

1198 temozolomide

Drug/Herb

Increase: CNS depression—hops, kava, valerian, chamomile, skullcap

Drug/Food

Decrease: temazepam effect—caffeine

Drug/Lab Test

Increase: ALT, AST

NURSING CONSIDERATIONS

Assess:

- Mental status: mood, sensorium, affect, memory (long, short), orientation
- **Type of sleep problem:** falling asleep, staying asleep, baseline, periodically
- **Dependency:** restrict amount given to patient, assess for physical/psychological dependency; high-level risk for abuse
- Assistance with ambulation after receiving dose
- **Beers:** avoid in older adults; increased sensitivity to benzodiazepines and decreased metabolism; may cause delirium

Evaluate:

- Therapeutic response: ability to sleep at night, decreased early morning awakening if taking product for insomnia

Teach patient/family:

- To avoid driving, other activities requiring alertness until stabilized; may cause dizziness, drowsiness

Black Box Warning: To avoid alcohol ingestion, other CNS depressants

- That effects may take 2 nights for benefits to be noticed
- To take as directed; not to increase dose unless approved by prescriber
- To limit to 7-10 days of continuous use
- About alternative measures to improve sleep: reading, exercise several hours before bedtime, warm bath, warm milk, TV, self-hypnosis, deep breathing
- Not to discontinue abruptly, withdraw gradually
- That complex sleep-related behaviors may occur: sleep driving/eating/walking
- That hangover, memory impairment are common in geriatric patients but less common than with barbiturates
- **To notify prescriber if pregnancy is planned or suspected; to use contracep-**

tion while taking this product; not to use in pregnancy; to use caution in breastfeeding, excretion unknown

TREATMENT OF OVERDOSE:

Lavage; monitor electrolytes, VS

HIGH ALERT

temozolomide (Rx)

(tem-oh-zole'oh-mide)

Temodar

Func. class.: Antineoplastic-alkylating agent

Chem. class.: Imidazotetrazine derivative

ACTION: Prodrug that undergoes conversion to MTIC; MTIC action prevents DNA transcription

USES: Anaplastic astrocytoma with relapse, glioblastoma multiforme, malignant glioma

Unlabeled uses: Metastatic melanoma

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Pregnancy, breastfeeding; hypersensitivity to this product, carbazine, or gelatin

Precautions: Geriatric patients, radiation therapy, renal/hepatic disease, bone marrow suppression, infection, myelosuppression

DOSAGE AND ROUTES

Glioblastoma multiforme

- **Adult: PO/IV** 75 mg/m²/day × 42 days with focal radiotherapy, then maintenance of 6 cycles; maintenance dose: 150 mg/m² on days 1-5 of a 28-day cycle

Refractory anaplastic astrocytoma

- **Adult: IV** 150 mg/m²/day over 90 min on days 1-5 q28days, may increase to 200 mg/m²/day on days 1-5 q28days if hematologic parameters permit

Available forms: Caps 5, 20, 100, 140, 180, 250 mg; powder for inj 100 mg

Administer:

PO route

- Do not break, crush, chew, open caps