



Preferred Drug List

NEW DRUG REVIEW

Proprietary Name: Cesamet®

Common Name: Nabilone

PDL Category: Antiemetic - Anticholinergic / Dopaminergic

<u>Comparable Products</u>	<u>Preferred Drug List/ Recommended Drug List Status</u>
Marinol®	Preferred
Promethazine Tablets	Preferred

Summary

Indications and Usage: Nausea/Vomiting; Chemotherapy-related

Dosage Forms: Capsules; 1mg

Recommended Dosage: 1 - 2 mg PO BID starting 1-3 hours before chemotherapy and continuing for up to 48 hours after the last dose of chemotherapy

Common Adverse Drug Reactions: Dizziness (59%), drowsiness (52-66%), vertigo (52-59%), euphoria (11-38%), xerostoma (22-36%), visual disturbance (13%)

Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to cannabinoids, tetrahydrocannabinol, or any component of the product

Manufacturer: Valeant Pharmaceuticals International

Analysis: Cesamet® is a synthetic cannabinoid approved for use in the treatment of chemotherapy-related nausea and vomiting that is refractory to other anti-emetic treatments. Safety and efficacy of Cesamet® has been evaluated in several clinical studies involving multiple chemotherapy regimens. Despite its favorable efficacy, Cesamet® carries several side effects (listed above) which were experienced by up to 60% of patients studied. Other medications used for chemotherapy-related nausea and vomiting are included in the PDL as preferred products which are more cost effective. Additionally, because of the DEA Schedule (Class II) and potential adverse drug reactions, Cesamet® is not recommended as a first line treatment option.

IME Recommendation:

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Preferred Drug | <input type="checkbox"/> | Recommended Drug |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Non-Preferred Drug | <input type="checkbox"/> | Non-Recommended Drug |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Preferred Drug with Conditions | | |