

## Valproate ▼ (Epilim, Depakote, Convulex, Episenta, Epival, Kentlim, Orlept, Sodium Valproate, Syonell, Valpal, Belvo & Dyzantil)

### Contraception and Pregnancy Prevention – Important information to know

- Valproate is an effective medicine for epilepsy and bipolar disorder.
- Valproate can seriously harm an unborn baby when taken during pregnancy.
- Always use effective contraception at all times during your treatment with valproate.
- It is important to visit your specialist to review your treatment at least once each year.

▼ These medicines are subject to additional monitoring. Report any side effects to [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard) or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store.

*Keep this card safe so you always know what to do.*

Important information for all girls and women who could become pregnant

## Valproate ▼: Contraception and Pregnancy Prevention

NEW INFORMATION  
NOVEMBER 2020

### What you must do

- Read the package leaflet carefully before use.
- Never stop taking valproate without discussing it with your doctor as your condition may become worse.
- If you are thinking about having a baby, do not stop using valproate and contraception before you have talked to your doctor.
- If you think you are pregnant, do not stop using valproate. Make an urgent appointment with your GP.
- Ask your doctor to give you the Patient Guide for **prevent** – the valproate pregnancy prevention programme.

**prevent**  
valproate pregnancy  
prevention programme