

**Black Box Warning: Ototoxicity:** to report loss of hearing, ringing, or roaring in the ears

- To maintain adequate fluids; to report decreased urine output, flank pain
- That hair may be lost during treatment; a wig or hairpiece may make patient feel better; that new hair may be different in color, texture
- To report numbness, tingling in face or extremities; poor hearing; joint pain, swelling
- Not to receive vaccinations during treatment
- **Pregnancy/breastfeeding:** to use contraception during treatment and for 4 mo after treatment; that product may cause infertility; not to breastfeed

## citalopram (Rx)

(sigh-ta'loh-pram)

### CeleXA

*Func. class.:* Antidepressant

*Chem. class.:* Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI)

### Do not confuse:

CeleXA/CeleBrex/Cerebyx/ZyPREXA

**ACTION:** Inhibits CNS neuron uptake of serotonin but not of norepinephrine; weak inhibitor of CYP450 enzyme system, thus making it more appealing than other products

**USES:** Major depressive disorder

**Unlabeled uses:** Obsessive-compulsive disorder in adolescents

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:** Hypersensitivity

**Precautions:** Pregnancy, breastfeeding, geriatric patients, renal/hepatic disease, seizure disorder, hypersensitivity to escitalopram, bradycardia, recent MI, abrupt discontinuation, QT prolongation

**Black Box Warning:** Children, suicidal ideation

## DOSAGE AND ROUTES

### Depression

• **Adult: PO** 20 mg/day AM or PM, may increase if needed to 40 mg/day after 1 wk; maintenance: after 6-8 wk of initial treatment, continue for 24 wk (32 wk total), reevaluate long-term usefulness (max 40 mg/day); ~~poor~~ poor metabolizers of CYP2C19 or use of CYP2C19 inhibitors max 20 mg/day

### Hepatic dose/geriatric

• **Adult: PO** 20 mg/day

### OCD (unlabeled)

• **Adult: PO** 20-40 mg/day

**Available forms:** Tabs 10, 20, 40 mg; oral sol 10 mg/5 mL

### Administer:

- With food or milk for GI symptoms
- Crushed if patient is unable to swallow medication whole
- Dosages at bedtime if oversedation occurs during the day; may take entire dose at bedtime
- **Do not give within 14 days of MAOIs**
- Store at room temperature; do not freeze

## SIDE EFFECTS

**CNS:** *Headache, insomnia, drowsiness, anxiety, tremor, dizziness, fatigue, sedation, poor concentration, seizures, suicidal attempts, neuroleptic malignant-like syndrome reactions*

**CV:** Tachycardia, **QT prolongation**, orthostatic hypotension, **torsades de pointes**

**EENT:** Visual changes

**GI:** *Nausea, diarrhea, dry mouth, anorexia, dyspepsia, vomiting, flatulence, decreased appetite*

**GU:** *Dysmenorrhea, decreased libido, amenorrhea, impotence*

**INTEG:** *Sweating, rash, pruritus, photosensitivity*

**MS:** Arthritis, myalgia

**RESP:** *Infection, cough, dyspnea*

**SYST:** Hyponatremia (geriatric patients), **serotonin syndrome**

## PHARMACOKINETICS

Metabolized in liver by CYP3A4, ~~poor~~ CYP2C19, some individuals are poor metabolizers; excreted in urine; steady state 1 wk; peak 4 hr; half-life 35 hr