

Clinical Reference Supplement

Introduction	2
Scope of This Resource	2
Intended Audience.....	3
Professional Use Disclaimer	3
Specific Antipsychotic Medications	4
Atypical Antipsychotic Medications	4
Abilify (aripiprazole)	4
Abilify Maintena (aripiprazole extended release).....	6
Abilify Asimtufii (aripiprazole prolonged release injectable suspension)	9
Clozaril (clozapine).....	11
Invega (paliperidone).....	13
Invega Sustenna (paliperidone palmitate)	14
Invega Trinza (paliperidone palmitate)	16
Latuda (lurasidone).....	18
Okedi® (risperidone long acting injection)	20
Rexulti (brexpiprazole).....	22
Risperdal (risperidone)	23
Risperdal Consta (risperidone)	25
Saphris (asenapine)	27
Seroquel (quetiapine)	29
Vraylar (cariprazine)	31
Zeldox (ziprasidone)	33
Zyprexa (olanzapine)	34
Zyprexa IntraMuscular (olanzapine tartrate)	37
Typical Antipsychotic Medications.....	38
Clopixol (zuclopenthixol)	38
Fluanxol (flupentixol).....	40
Haldol (haloperidol).....	41

Largactil (chlorpromazine).....	43
Loxapac (loxapine).....	45
Neuleptil (periciazine)	48
Nozinan (methotrimeprazine)	49
Orap (pimozide).....	51
Stelazine (trifluoperazine)	53
Stemetil (prochlorperazine).....	54
Trilafon (perphenazine)	56
Other Psychotropic Medications Often Prescribed	57

Introduction

The Clinical Reference Supplement is a companion resource to the public-facing Medication Resource Centre (MRC).

While the MRC provides brief, accessible medication summaries suitable for the general public, this supplement contains the full pharmacist-authored monographs for antipsychotic and related psychotropic medications. The information reflects current clinical knowledge and the professional judgment of the IAM pharmacist team.

This supplement is intended to support informed, evidence-aligned practice across community mental health, pharmacy, and healthcare settings. It is not written for lay interpretation and should be used by trained professionals who are familiar with psychopharmacology, clinical assessment, and medication risk–benefit evaluation.

Scope of This Resource

This supplement includes the complete monograph text as prepared by IAM pharmacists, including:

- Therapeutic indications and clinical uses
- Available strengths, formulations, and manufacturer/generic options
- Dosing ranges as provided by the pharmacist
- Side effects (common and serious)
- Clinical warnings and precautions
- Interaction considerations
- Notes for special populations
- Long-acting injectable information where applicable
- Ontario formulary coverage & OHIP+ status
- Additional psychotropic medications frequently co-prescribed

Important:

This document does not provide titration instructions, prescriber-level treatment algorithms, dose-switching strategies, or clinical initiation protocols unless explicitly included by the pharmacists. The content remains exactly as supplied by the pharmacist team and is not expanded or interpreted beyond their original text.

Intended Audience

This supplement is designed for:

- Healthcare and mental-health professionals
- Pharmacists and pharmacy teams
- Prescribers (physicians, nurse practitioners)
- Clinicians supporting medication management
- Community mental-health providers
- Researchers, educators, and professional learners

It may be made publicly accessible online, but the content is not designed for clients, caregivers, or members of the general public. Individuals without clinical training may find the information technical, incomplete for self-management, or open to misinterpretation.

Clients should always discuss medication questions with their prescribing clinician or pharmacist.

Professional Use Disclaimer

This Clinical Reference Supplement is intended exclusively for professional and educational use.

It contains detailed clinical information—including adverse effects, interaction considerations, and warnings—that may not be appropriate or fully interpretable for clients or the general public.

It is not a prescribing guideline.

It is not a substitute for professional medical advice, clinical judgment, or the official Health Canada Product Monograph.

It must not be used by individuals to start, change, or stop medication.

All medication decisions should be made in consultation with a licensed prescriber.

By accessing or using this supplement, readers acknowledge that the content is intended for trained professionals and is provided for informational purposes only.

Specific Antipsychotic Medications

Atypical Antipsychotic Medications

Abilify (aripiprazole)

Brand name: Abilify®

Active ingredient name: Aripiprazole.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd (2 mg, 5 mg, 10 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg, 30 mg);

Form: Oral tablets.

