

Evidence Profile 5.4.2. Comparison of Anti-Epileptics

Certainty assessment							№ of patients		Effect		Certainty	Importance
№ of studies	Study design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Pregabalin	Gabapentin	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		
Pain relief (categorical)												
0									not estimable			CRITICAL
Pain relief (continuous) (follow up: 4 weeks; assessed with: VAS; Scale: 0 to 100 [worst] ^A)												
1 ¹	RCT	not serious	N/A	not serious	serious ^B	single study	30	30	Net Diff -8.4 (-16.5, -0.3)		Low	CRITICAL
Pain relief speed												
0									not estimable			CRITICAL
Pain reduction maintenance												
0									not estimable			CRITICAL
Quality of life												
0									not estimable			IMPORTANT
Functional outcomes												
0									not estimable			IMPORTANT
Adverse events: Sedation												
0									not estimable			IMPORTANT
Adverse events: Confusion												
0									not estimable			IMPORTANT

Abbreviations: CI: Confidence interval; N/A: not applicable; Net Diff: net difference (between groups); VAS: Visual Analog Scale.

Explanations

- A. Scales transformed to 0 to 100, as necessary.
- B. Small study.

Trials

1. Mishra, S., Bhatnagar, S., Goyal, G. N., Rana, S. P., Upadhy, S. P.. A comparative efficacy of amitriptyline, gabapentin, and pregabalin in neuropathic cancer pain: a prospective randomized double-blind placebo-controlled study. *Am J Hosp Palliat Care*; May 2012.