



DRUG REVIEW

April 2021



SUVEXX® - The First Combination Drug for Acute Treatment of Migraine Attacks

A migraine is a type of severe headache and is generally associated with severe throbbing pain, usually on one side of the head, nausea and/or light and sound sensitivity (aura). Migraines have a negative impact on work productivity and quality of life. Millions of Canadians experience migraine attacks and the most prevalent age group of sufferers is between 30 to 49. Over one third of those currently employed reported missing at least one day of work in the past three months due to migraines.

Current treatment options for acute migraines include triptans (e.g. Imitrex, Relpax, Maxalt) and anti-inflammatories (e.g. Anaprox, Advil). Other pain relievers such as Tylenol are also occasionally used. For patients who do not respond adequately to one therapy, a combination of two treatments that work in different ways is recommended.

Suvexx is a combination of a triptan (sumatriptan) and an anti-inflammatory (naproxen). It is indicated for the acute treatment of migraine attacks with or without aura in adults. Suvexx demonstrated superiority when comparing 2 to 24-hour sustained pain free response to either medication alone.

Suvexx was also shown to be effective in patients who had previously discontinued a triptan due to poor response or intolerance.

The maximum dose of Suvexx® is two doses of sumatriptan 85mg/naproxen 500mg in a 24-hour period. The cost of Suvexx® is \$9.64 for each 85mg/500mg tablet. The combined price of generic sumatriptan and naproxen is \$10.21. There is an established cost-saving with Suvexx compared to its single agents, sumatriptan and naproxen. With its established efficacy, and cost-savings for plan sponsors, Suvexx® will be fully covered under both Open Formularies and Managed Formularies.

Drug Name	Suvexx®
Drug Ingredients	Sumatriptan/naproxen
Unit price	\$9.64 per tablet
Coverage Details	Fully covered for Open and Managed Formularies.

ClaimSecure Inc. reserves the right to amend in part, or in its entirety, its Special Authorization guidelines.

References:
SUVEXX Product Monograph. Aralez Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc. February 2020. Available at: https://pdf.hres.ca/dpd_pm/00055189.PDF