Generic: Yes: Apo-Aripiprazole (Apotex Inc.), Auro-Aripiprazole (Auro Pharma Inc.), PMS-Aripiprazole (Pharmascience Inc.), Sandoz-Aripiprazole (Sandoz Canada Inc.), Teva-Aripiprazole (Teva Limited Canada), Mint-Aripiprazole (Mint Pharmaceuticals Inc.), Sai-Aripiprazole (Sanis Health Inc.), Aripiprazole (Sivem Pharmaceuticals ULC), NRA-Aripiprazole (Nora Pharma)

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes (with suggested criteria for coverage*).

OHIP+ coverage: Yes (with suggested criteria for coverage*).

*This product has a therapeutic note, which suggests a physician should prescribe it for the treatment of schizophrenia or other psychotic disorders in individuals who have had a failure, intolerance or contraindication to at least one less expensive antipsychotic alternative.

Note: *Abilify® is also available as a long-acting injectable called Abilify® Maintena®.*

What is Abilify used for?

Abilify is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia in adults and adolescents (15 - 17 years of age). It can be used alone or in combination with other therapies for schizophrenia. It is also used to treat adults with bipolar disorder and as adjunctive (add-on) therapy for adults with major depressive disorder. It is also used to treat adolescents (13 - 17 years of age) with bipolar I disorder. Abilify is sometimes used to treat other conditions. Talk to your doctor to understand why you are taking Abilify.

How should I take Abilify?

You can take Abilify with or without food, preferably with a full glass of water. The tablet cannot be crushed, chewed or cut. Swallow whole. If you have difficulties swallowing please speak to your doctor or pharmacist to discuss other options.

Abilify is available in 2 mg, 5 mg, 10 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg, and 30 mg tablets in Canada. It is also available in a long-acting injection formulation which is discussed in detail in the next section.

Of note, Abilify is available in a short-acting injection and liquid in the United States. It is not yet available in Canada in these other formulations, but that is something that may occur in the near future.

Adults: The dose range for Abilify is 2 mg - 30 mg daily. The usual dose for adults is 10 mg - 15 mg once per day, up to a maximum of 30 mg per day. Your doctor may prescribe doses that are higher than 30 mg based on your individual situation.

Adolescents (15 - 17 years of age): The usual dose in adolescents is typically 10 mg once a day. Your doctor may prescribe you a lower dose (2 mg) to start. The dose will likely be increased to 5 mg after a few days, then to 10 mg after that. Depending on how you respond and tolerate the 10 mg dose, your doctor may adjust the dose up or down, to a maximum of 30 mg once a day.

What are the common side effects seen with Abilify?

The most common side effects of Abilify include:

- Feeling of restlessness (akathisia)
- Headache
- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal side effects)
- Nausea, vomiting, upset stomach
- Insomnia
- Constipation
- Anxiety

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Abilify?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

New information has become available from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to suggest that some individuals taking Abilify may experience compulsive or uncontrollable urges to gamble, binge eat, shop and have sex. These urges were reported to have stopped when the dose of the medication was reduced or the medication was discontinued. These impulse-control problems or urges are rare, however, it is important to inform your physician if you or a family member/friend experience any of these urges while taking Abilify.

More information on this topic can be found at:

http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/ucm498662.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis who are treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear

to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Abilify is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Abilify?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dental care providers that you are taking Abilify. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products. When the levels of a medication are increased or decreased in your bloodstream, this can affect the medication's efficacy and safety.

The following medications might increase the levels of Abilify in your bloodstream:

- Ketoconazole (anti-fungal)
- Quinidine (anti-arrhythmic)

The following medications might decrease the levels of Abilify in your bloodstream:

- Carbamazepine (anti-convulsant)
- St. John's Wort (herbal medication)

The following types of medications may interact with Abilify:

- Anti-Parkinson agents (dopamine agonists)
- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)

Abilify Maintena (aripiprazole extended release)

Brand name: Abilify Maintena®.

Active ingredient name: Aripiprazole.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Otsuka Canada Pharmaceutical Inc and Lundbeck Canada Inc.

Form: Long-acting depot injection.

Generic: No.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes (with suggested criteria for coverage*).

*This product has a therapeutic note, which suggests a physician should prescribe it for the treatment of schizophrenia in individuals with a history of non-adherence and either

(1) inadequate control or significant side effects from 2 or more oral antipsychotics including at least one atypical or

(2) inadequate control or significant side effects from one or more typical depot antipsychotics.

What this means is that for most individuals with schizophrenia, Abilify Maintena will not be a first-line medication choice. Each physician will assess the use of this medication on a case-by-case basis. If this medication is deemed appropriate for you it will be covered by the Ontario Drug Benefit program.

Abilify® Maintena® is also available in tablet form called Abilify®.

OHIP+ coverage: Yes (with suggested criteria for coverage*).

