

Levetiracetam (Keppra)

Levetiracetam is a seizure medication. Unlike other seizure medications, it was derived from a nootropic (or cognitive-enhancing) compound. It is sometimes used in psychiatry to help:

- Memory and concentration
- Bipolar mania
- Tardive dyskinesia (an involuntary movement of the muscles caused by antipsychotics)

Levetiracetam has small studies supporting its use in each of those conditions. It may also help migraines.

Dosing

The typical dose ranges from 250 mg – 2000 mg per day. It can be taken with or without food. The dose can be divided in to twice daily doses or taken as a once daily ER form (do not crush or chew the ER tablets).

Side effects

Dizziness, poor coordination and fatigue. Very rarely people have had hallucinations (seeing or hearing things) or worse mood on it; call us if those things happen.

–Updated 6/24/2025 by *Chris Aiken, MD*