

Lyrica (pregabalin) in comparison to placebo, to reduce nerve pain associated with diabetes, shingles, spinal cord injury, or fibromyalgia, and for seizure control in epileptic adults

Lyrica Study Findings¹

338 patients with diabetic peripheral neuropathy-related pain were randomized to receive Lyrica or placebo for 5 weeks. Here’s what happened:

What difference did Lyrica make?	People given placebo	People given Lyrica 300 - 600 mg/day
Did Lyrica help?		
Lyrica users who achieved a 50% or greater reduction in pain	18%	47%
Lyrica users noticed a larger decrease in the amount that pain interfered with their sleep on a scale from 0 (no pain at all) to 10 (pain completely interferes and prevents sleep)	1-point improvement	2-point improvement

Additional Study Findings

US researchers have not conducted well-controlled studies specifically comparing cost and efficacy of gabapentin and Lyrica. Below are highlights from medical records studies conducted by researchers in Spain. Patients were followed for 12 weeks:

What difference did these medications make?	People given gabapentin	People given Lyrica
How did gabapentin and Lyrica compare?		
Change in total pain score reduction was no different ²	7.4% decrease	7.4% decrease
Patients taking both medications slept longer at night ²	30 minutes of additional sleep	54 minutes of additional sleep
Lyrica users took fewer sick days over the course of a year ³	9.6 days	16.9 days

Prescription cost comparison (cash price) ⁵	Gabapentin	Lyrica
Per tablet/capsule	\$0.53 - \$3.03 ^α	\$5.26 ^β
Per 30-day supply	\$120 - \$455 ^γ	\$316 - \$474 ^δ

^α Price range based on tablets ranging from 100 – 800 mg

^β All strengths of Lyrica capsules are available at the same price point

^γ Price range based on 300 – 600 mg taken three times daily (recommended starting and maximum doses)

^δ Price range based on dosing two versus three times daily

References:

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