*This product has a therapeutic note, which suggests a physician should prescribe it for the treatment of schizophrenia in individuals with a history of non-adherence and either

(1) inadequate control or significant side effects from 2 or more oral antipsychotics including at least one atypical or

(2) inadequate control or significant side effects from one or more typical depot antipsychotics.

What is Abilify Maintena used for?

Abilify Maintena is used as maintenance treatment for the symptoms of schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders in adults. It may also be used to treat other conditions such as bipolar disorder. Talk to your doctor to understand why you are taking Abilify Maintena.

How should I take Abilify Maintena?

Abilify Maintena is a long-acting depot injection. It is an intramuscular injection. It must be administered by a healthcare provider, most often a nurse. You may receive the injection in a clinic, in a hospital, in your doctor's office or in your home. The injection is usually given once every 4 weeks.

Abilify Maintena injection is available as a 300 mg/vial and 400 mg/vial dose in Canada. The usual initial and maintenance dose for schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses is 400 mg every 4 weeks. When you are just beginning Abilify Maintena you may receive oral therapy with Abilify Maintena or another oral antipsychotic with the initial injection. You will likely continue with the oral medication for about 14 days, to allow the depot medication to get into your system and begin to work. After 14 days the oral medication will likely be stopped and you will be maintained on an injection every 4 weeks.

What are the common side effects of Abilify Maintena?

The most common side effects of Abilify Maintena include:

- Feeling of restlessness (akathisia)
- Headache
- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal side effects)
- Nausea, vomiting, upset stomach
- Insomnia
- Constipation
- Anxiety
- Pain at injection site

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Abilify Maintena?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)

- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

New information has become available from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to suggest that some individuals taking Abilify Maintena may experience compulsive or uncontrollable urges to gamble, binge eat, shop and have sex. These urges were reported to have stopped when the dose of the medication was reduced or the medication was discontinued. These impulse-control problems or urges are rare, however, it important to inform your physician if you or a family member/friend experience any of these urges while taking Abilify Maintena.

More information on this topic can be found at:

http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/ucm498662.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Older adults with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Abilify Maintena is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Abilify Maintena?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentists that you are taking Abilify Maintena. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products. When the levels of a medication are increased or decreased in your bloodstream, this can affect the medication's efficacy and safety.

The following medications might increase the levels of Abilify Maintena in your bloodstream:

- Ketoconazole (anti-fungal)
- Quinidine (anti-arrhythmic)

The following medications might decrease the levels of Abilify Maintena in your bloodstream:

- Carbamazepine (anti-convulsant)
- St. John's Wort (herbal medication)

The following types of medications may interact with Abilify Maintena:

- Anti-Parkinson agents (dopamine agonists)
- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)

Abilify Asimtufii (aripiprazole prolonged release injectable suspension)

Brand name: Abilify Asimtufii®.

Active ingredient name: Aripiprazole.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Otsuka Canada Pharmaceutical Inc. and Lundbeck Canada Inc.

Form: prolonged release injectable suspension (720 mg/2.4 mL and 960 mg/3.2 mL)

Generic: No.

Listed on Ontario formulary: No.

OHIP+ coverage: No.

What is Abilify Asimtufii used for?

Abilify Asimtufii is used as maintenance treatment for the symptoms of schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders in adults. It is also approved for maintenance monotherapy treatment of bipolar I disorder in adults. Talk to your doctor to understand why you are taking Abilify Asimtufii.

How should I take Abilify Asimtufii?

Abilify Asimtufii is a prolonged-release injectable suspension. It is an intramuscular injection given in the gluteal muscle. It must be administered by a healthcare provider, most often a nurse. You may receive the injection in a clinic, in a hospital, in your doctor's office or in your home. The injection is usually given once every 2 months (no sooner than every 56 days).

Abilify Asimtufii injection is available in a 720 mg/2.4 mL prefilled syringe and a 960 mg/3.2 mL prefilled syringe in Canada. The usual initial and maintenance dose for schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses is 960 mg every 2 months. When you are just beginning Abilify Asimtufii you may receive oral therapy with Abilify or another oral antipsychotic with the initial injection. You will likely continue with the oral medication for about 14 days, to allow the long acting medication to get into your system and begin to work. After 14 days the oral medication will likely be stopped and you will be maintained on an injection every 2 weeks.

What are the common side effects of Abilify Asimtuffii?

