

BRIEF SUMMARY OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: Bipolar Mania. SEROQUEL is indicated for the short-term treatment of acute manic episodes associated with bipolar I disorder, as either monotherapy or adjunct therapy to lithium or divalproex. The efficacy of SEROQUEL in acute bipolar mania was established in two 3-week monotherapy trials and one 3-week adjunct therapy trial of bipolar I patients hospitalized for up to 7 days for acute mania. Effectiveness for more than 6 weeks has not been systematically studied in clinical trials. Therefore, the physician who elects to use SEROQUEL for extended periods should be aware of the potential risks and benefits of the drug for the individual patient. Schizophrenia: SEROQUEL is indicated for the treatment of schizophrenia. The efficacy of SEROQUEL in schizophrenia was established in short-term (6-week) controlled trials of schizophrenic inpatients. The effectiveness of SEROQUEL in long-term use, that is, for more than 6 weeks, has not been systematically evaluated in controlled trials. Therefore, the physician who elects to use SEROQUEL for extended periods should periodically re-evaluate the long-term usefulness of the drug for the individual patient.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: SEROQUEL is contraindicated in individuals with a known hypersensitivity to this medication or any of its ingredients.

WARNINGS: Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome (NMS): A potentially fatal symptom complex sometimes referred to as Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome (NMS) has been reported in association with administration of antipsychotic drugs, including SEROQUEL. Rare cases of NMS have been reported with other atypical antipsychotic medications of which neuroleptic malignant syndrome, muscle rigidity, altered mental status, and evidence of autonomic instability (irregular pulse or blood pressure, tachycardia, diaphoresis, and cardiac dysrhythmia). Additional signs may include elevated creatine phosphokinase, myoglobinuria (rhabdomyolysis) and acute renal failure. The diagnostic evaluation of patients with this syndrome is complicated. In arriving at a diagnosis, it is important to exclude cases where the clinical presentation includes both serious medical illness (e.g., pneumonia, systemic infection, etc.) and untreated or inadequately treated extrapyramidal syndromes (EPS). Other important considerations in the differential diagnosis include central anticholinergic toxicity, heat stroke, drug fever and primary central nervous system (CNS) pathology. The management of NMS should include: 1) immediate discontinuation of antipsychotic drugs and other drugs not essential to concurrent therapy; 2) intensive symptomatic treatment and medical monitoring; and 3) general management of concurrent serious medical problems for which specific treatments are available. There is no general agreement about specific pharmacologic treatment regimens for NMS. If a patient requires antipsychotic drug treatment after recovery from NMS, the potential risks should be carefully considered. **Tardive Dyskinesia:** A syndrome of potentially irreversible, involuntary, dysrhythmic movements may develop in patients treated with antipsychotic drugs. Although the prevalence of the syndrome appears to be highest among the elderly, especially elderly women, it is impossible to rely upon prevalence estimates to predict, at the inception of antipsychotic treatment, which patients are likely to develop the syndrome. Whether antipsychotic drug products differ in their potential to cause tardive dyskinesia is unknown. The risk of developing tardive dyskinesia and the likelihood that it will become chronic is unknown. Once established, tardive dyskinesia may not be completely controlled. Antipsychotic drugs administered to the patient increase. However, the syndrome can be treated, although much less commonly, after relatively brief treatment periods at low doses. There is no known treatment for established cases of tardive dyskinesia, although the syndrome may remit, partially or completely. If antipsychotic treatment is withdrawn, antipsychotic treatment, itself, however, may suppress (or partially suppress) the signs and symptoms of the syndrome and thereby may possibly mask the underlying process. The effect that symptomatic suppression has upon the long-term course of the syndrome is unknown. Given these considerations, SEROQUEL should be prescribed at the lowest effective dose most likely to minimize the occurrence of tardive dyskinesia. Chronic antipsychotic treatment should generally be reserved for patients who appear to suffer from a chronic illness that (1) is known to respond to antipsychotic drugs, and (2) for whom alternative, equally effective, but potentially less harmful treatments are not available or appropriate. In patients who do require chronic treatment, the smallest dose and the shortest duration of treatment providing a satisfactory clinical response should be sought. The need for continued treatment should be reassessed periodically. Signs and symptoms of tardive dyskinesia may persist in the absence of obvious symptoms. **Other Warnings:** SEROQUEL should be prescribed with caution in patients who are receiving or who may require treatment with SEROQUEL despite the presence of the syndrome. **Hyperglycemia and Diabetes Mellitus:** Hyperglycemia, in some cases extreme and associated with ketoacidosis or hyperosmolar coma or death, has been reported in patients treated with atypical antipsychotics, including SEROQUEL. Assessment of the relationship between atypical antipsychotic use and glucose abnormalities is complicated by the possibility of an increased background risk of diabetes mellitus in patients with schizophrenia and by the increasing incidence of obesity in this population. In patients with schizophrenia, the prevalence of hyperglycemia in antipsychotic use and hyperglycemia-related adverse events is not completely understood. However, epidemiological studies suggest an increased risk of treatment-emergent hyperglycemia-related adverse events in patients treated with the atypical antipsychotics. Precise risk estimates for hyperglycemia-related adverse events in patients treated with atypical antipsychotics are not available. Patients with an established diagnosis of diabetes mellitus who are started on atypical antipsychotics should be monitored regularly for worsening of glucose control. Patients at risk for diabetes mellitus (e.g., obesity, family history of diabetes, etc.) should be monitored closely. Atypical antipsychotics, including SEROQUEL, should be prescribed with caution in patients with a history of diabetes mellitus. Patients with a history of diabetes mellitus should be monitored for signs and symptoms of hyperglycemia including polydipsia, polyuria, polyphagia, and weakness. Patients who develop symptoms of hyperglycemia during treatment with atypical antipsychotics should undergo fasting blood glucose testing. In some cases, hyperglycemia has resolved when the atypical antipsychotic was discontinued; however, some patients required continuation of anti-diabetic treatment despite discontinuation of the suspect drug.

