

Table 3. Starting dose and titration schedule of AChEIs

Drug*	Starting Dose	Titration Period	Dose Increase Per Titration	Usual Effective Max Dose
donepezil	5 mg daily**	4-6 wks	5 mg daily	10 mg daily
rivastigmine	1.5 mg b.i.d.	2-4 wks	1.5 mg b.i.d.	3-6 mg b.i.d.
galantamine	8 mg ER daily	4-6 wks	8 mg ER daily	16 mg ER daily-24 mg ER daily

Potential Drug Interactions

Toxicity of donepezil and galantamine may be INCREASED by the concomitant use of cytochrome P450 inhibitors (e.g., paroxetine, erythromycin, prednisone, grapefruit juice and nefazodone). Effectiveness of donepezil and galantamine may be DECREASED by the concomitant use of cytochrome P450 inducers (e.g., carbamazepine, phenytoin and rifampin). Rivastigmine is mainly metabolized through hydrolysis; therefore cytochrome P450 drug interactions are not expected.

**AChEI cost approximately \$5.00/day Adapted from Hsiung, G., Loy-English, I. BCMJ 2004;46(7):338-343*

***Consider 2.5 mg daily in very frail patients*