The most common side effects of Abilify Asimtufii include:

- Feeling of restlessness (akathisia)
- Headache
- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal side effects)
- Nausea, vomiting, upset stomach
- Insomnia
- Constipation
- Anxiety
- Pain at injection site

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Abilify Asimtufii?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Information available from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration suggests that some individuals taking Abilify may experience compulsive or uncontrollable urges to gamble, binge eat, shop and have sex. These urges were reported to have stopped when the dose of the medication was reduced or the medication was discontinued. These impulse-control problems or urges are rare, however, it important to inform your physician if you or a family member/friend experience any of these urges while taking Abilify Asimtufii.

More information on this topic can be found at:

http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/ucm498662.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Older adults with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Abilify Asimtufii is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Abilify Asimtufii?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentists that you are taking Abilify Asimtufii. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products. When the levels of a medication are increased or decreased in your bloodstream, this can affect the medication's efficacy and safety.

The following medications might increase the levels of Abilify Maintena in your bloodstream:

- Ketoconazole (anti-fungal)
- Quinidine (anti-arrhythmic)

The following medications might decrease the levels of Abilify Asimtufii in your bloodstream:

- Carbamazepine (anti-convulsant)
- St. John's Wort (herbal medication)

The following types of medications may interact with Abilify Asimtufii:

- Anti-Parkinson agents (dopamine agonists)
- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])

- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)

Clozaril (clozapine)

Brand name: Clozaril®.

Active ingredient name: Clozapine.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Novartis Pharma Canada Inc, HLS Therapeutics Inc.

Form: Oral tablets.

Generic: Yes: AA-Clozapine (AA Pharma Inc.); Gen-Clozapine (Mylan Pharmaceuticals ULC).

Listed on Ontario formulary: No – Special Drugs Program; off-formulary interchangeable.

OHIP+ coverage: No – Special Drugs Program.

What is Clozaril used for?

Clozaril is most often used to treat the symptoms of treatment-resistant schizophrenia in adults over 18 years old. Treatment-resistant schizophrenia is diagnosed in individuals who do not respond to or experience serious side effects with at least 2 other antipsychotic medications. In these individuals Clozaril is considered to be more effective at improving symptoms. Clozaril can also be used to treat other mental illnesses. Talk to your doctor to understand why you are taking Clozaril.

How should I take Clozaril?

You can take Clozaril with or without food. It can be taken once daily, usually in the evening as it can make people very sleepy. In people who take doses greater than 500 mg per day, the dose is often split into twice daily dosing to decrease the risk of having a seizure.

Clozaril is available in 25 mg and 100 mg tablets. The usual dose is 300 mg - 450 mg per day. Most people start with half of a 25 mg tablet once or twice on the first day. Your doctor will gradually increase the dose until your ideal dose is established, to a maximum of 900 mg per day. In some cases, doses can go above 900 mg per day. If your dose is higher than 900 mg discuss the reasons with your doctor.

What are the most common side effects seen with Clozaril?

The most common side effects of Clozaril include:

- Drowsiness
- Increased heart rate
- Constipation
- Weight gain
- Drooling (mostly at night)

Other Side Effects that may occur with Clozaril:

- Wetting the bed (nocturnal enuresis)

- Orthostatic hypotension

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Clozaril?

- Clozaril may cause a potentially life-threatening decrease in white blood cell count. This is important because white blood cells help fight infections and keep us healthy. If your white blood cell count drops too low, you could develop an infection and your body may not be able to fight it off. While you are using Clozaril, you will undergo regular blood tests to ensure your white blood cell levels remain healthy.
- Clozaril has also been associated with potentially serious heart problems and should not be used in people with a history of heart disease unless discussed with your psychiatrist and a heart doctor. Your doctor will assess your risk and monitor as needed.
- Clozaril can also reduce the seizure threshold, increasing likelihood of seizures. This is a dose-related side effect; hence the risk is higher at higher doses. In order to minimize the risk, doses larger than 500 mg will be divided into 2 - 3 times per day.
- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Clozaril is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Clozaril?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentists that you are taking Clozaril. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products.

The following medications or types of medication may interact with Clozaril:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Certain antibiotics (e.g., ciprofloxacin)
- Certain anti-convulsants (e.g., carbamazepine)

The following types of medications may interact with Clozaril:

Smoking cigarettes also interacts with Clozaril by decreasing the Clozaril levels in the blood. If you smoke regularly, inform your healthcare provider and indicate approximately how many cigarettes you smoke per day. If you decide to quit and/or reduce the number of cigarettes you smoke, it is important to tell your doctor or pharmacist as your Clozaril dose may need to be adjusted.

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Clozaril.

Invega (paliperidone)

Brand name: Invega®.

Active ingredient name: Paliperidone.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Janssen Inc.

Form: Oral tablets.

Generic: No.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes.

OHIP+ coverage: Yes.