PRECAUTIONS: General: Orthostatic Hypotension: SEROQUEL may induce orthostatic hypotension associated with dizziness, blurred vision, and, in some patients, syncope, especially during the initial dose-activation period. Probable underlying is orthostatic hypotension. SEROQUEL should be prescribed with caution in patients treated with SEROQUEL, compared with 0% (0/67) on placebo and about 0.4% (2/527) on active control. SEROQUEL should be used with particular caution in patients with known cardiovascular disease (history of myocardial infarction or ischemic heart disease, heart failure or conduction abnormalities), cerebrovascular disease or conditions which would predispose patients to hypotension (dehydration, hypovolemia and treatment with antihypertensive medications). The risk of orthostatic hypotension and syncope may be minimized by limiting the initial dose to 150 mg bid. If this dose is tolerated, the target dose of 300 mg bid may be reached. The titration schedule is appropriate. **Cardiac:** The development of cardiac events was observed in association with quetiapine treatment in chronic drug studies (see Animal Toxicology and Prescribing Information). **Lambs changes have also been observed in patients during long-term SEROQUEL treatment, but a causal relationship to SEROQUEL use has not been established. Nevertheless, the possibility of lambs changes cannot be excluded at this time. Therefore, examination of the lens by methods adequate to detect cataract formation, such as slit lamp examination, should be performed at regular intervals in patients receiving SEROQUEL. The incidence of cataracts was similar in patients treated with SEROQUEL, compared with placebo and 0.7% (4/527) on active control. As with other antipsychotics SEROQUEL should be used cautiously in patients with a history of seizures or with conditions that potentially lower the seizure threshold, e.g., Alzheimer's dementia. Conditions that lower the seizure threshold may be more prevalent in a population of 65 years of age or older. **Hypotension:** Clinical trials with SEROQUEL demonstrated a dose-dependent increase in orthostatic hypotension. The incidence of orthostatic hypotension was higher in the elderly of the therapeutic dose range and was maximal in the first two to four weeks of treatment and remained without adaptation or progression during more chronic therapy. Generally, these changes were of no clinical significance and TSH was unchanged in most patients, and levels of TBG were unchanged. In nearly all cases, cessation of SEROQUEL treatment was associated with a reversal of the effects on total and free T4, irrespective of the duration of treatment. About 0.4% (12/2913) of SEROQUEL patients did experience TSH increases in monotherapy studies. Six of the patients with TSH increases needed replacement thyroid hormone. In the main study of acute bipolar mania trials using SEROQUEL, compared with placebo, an increase in TSH was observed in 1.6% (10/617) of patients treated with SEROQUEL, compared with 0.2% (1/502) of placebo patients with elevated TSH levels. Of the SEROQUEL-treated patients with elevated TSH levels, 3 had significant low free T4 levels. **Cholesterol and Triglyceride Elevations:** In schizophrenia trials, SEROQUEL-treated patients had increases from baseline in cholesterol and triglyceride of 11% and 17%, respectively, compared to slight decreases for placebo patients. These changes were only weakly related to the increase in weight observed in SEROQUEL-treated patients. **Hyperproliferation:** Although an elevation of prolactin levels was not observed in clinical studies with SEROQUEL, increased prolactin levels were observed in patients with this compound, and were associated with an increase in mammary gland neoplasia in rats (see Carcinogenesis). Tissue culture experiments indicate that approximately one-third of human breast cancers are prolactin dependent in vitro, a factor of potential importance if the prescription of these drugs is contemplated in a patient with previously detected breast cancer. Although disturbances such as galactorrhea, amenorrhea, gynecomastia, and impotence have been reported with prolactin-elevating compounds, the clinical significance of elevated prolactin levels is not clear. Clinical studies with SEROQUEL have not been conducted to evaluate the potential relationship to date have shown an association between chronic administration of this class of drugs and tumorigenesis in humans; the available evidence is considered too limited to be conclusive at this time. **Transaminase Elevations:** Asymptomatic, transient and reversible elevations in serum transaminases (primarily ALT) have been reported. In schizophrenia trials, the proportions of patients with transaminase elevations of ≥ 3 times the upper limits of the normal reference range in a pool of 3- to 6-week placebo-controlled trials were approximately 6% for SEROQUEL, compared with 1% for placebo. In the long-term study, the proportions of patients with transaminase elevations of ≥ 3 times the upper limits of the normal reference range in a pool of 3- to 12-week placebo-controlled trials were approximately 1% for both SEROQUEL and placebo. These hepatic enzyme elevations usually occurred within the first 3 weeks of drug treatment and promptly returned to pre-study levels with ongoing treatment with SEROQUEL.**

