NEUROLOGY GROUP of BERGEN COUNTY

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SEIZURE PATIENTS WHO ARE WOMEN OF CHILDBEARING AGE

1. Please see us if you are planning to conceive a child. We will need to discuss the possible side effects of your medication on the fetus. You should not stop taking or change the amount of the medication you take without consulting with your physician.

2. The daily use of folic acid 2 mg everyday is recommended before conception.

3. Medication blood levels need to be regularly monitored during pregnancy.

4. Depending on the class of drug you have taken, you need to discuss with your neurologist and obstetrician the need for using Vitamin K. Certain medications may deplete Vitamin K and cause bleeding in the newborn. For patients taking such medications, you will need to take 20 mg of Vitamin K daily for a month prior to delivery and the baby will need to receive a Vitamin K injection at birth.

5. Please be aware that antiseizure medications can reduce the effectiveness of birth control pills. Unplanned pregnancies may occur.

6. Please be aware that birth control pills may lower the blood level of certain antiepileptic drugs and lead to loss of seizure control

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