Note: *Invega® is also available as long-acting injectables called Invega® Sustenna® and Invega Trinza®*

What is Invega used for?

Invega is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia and related psychotic illnesses in adults. Your doctor may prescribe Invega for other conditions. Discuss with your doctor the reason you are taking Invega.

How should I take Invega?

Invega can be taken once daily with or without food. Invega is available in 3 mg, 6 mg, and 9 mg tablets. The usual dose range for Invega is 3 mg - 12 mg per day. Your doctor may prescribe doses higher than 12 mg based on your individual clinical situation. Discuss your dose with your doctor.

What are the most common side effects seen with Invega?

The most common side effects of Invega include:

- Headache
- Feeling of restlessness (akathisia)
- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal symptoms)
- Insomnia
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Dry mouth
- Constipation
- Weight gain

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Invega?

- Decreased white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)

- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Invega is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Invega?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Invega. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products. When the levels of a medication are increased or decreased in your bloodstream, this can affect the medication's efficacy and safety.

The following types of medications may interact with Invega:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Invega.

Invega Sustenna (paliperidone palmitate)

Brand name: Invega® Sustenna®.

Active ingredient name: Paliperidone palmitate.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Janssen Inc.

Form: Injection.

Generic: No.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes (with suggested criteria for coverage*).

*This product has a therapeutic note which suggests that a physician should prescribe it for the treatment of schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorders in patients who have: A history of non-adherence; AND one of the following:

(1) Inadequate control or significant side effects from two or more formulary oral antipsychotic medications, including at least one atypical agent; OR

(2) Inadequate control or significant side-effects from one or more conventional depot antipsychotic agents.

OHIP+ coverage: Yes (with suggested criteria for coverage*).

*This product has a therapeutic note which suggests that a physician should prescribe it for the treatment of schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorders in patients who have: A history of non-adherence; AND one of the following:

- (1) Inadequate control or significant side effects from two or more formulary oral antipsychotic medications, including at least one atypical agent; OR
- (2) Inadequate control or significant side effects from one or more conventional depot antipsychotic agents.

Note: *Invega® Sustenna® is also available in tablet form as Invega®.*

What is Invega Sustenna used for?

Invega Sustenna is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia and psychotic illnesses in adults. It may be used to treat other conditions as well. Discuss the reason you are taking Invega Sustenna with your doctor.

How should I take Invega Sustenna?

Invega Sustenna is available in prefilled syringes containing 50 mg, 75 mg, 100 mg, and 150 mg of paliperidone palmitate. You will receive a monthly injection, so you do not need to take medication every day. The injection will be given to you by a healthcare provider, usually a nurse. You may receive the injection in a clinic, in your doctor's office or you may have a community nurse who comes to your home. After you receive your first dose of Invega Sustenna you will need to get a second dose one week later. From then on, you will only need to get a dose once a month. Your doctor will decide on the best dosage for you and will adjust the dose based on your response.

What are the most common side effects seen with Invega Sustenna?

The most common side effects of Invega Sustenna include:

- Headache
- Insomnia
- Constipation
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Injection-site pain
- Weight gain
- Feeling of restlessness (akathisia)
- Dizziness
- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal side effects)

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Invega Sustenna?

- Decreased white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)

- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotic medication. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Invega Sustenna is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Invega Sustenna?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Invega Sustenna. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products. When the levels of a medication are increased or decreased in your bloodstream, this can affect the medication's efficacy and safety.

The following types of medications may interact with Invega Sustenna:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Invega Sustenna.

Invega Trinza (paliperidone palmitate)

Brand name: Invega® Trinza®.

Active ingredient name: Paliperidone palmitate.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Janssen Inc.

Form: Injection.

Generic: No.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes (*with suggested criteria for coverage).

*This product has a therapeutic note which suggests that a physician should prescribe it for the treatment of schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorders in patients who have: A history of non-adherence AND one of the following:

(1) Inadequate control or significant side effects from two or more formulary oral antipsychotic medications, including at least one atypical agent; OR

(2) Inadequate control or significant side effects from one or more conventional depot antipsychotic agents AND adequate treatment of using 1-month paliperidone palmitate prolonged-release injectable suspension has been established for at least four months.

Note: *Invega® Trinza® is also available in tablet form as Invega®.*

OHIP+ coverage: Yes (*with suggested criteria for coverage).

*This product has a therapeutic note which suggests that a physician should prescribe it for the treatment of schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorders in patients who have: A history of non-adherence AND one of the following:

- (1) Inadequate control or significant side effects from two or more formulary oral antipsychotic medications, including at least one atypical agent; OR
- (2) Inadequate control or significant side effects from one or more conventional depot antipsychotic agents AND adequate treatment of using 1-month paliperidone palmitate prolonged-release injectable suspension has been established for at least four months.