Precautions for Cognitive and Motor Impairment: Somnolence was a commonly reported adverse event reported in patients treated with SEROQUEL, especially during the 3-5 day period of initial dose-activation. In schizophrenia trials, somnolence was reported in 16% of patients treated with SEROQUEL, compared with 1% of patients on placebo. In acute bipolar mania trials using SEROQUEL, compared with 4% of placebo patients. In acute bipolar mania trials using SEROQUEL, as adjunct therapy, somnolence was reported in 34% of patients on SEROQUEL, compared to 5% of placebo patients. Since SEROQUEL has the potential to impair judgment, thinking, or motor skills, patients should be cautioned about performing activities requiring mental alertness, such as operating a motor vehicle (including automobiles) or operating hazardous machinery until they are reasonably certain that SEROQUEL therapy does not affect their ability. **Pharmacokinetics:** The relationship between plasma concentration and clinical response has not been established. There is no known relationship to date have shown an association between chronic administration of this class of drugs and tumorigenesis in humans; the available evidence is considered too limited to be conclusive at this time. **Transaminase Elevations:** Asymptomatic, transient and reversible elevations in serum transaminases (primarily ALT) have been reported. In schizophrenia trials, the proportions of patients with transaminase elevations of ≥ 3 times the upper limits of the normal reference range in a pool of 3- to 6-week placebo-controlled trials were approximately 6% for SEROQUEL, compared with 1% for placebo. In the long-term study, the proportions of patients with transaminase elevations of ≥ 3 times the upper limits of the normal reference range in a pool of 3- to 12-week placebo-controlled trials were approximately 1% for both SEROQUEL and placebo. These hepatic enzyme elevations usually occurred within the first 3 weeks of drug treatment and promptly returned to pre-study levels with ongoing treatment with SEROQUEL.

