

Appendix 1 (part 1 of 3): Sample monograph from the www.herbalckd.com website. Reproduced by permission of the authors.

Herbal-CKD: Evening Primrose Oil



Evening Primrose Oil

Safety

CKD-ND



HD/PD



Transplant



Dosing

CKD-ND

No dose adjustment was found in the literature

HD/PD

2 capsules po twice daily x 6 weeks (1 capsule = 360 mg linoleic acid, 50 mg oleic acid 45 mg gamma-linoleic acid)^[1] was used in 1 study. Long term safety of this dose has not been studied.

Transplant

4 capsules at time of transplant then 2 capsules three times daily for 6 months was used in 1 study (1 capsule = 0.6 mL of oil that was 73-74% linoleic acid + 8-9% gamma-linoleic acid)^[2] Long term safety of this high dose has not been studied.

Adverse Effects

Common Adverse Drug Reactions

- Nausea, dyspepsia, headache^{[3],[4]}
- Oral supplements of evening primrose oil has been used safely in the general population for up to 1 year with no reports of significant adverse reactions^{[5]-[7]}
- *In vivo*, gamma-linoleic acid has been shown to increase bleeding time by 40%^[8]

Nephrotoxic effects

No nephrotoxic effects were reported in the literature

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Interactions

General

Evening primrose oil contains gamma-linoleic acid, which can inhibit platelet aggregation and prolong bleeding time. Evening primrose oil should be used with caution in patients taking antiplatelet (including non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents) or anticoagulant medication due to increased risk of bleeding and/or bruising.^{[8],[9]}

CYP Metabolism

In vitro research suggests that CYP2C9 is inhibited by evening primrose oil constituent *cis*-linoleic acid^[10]

Immunomodulatory

In vitro and clinical commentary for the general population suggest that the build up of gamma-linoleic acid metabolite, arachidonic acid, may lead to immunosuppression^{[11],[12]}

Pharmacokinetics

Molecular Weight

No data was found in the literature

Volume of Distribution

No data was found in the literature

Protein Binding

No data was found in the literature

Metabolism

No data was found in the literature

Renal Clearance

No data was found in the literature

Literature Review

- Nephron. 1999 Feb;81(2):151-9.¹
- Transplantation. 1977;24(4):263-7.²

References

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Supplementary material for Leung S, Shalansky K, Vashisht P, Leung M, Marin JG. Creation of a natural health products database for assessing safety for patients with chronic kidney disease or renal transplant. *Can J Hosp Pharm*. 2017;70(5):343-8.

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