache
4. Anxiety
5. Hyperhidrosis
6. Diarrhoea

Consequently, pregabalin and gabapentin should be tapered gradually over a minimum of one week rather than discontinued abruptly. This recommendation is for all patients the exception are those being treated for seizure disorders.

Ref

Safer prescribing in Prisons 11.11.11

Lyrica SPC

Neurontin SPC

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