What is Invega Trinza used for?

Invega Trinza is the newest antipsychotic medication on the Canadian market. It was approved by Health Canada on June 23, 2016. It is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia and psychotic illnesses in adults. It may be used to treat other conditions as well. Discuss the reason you are taking Invega Trinza with your doctor.

How should I take Invega Trinza?

Invega Trinza is a long-acting depot injection. It is available in prefilled syringes containing 175 mg, 263 mg, 350 mg and 525 mg of paliperidone palmitate. You will receive an injection every 3 months, so you do not need to take medication every day. The injection will be given to you by a healthcare provider, usually a nurse. You may receive the injection in a clinic, in your doctor's office or you may have a community nurse who comes to your home. Before you begin Invega Trinza you will most likely be treated with Invega Sustenna (once-monthly injections) for about 4 months to be sure you tolerate the medication and to ensure your symptoms improve. After that you may be switched to Invega Trinza, which you will then receive every 3 months.

Your doctor will decide on the best dosage for you and will adjust the dose based on your response.

What are the most common side effects seen with Invega Trinza?

The most common side effects of Invega Trinza include:

- Headache
- Insomnia
- Constipation
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Injection-site pain
- Weight gain
- Feeling of restlessness (akathisia)
- Dizziness
- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal side effects)

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Invega Trinza?

- Decreased white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotic medication. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Invega Trinza is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Invega Trinza?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Invega Trinza. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products. When the levels of a medication are increased or decreased in your bloodstream, this can affect the medication's efficacy and safety.

The following types of medications may interact with Invega Trinza:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Invega Trinza.

Latuda (lurasidone)

Brand name: Latuda®.

Active ingredient name: Lurasidone hydrochloride.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Sunovion Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc. (20 mg, 40 mg, 60 mg, 80 mg, 120 mg)

Form: Oral tablets.

Generic: Yes: Auro-Lurasidone (Auro Pharma Inc.), PMS-Lurasidone (Pharmascience Inc.), Sandoz-Lurasidone (Sandoz Canada Inc.), Jamp-Lurasidone (Jamp Pharma Corporation), Lurasidone (Sunovion Pharmaceutical Canada Inc.), Lurasidone (Sanis Health Inc.), Taro-Lurasidone (Taro Pharmaceuticals Inc), NRA-Lurasidone (Nora Pharma)

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes (with suggested criteria for coverage*).

*This product has a therapeutic note, which suggests a physician should prescribe it for the treatment of schizophrenia in individuals who have not responded to or have not tolerated another less expensive antipsychotic medication.

What this means is that for most individuals with schizophrenia, Latuda will not be a first-line medication choice. Each physician will assess the use of this medication on a case-by-case basis. If this medication is deemed appropriate for you it will be covered by the ODB program.

OHIP+ coverage: Yes (with suggested criteria for coverage*).

*This product has a therapeutic note, which suggests a physician should prescribe it for the treatment of schizophrenia in individuals who have not responded to or have not tolerated another less expensive antipsychotic medication.

What is Latuda used for?

Latuda is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia in adults. It can be used alone or in combination with other therapies for schizophrenia. Latuda is sometimes used to treat other conditions such as bipolar disorder. Talk to your doctor to understand why you are taking Latuda.

How should I take Latuda?

Latuda should be taken with food to increase the absorption of the medication into the bloodstream.

Latuda is available in 20 mg, 40 mg, 80 mg and 120 mg tablets in Canada.

Adults: The dose range for Latuda is 40 mg - 160 mg daily. The usual dose for most adults is 40 mg - 80 mg once per day. Your doctor may prescribe doses that are higher than 160 mg based on your individual situation. Talk to your doctor about your dose.

What are the most common side effects seen with Latuda?

The most common side effects of Latuda include:

- Drowsiness
- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal side effects)
- Restlessness (akathisia)
- Nausea
- Changes in monthly menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Decreased sexual interest and/or function
- Swelling of breasts and milk production in males and females

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Latuda?

- Decreased white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Latuda is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Latuda?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Latuda. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products. When the levels of a medication are increased or decreased in your bloodstream, this can affect the medication's efficacy and safety.

The following medications might increase the levels of Latuda in your bloodstream:

- Ketoconazole (anti-fungal)
- Diltiazem
- Grapefruit juice

The following medications might decrease the levels of Latuda in your bloodstream:

- Carbamazepine (anti-convulsant)
- St. John's Wort (herbal medication)
- Rifampin

The following types of medications may interact with Latuda:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Anti-Parkinson agents (e.g., dopamine agonists)

Okedi® (risperidone long acting injection)

Brand name: Okedi®.

