<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trade Name</th>
<th>Acetylcholinesterase Inhibitors (AChEI)</th>
<th>NMDAR antagonist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Donepezil</td>
<td>Rivastigmine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Trade Name</strong></td>
<td>Aricept</td>
<td>Exelon (Oral)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dosing Frequency</strong></td>
<td>Once daily w/wo food</td>
<td>Twice daily w/food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Available (mg)</strong></td>
<td>5, 10, 23</td>
<td>1.5, 3, 4.5, 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starting</strong></td>
<td>5 mg/day</td>
<td>3 mg/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maximum</strong></td>
<td>23 mg/day</td>
<td>12 mg/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recommended Daily Dose</strong> <strong>(mg)</strong></td>
<td>10 mg/day (mild-mod)</td>
<td>23 mg/day (mod-sev)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Titration interval for each dose increases</strong></td>
<td>4-6 weeks (5 to 10mg) 3 months (10 to 23mg)</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What is the typical way to take the medication?</strong></td>
<td>One 5- or 10-mg tablet 1x/day in evening just before bedtime with or without food</td>
<td>One 3-, 4.5-, or 6-mg capsule 2x/day (morning and evening with food)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elimination half-life (in hours)</strong></td>
<td>70</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Effect of food on absorption</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Delays rate and extent of absorption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Drug-drug interactions</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>None known</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mechanism of Action</strong></td>
<td>AChE</td>
<td>AChE BuChE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>App. Monthly cost @drugstore.com</strong></td>
<td>$170 (standard) $189-377 (ODT)</td>
<td>$203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Generic available</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: AChE: Acetylcholinesterase  BuChE: Butyrlcholinesterase  ODT: Oral disintegrating table  **These dosages represent the usual daily dose but the precise effective dosage may vary from person to person and depend on many factors. Your doctor’s instructions may differ, but always follow his/her recommendations.
Percentage of Most Frequent Adverse Events Associated with Use of AChEI Medications and Namenda

*Summarized from Farlow, Miller, & Pejovic (2008), Dementia and Geriatric Cognitive Disorders, 25, pp.408-422.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adverse events*</th>
<th>Placebo (pooled data)</th>
<th>Acetylcholinesterase Inhibitors (AChEI)</th>
<th>NMDAR antagonist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N = 302 to 922</td>
<td>Donepezil</td>
<td>Rivastigmine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdominal pain</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anorexia</td>
<td>2-4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confusion</td>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constipation</td>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depression</td>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diarrhea</td>
<td>3-7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dizziness</td>
<td>2-6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatigue</td>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headache</td>
<td>2-9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insomnia/dreams</td>
<td>4-7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nausea</td>
<td>2-6</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somnolence</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vomiting</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight loss</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If side effects occur after starting the medication, they usually will subside in 1 to 3 weeks. If any side effects persist or worsen, you should notify your doctor. You may need to (a) stop taking the medication, (b) stop taking it for several days and then restart, (c) continue but at a lower dose, or (d) switch to a related drug.