# Drug Information Table

## Serotonin Agonist – sumatriptan (Imitrex)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Therapeutic Use</th>
<th>Administration</th>
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| • Relieve symptoms of existing migraine or cluster headache | • Give orally, SC, or by nasal spray  
• Use nasal spray by spraying once into a single nostril; may repeat after 2 hr  
  ◦ Single dose ranges from 5 to 20 mg  
  ◦ Maximum dose is 40 mg in 24 hr  
• Give one SC injection repeat once after 1 hr if no relief; no more than 2 doses in 24 hr  
• Give one oral tablet; repeat once after 2 hr if no relief  
  ◦ Single dose ranges from 25 mg to 100 mg  
  ◦ Maximum dose is 200 mg in 24 hr |

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Side/Adverse Effects</th>
<th>Interventions</th>
<th>Patient Instructions</th>
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</table>
| • Chest pressure or “heaviness”; may progress to angina pain caused by coronary vasospasm | • Monitor for this effect  
• Monitor vital signs closely after first dose | • Instruct patient to notify provider at once for chest pressure or tightness/heaviness in back, jaw, throat that does not spontaneously resolve |
| • CNS effects: tingling sensation, vertigo | • Monitor for this effect | • Instruct patient to report CNS symptoms to provider at next visit |

## Contraindications
- Coronary artery disease, angina, previous MI, severe hypertension
- Peripheral vascular disease (PVD)
- Older adults
- Stroke
- Use of MAOI within last 2 weeks
- Use of another triptan within last 24 hr

## Precautions
- Liver or kidney insufficiency
- Coronary artery disease risk factors
- Seizure disorder
- Blood pressure elevation
- Serotonin syndrome
- Chest, jaw, or neck tightness
- Fertility impairment

## Interactions
- MAO inhibitors taken within 2 weeks can cause sumatriptan toxicity
- Ergotamine or another triptan patients use within 24 hr of sumatriptan increases chance of angina
- Serotonin agonists with sumatriptan can cause serotonin syndrome
- Herbal St. John’s wort can cause toxicity