SEROQUEL® (quetiapine fumarate) Tablets

In caring patients (see Orthostatic Hypotension). **Information for Patients:** Physicians are advised to discuss the following issues with patients for whom they prescribe SEROQUEL. **Orthostatic Hypotension:** Patients should be advised to rise slowly from a lying or sitting position, especially during the first few days of treatment. At times of increasing treatment or increase in dose, **Interference with Cognitive and Motor Performance:** Since somnolence was a commonly reported adverse event associated with SEROQUEL, patients should be advised of the risk of somnolence, especially during the 3-5 day period of initial dose titration. Patients should be cautioned about performing any activity requiring mental alertness, such as operating a motor vehicle (including automobiles) or operating hazardous machinery, until they are reasonably certain that SEROQUEL therapy does not affect their ability. **Alcohol:** Patients should be advised to avoid alcohol during the first few days of treatment. Patients should be advised to become pregnant during treatment. **Nursing Patients:** Patients should be advised not to breast feed if they are taking SEROQUEL. **Concomitant Medication:** As with other medications, patients should be advised to notify their physicians if they are taking, or plan to take, any other prescription or over-the-counter drugs. **Alcohol:** Patients should be advised to avoid consuming alcoholic beverages while taking SEROQUEL. **Heat Exposure and Dehydration:** Patients should be advised regarding appropriate care in avoiding overheating and dehydration. **Laboratory Tests:** No specific laboratory tests are recommended. **Drug Interactions:** In clinical studies with SEROQUEL, in combination with other drugs, there have not been extensively evaluated. **Systemic Studies:** Given the primary CNS effects of SEROQUEL, caution should be used when it is taken in combination with other centrally acting drugs. SEROQUEL potentiated the cognitive and motor effects of alcohol in a clinical trial in subjects with selected psychotic disorders, and alcoholic beverages should be avoided while taking SEROQUEL. Because of its potential for inducing hypotension, SEROQUEL may enhance the effects of certain antihypertensive agents. SEROQUEL may antagonize the effects of levodopa and dopamine agonists. **Effect of Other Drugs on Quetiapine:** **Pharmacokinetics:** Administration of quetiapine (250 mg once daily) in combination with theophylline (400 mg once daily) resulted in a 56% increase in quetiapine plasma concentration. **Phenyltoin:** Administration of quetiapine (250 mg once daily) in combination with phenytoin (300 mg once daily) resulted in a 56% increase in quetiapine plasma concentration. **Valproic Acid:** Administration of quetiapine (250 mg once daily) in combination with valproic acid (500 mg once daily) resulted in a 56% increase in quetiapine plasma concentration. **Carbamazepine:** Administration of quetiapine (250 mg once daily) in combination with carbamazepine (100 mg once daily) resulted in a 56% increase in quetiapine plasma concentration. **Other Drugs:** Administration of quetiapine (250 mg once daily) in combination with other drugs (e.g., valproic acid, divalproex, carbamazepine, phenytoin, or other hepatic enzyme inducers (e.g., carbamazepine, zalcitabine, rifampin, glicofurozole), caution should be taken if phenytoin is withdrawn and replaced with a non-inducer (e.g., valproic acid). **Divalproex:** Administration of quetiapine (150 mg bid) and divalproex (500 mg bid) increased the mean maximum plasma concentration of quetiapine at steady state by 17% without affecting the extent of absorption. **Mean Oral Clearance:** Administration of quetiapine (150 mg bid) and divalproex (500 mg bid) increased the mean oral clearance of quetiapine by 17%. **Pharmacokinetics:** Administration of quetiapine (150 mg bid) and divalproex (500 mg bid) increased the mean oral clearance of quetiapine by 17%. **Dose Adjustment for Renal Impairment:** Quetiapine is not required when it is given with cimetidine. **P450 3A4 Inhibitors:** Co-administration of ketoneconazole (300 mg once daily for 4 days), a potent inhibitor of cytochrome P450 3A4, reduced oral clearance of quetiapine by 84%, resulting in a 35% increase in maximum plasma concentration. **Caution:** Caution is indicated when SEROQUEL is administered with ketoneconazole and other P450 3A4 inhibitors. **P450 3A4 Inducers:** Administration of quetiapine (150 mg bid) with rifampin (75 mg bid), haloperidol (75 mg bid), or spiperone (3 mg bid) with quetiapine (300 mg bid) did not alter the rate of elimination of quetiapine. **Effect of Quetiapine on Other Drugs:** **Lorazepam:** The mean oral clearance of lorazepam (2 mg, single dose) was reduced by 20% in the presence of quetiapine administered as 250 mg bid dosing. **Alprazolam:** The mean maximum concentration and extent of absorption of total and free alprazolam did not change at steady state when administered with quetiapine. **Midazolam:** Administration of quetiapine (150 mg bid) with midazolam (7.5 mg bid) did not affect the mean oral clearance of total quetiapine. **Administration of quetiapine (150 mg bid) was not affected by 11% in the presence of quetiapine (150 mg bid). The changes were not significant. Lithium:** Concomitant administration of quetiapine (250 mg bid) with lithium had no effect on any of the steady-state pharmacokinetic parameters of lithium. **Antipsychotics:** Administration of multiple daily doses up to 750 mg/day (at a bid schedule) of quetiapine to subjects with selected psychotic disorders had no clinically relevant effect on the clearance of any of the antipsychotics or on their pharmacokinetic parameters. These results indicate that quetiapine does not significantly affect the hepatic enzymes of the cytochrome P450 system. **Pharmacokinetics:** Administration of quetiapine (150 mg bid) with midazolam (7.5 mg bid), haloperidol (75 mg bid), or spiperone (3 mg bid) with quetiapine (300 mg bid) did not alter the rate of elimination of quetiapine. **Effect of Quetiapine on Other Drugs:** **Lorazepam:** The mean oral clearance of lorazepam (2 mg, single dose) was reduced by 20% in the presence of quetiapine administered as 250 mg bid dosing. **Alprazolam:** The mean maximum concentration and extent of absorption of total and free alprazolam did not change at steady state when administered with quetiapine. **Midazolam:** Administration of quetiapine (150 mg bid) with midazolam (7.5 mg bid) did not affect the mean oral clearance of total quetiapine. **Administration of quetiapine (150 mg bid) was not affected by 11% in the presence of quetiapine (150 mg bid). The changes were not significant. 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- **Effective** so patients improve^{1,3}
- **Trusted tolerability** so patients can stay on treatment^{1,4,5}

