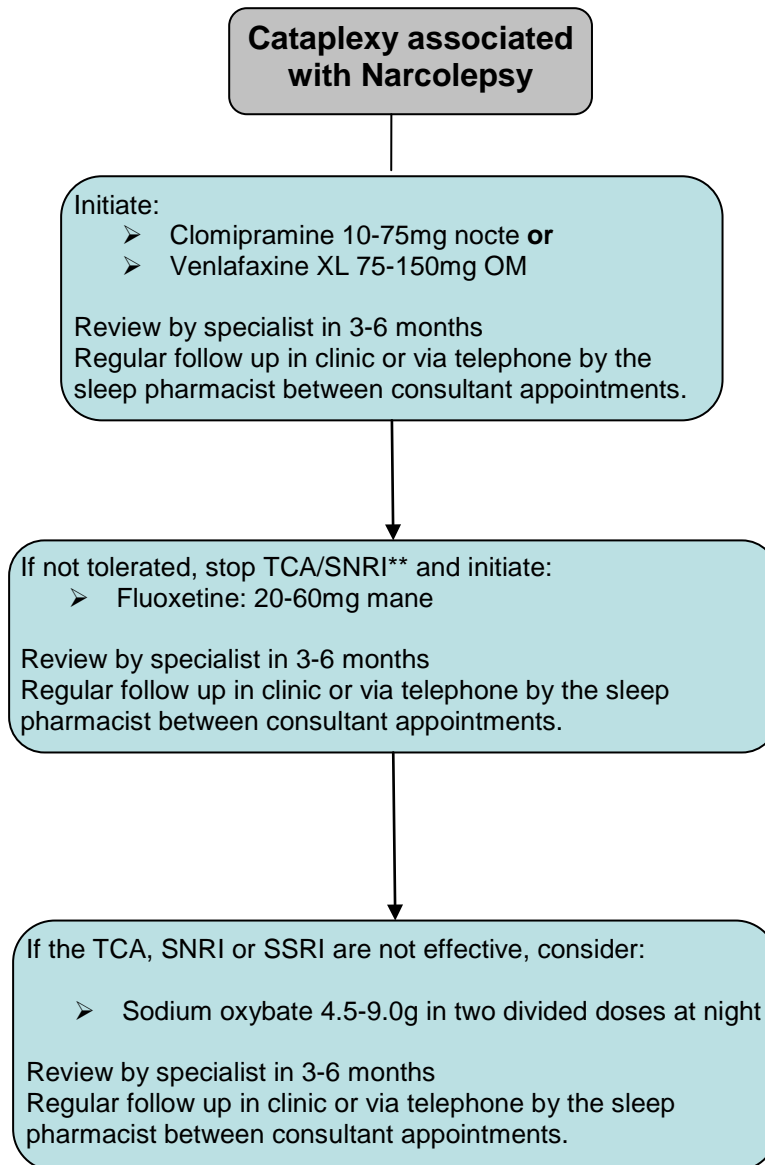


## Pathway for the pharmacological management of cataplexy associated with narcolepsy

**Note:** Treatments noted in this pathway are **APC Amber 3 category** – initiation and minimum **6 months'** supply by the sleep centre (specialising in narcolepsy with cataplexy). GPs are **not** expected to initiate these treatments but may be asked to take on prescribing in line with APC recommendations under the **shared care guideline**.



**\*\*Important:** Abrupt cessation of antidepressants can result in status-cataplecticus (particularly cessation of venlafaxine). They should be withdrawn slowly and overlapped with next treatment option.  
**The weaning and cross tapering of anti-depressants will be initiated and supervised by the sleep clinic.**

TCA = tricyclic antidepressant;  
 SNRI = serotonin and norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor;  
 SSRI = selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor