

DOCTOR DISCUSSION GUIDE



Answering the questions below may give your doctor some information to help them support you on your treatment journey with ^{Pr}Trintellix[®]. Bring it to your next appointment to help guide the conversation.

- How would you describe your experience with MDD (Major Depressive Disorder) since starting Trintellix?

- On a scale from 1-10, how would you rate your depressive symptoms over the past month? (1 = a lot of worsening of symptoms; 5 = no change in symptoms; 10 = a lot of improvement in symptoms)

Note: You can use the Symptom Tracker, available on Trintellix.ca/patient, to help record how you're feeling.

- Are you experiencing any side effects?

- Are you taking Trintellix with any other medication(s)? List all.

- Do you have any specific goals you would like to set in the next weeks or months?

Note: Learn more about Goal Setting at Trintellix.ca/patient.

- Is there anything else you'd like to discuss with your doctor during your appointment?

Safety Information

What is Trintellix used for?

Trintellix is used for treatment of depression in adults (18 years of age or older). Trintellix is used to relieve the symptoms of depression which may include:

- feeling sad
- restless
- irritable
- change in weight or appetite
- having a hard time concentrating or sleeping
- feeling tired
- headaches
- unexplained aches and pains.

Other warnings you should know about

New or worsened emotional or behavioural problems

Treatment with Trintellix or any type of antidepressant medication is most safe and effective when you and your doctor have good communication about how you are feeling. You may find it helpful to tell a relative or close friend that you are depressed and ask them to tell you if they think you are getting worse or if they are worried about changes in your behaviour.

You may feel worse instead of better when you first start taking drugs like Trintellix or when changing your dose. Your doctor should closely monitor you. You may have new or worsened feelings of restlessness, agitation, anger, aggression, nervousness, short temperament. **If this happens, speak to your doctor.**

You may have thoughts about suicide, hurting yourself or other people. Thoughts and actions about suicide can occur especially if you have had thoughts of hurting yourself in the past. Suicidal thoughts and actions can occur in any age group but may be more likely in patients 18 to 24 years old. **If this happens, seek immediate medical help.** Do NOT stop taking Trintellix on your own.

Ending treatment

Abruptly ending your treatment of Trintellix may cause you to experience discontinuation symptoms. If your doctor recommends that you stop taking Trintellix, they will gradually lower your dose. This may help manage any symptoms of discontinuation, such as dizziness, headache, runny nose, increase in dreams/nightmares; feeling angry suddenly, or mood swings; muscles feel tight or stiff.

Risk of breaking bone

Taking Trintellix may increase your risk of breaking a bone if you are elderly or have osteoporosis or have other major risk factors for breaking a bone. You should take extra care to avoid falls, especially if you get dizzy or have low blood pressure.

Serotonin Syndrome or Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome

Trintellix may cause Serotonin Syndrome or Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome, rare but potentially life-threatening conditions. There is a potential for serious side effects when Trintellix is taken with other serotonergic and/or antipsychotic drugs. Careful observation by the doctor is recommended if you are taking Trintellix with the following medications: Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAOIs, examples include linezolid and methylene blue); Serotonin Precursors (examples include L-tryptophan and oxitriptan); other serotonergic drugs (examples include triptans, lithium, opioids such as tramadol [strong painkillers], most tricyclic antidepressants).

Speak to your doctor immediately about ending your treatment with Trintellix if you develop a combination of symptoms, such as: fever, sweating, shivering, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting; muscle shakes, jerks, twitches or stiffness, overactive reflexes; fast heartbeat, changes in blood pressure; confusion, agitation, restlessness, hallucinations, mood changes, unconsciousness, and coma.

Effects on pregnancy and newborns

Trintellix should not be used during pregnancy unless your doctor decides the benefit outweighs the risk to your unborn baby. If you are already taking Trintellix and have just found out that you are pregnant, **you should talk to your doctor immediately.** If you take Trintellix near the end of your pregnancy, you are at higher risk of heavy bleeding shortly after birth. Some newborn babies experienced problems at birth when pregnant women took drugs similar to Trintellix. You should also talk to your doctor if you are planning to become pregnant. It is very important that you **do NOT stop taking Trintellix without first talking to your doctor.**

Driving and using machines

Wait until you know how you feel after you have taken Trintellix for the first time or when changing your dose. Do not drive or use heavy machines until you know how Trintellix affects you.

Do not use Trintellix if:

- you are allergic to vortioxetine or to any other ingredients in Trintellix.
- you take Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAOIs).
 - Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure if you take a MAOI
 - Examples of MAOIs include phenelzine, tranylcypromine, moclobemide, selegiline, rasagiline, linezolid which is an antibiotic, methylene blue which is a dye used in certain surgeries
 - If you stopped taking a MAOI within the last 14 days, only start Trintellix if your doctor tells you to.

To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you take Trintellix. Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including if you:

- have ever had any allergic reaction to medications, food, etc.;
- have any medical conditions, including a history of seizures, liver disease, kidney disease, heart problems;
- are taking or have taken medications (prescription or over-the-counter) and any natural or herbal products within the last 14 days;
- have or previously have had glaucoma or increased pressure in your eyes;
- have a history or family history of mania or bipolar disorder;
- are pregnant or intend to become pregnant;
- are breast-feeding;
- have a tendency to easily develop bruises or have known bleeding tendencies, or have been told you have low platelets;
- have been told you have a low sodium level in the blood;
- take certain medicines which may affect blood clotting and increase bleeding, such as oral anticoagulants (e.g., warfarin), acetylsalicylic acid (ASA) and other nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs);
- are elderly, had a recent bone fracture, were told you have osteoporosis (weak or brittle bones) or have risk factors for osteoporosis;
- have a history of drug abuse

Trintellix is not for use in children and adolescents under 18 years of age.

Consult the [Patient Medication Information](#) for a complete list of warnings and precautions that have not been discussed in this piece, important information about what Trintellix is used for, dosing instructions and side effects.



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