The safety and efficacy of SEROQUEL in pediatric patients have not been established.

Patients should be periodically reassessed to determine the need for continued treatment.

Prescribing should be consistent with the need to minimize the risk of tardive dyskinesia, seizures, and orthostatic hypotension. A rare condition referred to as neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS) has been reported with this class of medications, including SEROQUEL.

There have been reports of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia-related adverse events associated with the use of atypical antipsychotics, including SEROQUEL.

The most common adverse events associated with the use of SEROQUEL were somnolence, dry mouth, dizziness, constipation, asthenia, abdominal pain, postural hypotension, pharyngitis, SGPT increase, dyspepsia, and weight gain.

In bipolar mania trials, withdrawal rates due to adverse events were similar to placebo for SEROQUEL as monotherapy (SEROQUEL 5.7%, placebo 5.1%) and adjunct therapy (SEROQUEL plus lithium or divalproex 3.6%, lithium or divalproex alone 5.9%).

References: **1.** SEROQUEL® (quetiapine fumarate) Prescribing Information, Rev 01/04, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, Wilmington, Delaware. **2.** Data on file, DA-SER-13, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, Wilmington, Delaware. **3.** Data on file, DA-SER-15, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, Wilmington, Delaware. **4.** Data on file, DA-SER-14, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, Wilmington, Delaware. **5.** Data on file, DA-SER-16, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, Wilmington, Delaware.



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25 mg, 100 mg, 200 mg & 300 mg tablets

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Please see Brief Summary of Prescribing Information on following page.

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