

Drug	Dose	Typical/important side effects	Original use	Mode of action*	Regulatory status		Guidelines			Level of evidence†
					TGA	PBS	AAN ⁷	EFNS ⁸	TG ⁵	
Propranolol	40–120 mg twice daily	Fatigue, postural dizziness, caution in reversible airways disease, PVD and CCF	Anti-hypertensive	β-blocker	+	GM	Level 1	A	Y	E1
Sodium valproate	400–600 mg twice daily	Weight gain, drowsiness, hair loss, hepatic and haematological dysfunction, teratogenic	Anti-convulsant	State-dependent sodium-channel blockade and GABA-ergic effect	–	GO	Level 1	A	Y	E1
Topiramate	25–100 mg twice daily	Confusion, paraesthesias, weight loss, renal stones, secondary angle closure glaucoma	Anti-convulsant	State-dependent sodium-channel blockade and GABA-ergic effect; kainate/AMPA- receptor antagonist	+	AM	Level 1 [‡]	A	Y	E1
Amitriptyline	10–75 mg nightly	Drowsiness, dry mouth and other anticholinergic effects	Tricyclic antidepressant	Noradrenaline and 5-HT-uptake inhibitor	–	GO	Level 1	B	Y	E1
Candesartan	16 mg daily	Hypotension, hyperkalaemia	Anti-hypertensive	Angiotensin II receptor antagonist	–	GO	Level 2	C		E2
Lisinopril	20 mg daily	Cough, hypotension, hyperkalaemia	Anti-hypertensive	Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor	–	GO	Not rated	C		E2
Verapamil	160–320 mg daily	Constipation, ankle swelling, cardiac conduction abnormalities	Anti-hypertensive	Calcium-channel blocker	–	GO	Level 2	NR	Y	E2
Metoprolol	50 mg twice daily	Hypotension, bradycardia, cold extremities, fatigue, dizziness, dreams	Anti-hypertensive	β-blocker	+	GM	Level 2	A		E2
Gabapentin	900–3600 mg daily	Dizziness, sedation	Anti-convulsant	Effect on α ₂ -δ subunit of voltage-gated calcium channels	–	AO	Level 2	C		E2
Cyproheptadine	4–12 mg daily	Somnolence, dry mouth, gastrointestinal upset, urinary retention	Anti-histamine	5-HT and histamine antagonist with anticholinergic and sedative effects	+	RM	Level 3	NR		E2
Methysergide	1–4 mg daily	Drowsiness, leg cramps, retroperitoneal fibrosis	Migraine	5-HT antagonist and vasoconstrictor	+	GM	Level 4	C	Y	E2
Pizotifen	0.5–2 mg daily	Weight gain, drowsiness	Migraine	5-HT antagonist with some antihistamine, properties	+	GM	Not rated	D	Y	E2
Clonidine	50 mg twice daily	Drowsiness, dry mouth, nausea	Anti-hypertensive	Central α ₂ -adrenergic stimulation	+	GM	Level 5	D		E2