

Treatment with valproate for female patients: Checklist for patients and prescribers

A. Checklist for Prescribers

Name of Patient / carer

I confirm that the above named patient does not respond adequately or tolerate other treatments or medical treatments and requires valproate

I have discussed with the above named Patient/carer:

The overall risks of an approximately 10% chance of birth defects and up to 30-40% chance of a wide range of early developmental problems that can lead to significant learning difficulties in children exposed to treatment with valproate during pregnancy.

Individual risk can be minimised by use of the lowest possible effective dose

The need for contraception (if child bearing age)

The need for regular review of the need for treatment

The need for urgent review if the patient is planning a pregnancy

I have given the patient/carer a copy of the patient information booklet

Name of Prescriber

Date

B. Patient /Carer Checklist

I understand

Why treatment with valproate rather than another medicine is considered necessary for me

The risks of an approximately 10% chance of birth defects and up to 30-40% chance of a wide range of early developmental problems that can lead to significant learning difficulties in children exposed to treatment with valproate during pregnancy.

That I am advised to use contraception if not planning a pregnancy

That my treatment should be reviewed regularly

That I should request an urgent review if planning a pregnancy PRIOR to attempting to conceive

Name of Patient/ Carer

Date