

Green Plus information leaflet for primary care: SAFINAMIDE (XADAGO)

Background information
Safinamide – an MAOI -B inhibitor used in Parkinson’ disease (PD). Increases on time without troublesome dyskinesias when used as add on to levodopa.
Sunderland joint formulary status
Approved as GREEN PLUS June 2018
Related NICE guidance
Not reviewed by NICE specifically (but NICE 2017 do recommend use of MAOI - B inhibitors as part of Parkinson’s disease treatment pathway)
Licensed indication
Add on therapy for adult patients with idiopathic Parkinson’s disease. To be added to stable combination of levodopa alone or in combination with other PD medicinal products in MID TO LATE STAGE fluctuating disease only
Dosage and administration
50mg or 100mg oral once a day
Contraindications
Severe diabetic retinopathy, pregnancy or breastfeeding, other MAOI - B inhibitors, use of pethidine, severe liver disease, current or previous history of retinal disease or uveitis, albinism, hypersensitivity to the active substance or any of the excipients.
Cautions
Avoid with concomitant fluoxetine or fluvoxamine, avoid other SSRIs or use lowest possible dose, caution in moderate hepatic impairment.
Duration of treatment
To be continued if effective and tolerated
Drug interactions
See above – other MAOI, SSRI, pethidine
Side effects- these are rare.
Impulse control disorders can occur with all PD therapies but has not been reported with this drug. Can cause insomnia, or sleepiness, headache, dyskinesias, postural BP drop, cataracts, falls, sleep problems. More rare side effects include hallucinations and delirium, psychosis, hypertension, retinal disorders, eye problems. Peptic ulcer, QT prolongation, depression.
Monitoring
None required. No dietary restrictions. NO prior ECG needed.
GP and specialist responsibilities
No monitoring required. If any of the patient’s ongoing medications need to be discontinued before commencing safinamide, specialist will allow at least 14 days as washout period before safinamide is commenced.
Cost
£839.50 per annum