

## Namenda (Memantine)

### Namenda (*Memantine*) Drug and Dosage Information for Whole Brain Radiotherapy

#### Why am I being prescribed this medication?

Our goal is to preserve your quality of life during and after whole brain radiotherapy by reducing potential side effects of this treatment. Namenda (*memantine*) is a medication that is used with whole brain radiotherapy to protect you from potential negative effects on your cognition. This medication is usually well tolerated without side effects but please refer to the packaging insert provided by your pharmacy for more information about potential side effects. You will take this medication for a total of 6 months during and after your radiation treatments. Please refer to the instructions below for dosage information.

#### Please follow the following instructions for starting medication

- Take 1 tablet once daily for one week
- Take 1 tablet twice daily for one week
- Take 2 tablets in the morning and 1 tablet in the evening
- Take 2 tablets twice daily

#### Dosage information after completing starting titration

Your initial prescription for Namenda (*memantine*) may have come in a starter pack or prescribed as separate tablets. The initial prescription dosage per tablet is 5mg in order to allow for gradually increasing the dose over the course of a month. After the initial tapering up is completed the remainder of your prescriptions will be written for 10mg tablets to be taken twice daily for 6 months. At the completion of 6 months the medication will stop, there is no need to taper off.

#### Further information

If you or your family have further questions about this medication and its uses for whole brain radiotherapy please let a member of your health care team know. You will be visiting with your nurse and radiation oncologist once a week during the course of your radiation therapy and this is a good time to discuss questions about this medication and any other questions you may have about your treatment.

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