



TABLE 1

Randomized Double-Blind Trials of Gabapentinoids vs. Placebo for Off-Label Treatment of Pain

Clinical condition	Gabapentin (Neurontin)	Pregabalin (Lyrica)
Acute zoster pain	One trial: negative	One trial: negative
Back pain/radiculopathy	Four trials: three negative, one positive (difference 0.7 point on 0 to 10 pain scale)	One trial: negative
Burn injury	No studies	One trial: positive (difference 0.5 point on 0 to 10 pain scale)
Carpal tunnel syndrome	One trial: negative	No studies
Central neuropathic pain	No studies	Two trials: one negative, one positive (difference 2.2 points on 0 to 10 pain scale)
Chronic pancreatitis	No studies	One trial: positive (difference 0.6 point on 0 to 10 pain scale)
Chronic pelvic pain (men)	No studies	One trial: negative
Chronic pelvic pain (women)	One trial: negative	No studies
Chronic sickle cell pain	No studies	One trial: negative
Complex regional pain syndrome	One trial: negative	No studies
Diabetic neuropathy	Five trials: two negative, three positive (difference -1 point on 0 to 10 pain scale)	FDA approved for this use
Fibromyalgia	One trial: positive (difference 0.9 point on 0 to 10 pain scale)	FDA approved for this use
HIV neuropathy	One trial: negative	Two trials: negative
Masticatory myalgia	One trial: positive (difference 2 points on 0 to 10 pain scale)	No studies
Phantom limb pain	Two trials: one negative, one positive (difference 1.6 points on 0 to 10 pain scale)	No studies
Spinal cord injury	Two trials: one negative, one positive (difference 4 points on 0 to 10 pain scale)	FDA approved for this use
Traumatic nerve injury	One trial: negative	One trial: positive (difference 0.6 point on 0 to 10 pain scale)
Unspecified neuropathy	One trial: positive (difference 0.5 point on 0 to 3 pain scale)	One trial: negative

FDA = U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Note: Positive trials indicate that gabapentinoids were superior to placebo in pain relief. Because the primary outcome in most studies was reduction in pain on an 11-point (0 to 10) pain scale, that outcome is used to indicate whether the study was positive (favoring the gabapentinoid at the $P < .05$ level). A "no studies" entry indicates that no placebo-controlled trials have been published for that condition.

Information from reference 6.

FDA = U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Note: Positive trials indicate that gabapentinoids were superior to placebo in pain relief. Because the primary outcome in most studies was reduction in pain on an 11-point (0 to 10) pain scale, that outcome is used to indicate whether the study was positive (favoring the gabapentinoid at the $P < .05$ level). A "no studies" entry indicates that no placebo-controlled trials have been published for that condition.

<https://www.aafp.org/pubs/afp/issues/2019/1201/p672.html>