PRAMIPEXOLE 0.25 TAB:

Class: Anti-Parkinson's Agent, Dopamine Agonist

Indications: Immediate release: Treatment of the signs and symptoms of idiopathic Parkinson's disease; treatment of moderate-to-severe primary Restless Legs Syndrome (RLS)
Extended release: Treatment of the signs and symptoms of idiopathic Parkinson's disease
Treatment of depression in bipolar disorder; treatment of fibromyalgia

Available dosage form in the hospital: 0.25 TAB

Dosage:**Note:** Retitration of dose should be considered for any significant interruption in therapy.

-Parkinson's disease: Oral:

-*Immediate release formulation:* Initial: 0.125 mg 3 times daily, increase gradually every 5-7 days; maintenance (usual): 0.5-1.5 mg 3 times daily

*Discontinuation of therapy: Reduce dose by 0.75 mg daily until daily dose is equivalent to 0.75 mg once daily, then reduce by 0.375 mg daily thereafter

-*Extended release formulation:* Initial: 0.375 mg once daily; increase gradually to 0.75 mg once daily. If necessary, may increase by 0.75 mg per dose not more frequently than every 5-7 days; maximum recommended dose 4.5 mg once daily.

*Discontinuation of therapy: Taper gradually over a period of 1 week.

-*Converting from immediate release to extended release:* May initiate extended release preparation the morning after the last immediate release evening tablet is taken. The total daily dose should remain the same.

-Restless legs syndrome: Oral:

Immediate release formulation: Initial: 0.125 mg once daily 2-3 hours before bedtime. Dose may be doubled every 4-7 days up to 0.5 mg once daily. Maximum: 0.5 mg once daily (manufacturer's recommendation). **Note:** Most patients require <0.5 mg daily, but higher doses have been used (2 mg daily). If augmentation occurs, dose earlier in the day.

*Discontinuation of therapy: No gradual dose reduction recommended in manufacturer's labeling; however, worsening of symptoms may occur with abrupt discontinuation.

-Depression (unlabeled use): Oral: *Immediate release formulation:* Initial: 0.25-0.375 mg daily given in 2-3 divided doses with a gradual titration; mean dose: 1.6-1.7 mg daily (Aiken, 2007; Goldberg, 2004)

-Fibromyalgia (unlabeled use): Oral: *Immediate release formulation:* Initial: 0.25 mg once daily at bedtime; may be increased weekly by 0.25 mg/day increments up to 4.5 mg daily (Holman, 2005)

Renal Impairment:

-Parkinson's disease: *Immediate release formulation:*

-Cl_{cr} >50 mL/minute: No dosage adjustment necessary.

-Cl_{cr} 30-50 mL/minute: Initial: 0.125 mg twice daily (maximum: 0.75 mg 3 times daily)

-Cl_{cr} 15-29 mL/minute: 0.125 mg once daily (maximum: 1.5 mg once daily)

-Cl_{cr} <15 mL/minute: No dosage adjustment provided in manufacturer's labeling (has not been studied); use not recommended.

-ESRD requiring hemodialysis: No dosage adjustment provided in manufacturer's labeling (has not been studied); use not recommended; a negligible amount of pramipexole is removed by dialysis.

-Parkinson's disease: *Extended release formulation:*

-Cl_{cr} >50 mL/minute: No dosage adjustment necessary.

-Cl_{cr} 30-50 mL/minute: Initial: 0.375 mg every other day; may increase to 0.375 mg once daily no sooner than 1 week after initiation. If necessary, may increase by 0.375 mg per dose not more frequently than every 7 days; maximum recommended dose: 2.25 mg once daily

-Cl_{cr} <30 mL/minute: No dosage adjustment provided in manufacturer's labeling (has not been studied); use not recommended.

-ESRD requiring hemodialysis: No dosage adjustment provided in manufacturer's labeling (has not been studied); use not recommended; a negligible amount of pramipexole is removed by dialysis.

-**Restless legs syndrome:** *Immediate release formulation:*

-Cl_{cr} >60 mL/minute: No dosage adjustment necessary.

-Cl_{cr} 20-60 mL/minute: No dosage adjustment necessary; however, duration between titration should be increased to 14 days.

-Cl_{cr} <20 mL/minute: No dosage adjustment provided in manufacturer's labeling (has not been studied).

Hepatic Impairment:

Dosage adjustment in hepatic impairment: Immediate release and extended release: No dosage adjustment provided in manufacturer's labeling (has not been studied); however, no adjustment expected since undergoes minimal hepatic metabolism.

Common side effect:

Cardiovascular: Orthostatic hypotension (dose related; ≤53%)

Central nervous system: Somnolence (dose related; 9% to 36%), extrapyramidal syndrome (28%), insomnia (4% to 27%), dizziness (2% to 26%), hallucinations (5% to 17%), abnormal dreams (11%), headache (4% to 7%)

Gastrointestinal: Nausea (dose related; 11% to 28%), constipation (dose related; 6% to 14%)

Neuromuscular & skeletal: Dyskinesia (17% to 47%), weakness (1% to 14%)

Miscellaneous: Accidental injury (17%)

Pregnancy Risk Factor: C