Algorithm for Treating Epilepsy Patients with Oxcarbazepine (Trileptal)*

Patient presents with Seizures or unacceptable side effects
Diagnose Partial Epilepsy
(simple partial seizures, complex partial seizures, secondarily generalized tonic clonic)

Oxcarbazepine (Trileptal)

Initiate dose at 300 mg to BID depending on age (>60 may require smaller doses)
Increase by 600 per day per week to an initial maintenance dose of 1200-2400mg/day
(target plasma level 12-30mcg/ml)

Patient returns to clinic in 2-4 weeks to monitor for efficacy, side effects. Return based on frequency of seizures.

Drug level monitoring required if adverse events or efficacy in question
(Note: some patients do not do well at doses above 2400mg/day)

Patient doing well on drug/few to no seizures
Continue to titrate to chosen maintenance dose

Patient returns to clinic (4-8 weeks depending on problems)

Patient doing well

Patient not doing well on drug
Adverse events/no seizures
Reduce dose and slow titration

Patient not doing well

Patient no adverse events/seizures not controlled
Titrate to 1800mg day

Patient doing well

* Renal Insufficiency- Drug follows creatinine clearance. (i.e. CrCl reduced by 50% reduce drug dose by 50%)
Indications for Trileptal (oxcarbazepine) http://professionals.epilepsy.com/medications/p_trileptal_indications.html
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