Active ingredient name: Risperidone.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Bausch Health, Canada Inc.

Form: Injection.

Generic: No.

Listed on Ontario formulary: No

What is Okedi used for?

Okedi is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia and related psychotic illnesses in adults. Okedi may also be used to treat other conditions. Discuss with your doctor why you are using Okedi.

How should I take Okedi?

Okedi is available in prefilled syringes for intramuscular containing 75 or 100 mg of the active ingredient. You will receive an injection every four weeks, so you do not need to take medication every day. The injection will be given to you by a healthcare provider, usually a nurse. You may receive the injection in a clinic, in your doctor's office or you may have a community nurse who comes to your home. The usual dose is 75 or 100 mg given every four weeks, although your doctor will prescribe a dose that is based on individual response.

What are the most common side effects seen with Okedi?

The most common side effects of Risperdal Okedi include:

- Drowsiness
- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal side effects)
- Feeling of Restlessness (akathisia)
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Constipation
- Weight gain
- Swelling of breasts and milk production in males and females
- Orthostatic hypotension

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Risperdal Consta?

- Decreased white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
- Tardive dyskinesia (TD)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Okedi is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis.

What medications interact with Okedi?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Okedi. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products. When the levels of a medication are increased or decreased in your bloodstream, this can affect the medication's efficacy and safety.

The following types of medications may interact with Okedi:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Certain medications for Parkinson's disease

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Risperdal Consta

Rexulti (brexpiprazole)

Brand name: Rexulti®.

Active ingredient name: Brexpiprazole.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd..

Form: Oral tablets (0.25 mg, 0.5 mg, 1 mg, 2 mg, 3 mg, 4 mg)

Generic: No.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes.

OHIP+ coverage: Yes.

What is Rexulti used for?

Rexulti is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia in adults. It can be used alone or in combination with other therapies for schizophrenia. Rexulti is sometimes used to treat other conditions, such as major depressive disorder. Talk to your doctor to understand why you are taking Rexulti.

How should I take Rexulti?

Rexulti can be taken with or without food. It is usually taken once daily, preferably at a similar time each day.

Rexulti is available in 0.25 mg, 0.5 mg, 1 mg, 2 mg, 3 mg, and 4 mg tablets in Canada.

Adults: The dose range for Rexulti is 2 mg - 4 mg daily. The usual dose for most adults is 4 mg once per day. Your doctor may prescribe doses that are higher than 4 mg based on your individual situation. Talk to your doctor about your dose.

What are the most common side effects seen with Rexulti?

The most common side effects of Rexulti include:

- Weight gain
- Increased triglycerides
- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal side effects)
- Restlessness (akathisia)
- Headache
- Drowsiness

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Rexulti?

- Decreased white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Rexulti is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Rexulti?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Rexulti. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products. When the levels of a medication are increased or decreased in your bloodstream, this can affect the medication's efficacy and safety.

The following medications might increase the levels of Rexulti in your bloodstream:

- Ketoconazole (anti-fungal)
- Quinidine
- Bupropion

The following medications might decrease the levels of Rexulti in your bloodstream:

- Rifampin
- Carbamazepine
- St. John's Wort

The following types of medications may interact with Rexulti:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Anti-Parkinson agents (e.g., dopamine agonists)

Risperdal (risperidone)

Brand name: Risperdal® and Risperdal® M-Tab®.

Active ingredient name: Risperidone.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Janssen Inc.

Form: Oral tablets, oral solution, orally disintegrating tablets.

Generic: Yes: Apo-Risperidone (Apotex Inc.); CO Risperidone (Cobalt Pharmaceuticals Comp.); JAMP-Risperidone (Jamp Pharma Corp.); Mar-Risperidone (Marcan Pharmaceuticals Inc.); Mint-Risperidone (Mint Pharmaceuticals Inc.); Mylan-Risperidone (Mylan Pharmaceuticals ULC); PMS-Risperidone, PMS-Risperidone ODT (Pharmascience Inc.); RAN-Risperidone (Ranbaxy Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc.); Sandoz Risperidone (Sandoz Canada Inc.); Risperidone (Sanis Health Inc.); Teva-Risperidone (Teva Canada Limited), Risperidone (Sivem Pharmaceuticals).

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes.

OHIP+ coverage: Yes.

Note: *Risperdal*[®] is also available as a long-acting injectable called *Risperdal*[®] *Consta*[®].

What is Risperdal used for?

