

The Medical Letter®

on Drugs and Therapeutics

Objective Drug Reviews Since 1959

Volume 56

December 8, 2014

ISSUE No.

1457

IN THIS ISSUE

In Brief: Topiramate Extended-Release Capsules (*Qudexy XR*) online only

Important Copyright Message

FORWARDING OR COPYING IS A VIOLATION OF U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT LAWS

The Medical Letter, Inc. publications are protected by U.S. and international copyright laws. Forwarding, copying or any distribution of this material is prohibited.

Sharing a password with a non-subscriber or otherwise making the contents of this site available to third parties is strictly prohibited.

By accessing and reading the attached content I agree to comply with U.S. and international copyright laws and these terms and conditions of The Medical Letter, Inc.

For further information click: [Subscriptions](#), [Site Licenses](#), [Reprints](#)
or call customer service at: 800-211-2769

The Medical Letter®

on Drugs and Therapeutics

Objective Drug Reviews Since 1959

Volume 56

December 8, 2014

ISSUE No.
1457

IN THIS ISSUE

In Brief: Topiramate Extended-Release Capsules (*Qudexy XR*).....online only

IN BRIEF

Topiramate Extended-Release Capsules (*Qudexy XR*)

The FDA has approved a new extended-release capsule formulation of topiramate (*Qudexy XR* – Upsher Smith), which can be opened and sprinkled on food for patients who have difficulty swallowing tablets or capsules, for treatment of epilepsy. *Qudexy XR* was marketed as a branded drug in March 2014 and as a generic drug four months later. An earlier extended-release formulation (*Trokendi XR*) must be swallowed whole.

Table 1. Oral Formulations of Topiramate for Epilepsy

Drug	Formulations	Usual Adult Dosage ¹	Cost ²
Immediate-release – generic	25, 50, 100, 200 mg tabs; 15, 25 mg sprinkle caps	100-200 mg/day in 2 divided doses	\$10.10
<i>Topamax</i> (Janssen)	25, 50, 100, 200 mg tabs		475.70
<i>Topamax Sprinkle</i> (Janssen)	15, 25 mg caps		545.00
Extended-release – <i>Trokendi XR</i> (Supernus)	25, 50, 100, 200 mg caps	100-200 mg once/d	445.20
<i>Qudexy XR</i> (Upsher Smith)	25, 50, 100, 150, 200 mg caps		365.00
generic			186.80

1. For monotherapy. Higher doses (up to a maximum of 400 mg/day) may be needed for adjunctive use.
 2. Approximate WAC for 30 days' treatment at the lowest usual adult dosage. WAC = wholesaler acquisition cost or manufacturer's published price to wholesalers; WAC represents a published catalogue or list price and may not represent an actual transactional price. Source: Analy-Source® Monthly, November 5, 2014. Reprinted with permission by First Databank, Inc. All rights reserved. ©2014. www.fdbhealth.com/policies/drug-pricing-policy.

Pronunciation Key:

Topiramate: toe pir' a mate **Qudexy:** cue deks' ee

Trokendi XR is approved for initial monotherapy in patients ≥10 years old with partial-onset seizures or primary generalized tonic-clonic seizures and for adjunctive therapy in patients ≥6 years old with partial-onset seizures, primary generalized tonic-clonic seizures, or seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome. *Qudexy XR* has been approved for the same indications, but the indication for adjunctive therapy has been extended to children ≥2 years old. Topiramate has been available for many years in immediate-release formulations (*Topamax*, and others) for the same indications for patients ≥2 years old. *Trokendi XR* and *Qudexy XR* both appear to be bioequivalent to immediate-release formulations of topiramate; whether they are bioequivalent to one another has not been established. ■

EDITOR IN CHIEF: Mark Abramowicz, M.D.; **EXECUTIVE EDITOR:** Gianna Zuccotti, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.P., Harvard Medical School; **EDITOR:** Jean-Marie Pflomm, Pharm.D.; **ASSISTANT EDITORS, DRUG INFORMATION:** Susan M. Daron, Pharm.D., Corinne Z. Morrison, Pharm.D., Michael P. Viscusi, Pharm.D.; **CONSULTING EDITORS:** Brinda M. Shah, Pharm.D., F. Peter Swanson, M.D.; **SENIOR ASSOCIATE EDITOR:** Amy Faucard

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS: Carl W. Bazil, M.D., Ph.D., Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons; Vanessa K. Dalton, M.D., M.P.H., University of Michigan Medical School; Eric J. Epstein, M.D., Albert Einstein College of Medicine; Jane P. Gagliardi, M.D., M.H.S., F.A.C.P., Duke University School of Medicine; Jules Hirsch, M.D., Rockefeller University; David N. Juurlink, BPhm, M.D., Ph.D., Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre; Richard B. Kim, M.D., University of Western Ontario; Hans Meinertz, M.D., University Hospital, Copenhagen; Sandip K. Mukherjee, M.D., F.A.C.C., Yale School of Medicine; Dan M. Roden, M.D., Vanderbilt University School of Medicine; Esperance A.K. Schaefer, M.D., M.P.H., Harvard Medical School; F. Estelle R. Simons, M.D., University of Manitoba; Neal H. Steigbigel, M.D., New York University School of Medicine; Arthur M. F. Yee, M.D., Ph.D., F.A.C.R., Weill Medical College of Cornell University

MANAGING EDITOR: Susie Wong; **ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR:** Liz Donohue; **EDITORIAL ASSISTANT:** Cheryl Brown

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SALES: Gene Carbona; **FULFILLMENT & SYSTEMS MANAGER:** Cristine Romatowski; **DIRECTOR OF MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS:** Joanne F. Valentino; **VICE PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER:** Yosef Wissner-Levy

Founded in 1959 by
Arthur Kallet and Harold Aaron, M.D.

Copyright and Disclaimer: The Medical Letter, Inc. is an independent nonprofit organization that provides healthcare professionals with unbiased drug prescribing recommendations. The editorial process used for its publications relies on a review of published and unpublished literature, with an emphasis on controlled clinical trials, and on the opinions of its consultants. The Medical Letter, Inc. is supported solely by subscription fees and accepts no advertising, grants, or donations. No part of the material may be reproduced or transmitted by any process in whole or in part without prior permission in writing. The editors do not warrant that all the material in this publication is accurate and complete in every respect. The editors shall not be held responsible for any damage resulting from any error, inaccuracy, or omission.

Subscription Services

Address:
The Medical Letter, Inc.
145 Huguenot St. Ste. 312
New Rochelle, NY 10801-7537
www.medicalletter.org

Customer Service:
Call: 800-211-2769 or 914-235-0500
Fax: 914-632-1733
E-mail: custserv@medicalletter.org

Permissions:
To reproduce any portion of this issue,
please e-mail your request to:
permissions@medicalletter.org

Subscriptions (US):
1 year - \$98; 2 years - \$189;
3 years - \$279. \$49 per year
for students, interns, residents, and
fellows in the US and Canada.
Reprints - \$12 each.

Site License Inquiries:
E-mail: info@medicalletter.org
Call: 800-211-2769
Special rates available for bulk
subscriptions.