Risperdal is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia and related psychotic illnesses in adults. Additionally, Risperdal may be used for the treatment of bipolar disorder. Risperdal can be used to treat other conditions. Talk to your doctor about why you are using Risperdal.

How should I take Risperdal?

Risperdal can be taken with or without food once daily. Risperdal oral solution can be mixed with water, coffee, orange juice, and low-fat milk. It should not be mixed with tea or cola.

Risperdal is available in 0.25 mg, 0.5 mg, 1 mg, 2 mg, 3 mg, and 4 mg tablets. Risperdal is also available as 1 mg/mL oral solution. Risperdal M-Tab orally disintegrating tablets are available in 0.5 mg, 1 mg, 2 mg, 3 mg, and 4 mg doses. The usual dosage range of Risperdal is 2 mg - 16 mg daily. Your doctor may prescribe doses outside of this range. Discuss your dose with your doctor.

What are the most common side effects seen with Risperdal?

The most common side effects of Risperdal include:

- Drowsiness
- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal side effects)
- Feeling of restlessness (akathisia)
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Constipation
- Weight gain
- Changes in monthly menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Decreased sexual interest and/or function
- Swelling of breasts and milk production in males and females

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Risperdal?

- Decreased white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)

- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Risperdal is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. New safety information indicates that individuals with mixed and vascular dementia are at higher risk of cerebrovascular events when using Risperdal compared to those with Alzheimer's dementia. Hence, Health Canada has limited the indication for Risperdal to severe dementia of the Alzheimer type only. Discuss this new information with your doctor if you or your loved one is using Risperdal for dementia. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor.

What medications interact with Risperdal?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Risperdal. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products. When the levels of a medication are increased or decreased in your bloodstream, this can affect the medication's efficacy and safety.

The following types of medications may interact with Risperdal:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Anti-Parkinson agents (e.g., dopamine agonists)

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Risperdal.

Risperdal Consta (risperidone)

Brand name: Risperdal® Consta®.

Active ingredient name: Risperidone.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Janssen Inc.

Form: Injection.

Generic: No.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes (with suggested criteria for coverage*).

*This product has a therapeutic note which suggests that physicians should prescribe it for the treatment of schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorders in patients who have: a history of non-adherence; AND one of the following:

(1) Inadequate control or significant side effects from two or more formulary oral antipsychotic medications, including at least one atypical agent; OR

(2) Inadequate control or significant side effects from one or more conventional depot antipsychotic agents.

Note: *Risperdal® Consta® is also available as oral tablets, oral solution and orally disintegrating tablets called Risperdal® or Risperdal® M-Tab®.*

OHIP+ coverage: Yes (with suggested criteria for coverage*).

*This product has a therapeutic note which suggests that physicians should prescribe it for the treatment of schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorders in patients who have a history of non-adherence; AND one of the following:

(1) Inadequate control or significant side effects from two or more formulary oral antipsychotic medications, including at least one atypical agent; OR

(2) Inadequate control or significant side effects from one or more conventional depot antipsychotic agents.

What is Risperdal Consta used for?

Risperdal Consta is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia and related psychotic illnesses in adults. Risperdal Consta may also be used for the treatment of bipolar disorder. Risperdal Consta can be used to treat other conditions as well. Discuss with your doctor why you are using Risperdal Consta.

How should I take Risperdal Consta?

Risperdal Consta is available in vials containing 12.5 mg, 25 mg, 37.5 mg and 50 mg of the active ingredient.

You will receive an injection every two weeks, so you do not need to take medication every day.

The injection will be given to you by a healthcare provider, usually a nurse. You may receive the injection in a clinic, in your doctor's office or you may have a community nurse who comes to your home.

The usual dose is 25 mg given every two weeks, although your doctor will prescribe a dose that is based on individual response, up to a maximum of 50 mg every two weeks. Your doctor may prescribe doses above 50 mg based on your individual situation.

What are the most common side effects seen with Risperdal Consta?

The most common side effects of Risperdal Consta include:

- Drowsiness
- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal side effects)
- Feeling of Restlessness (akathisia)
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Constipation
- Weight gain
- Changes in monthly menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Decreased sexual interest and/or function

- Swelling of breasts and milk production in males and females

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Risperdal Consta?

- Decreased white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Risperdal Consta is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. New safety information indicates that individuals with mixed and vascular dementia are at higher risk of cerebrovascular events (strokes) when using Risperdal Consta compared to those with Alzheimer's dementia. Hence, Health Canada has limited the indication for Risperdal Consta to severe dementia of the Alzheimer type only. Discuss this new information with your doctor if you or your loved one is using risperidone for dementia. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor.

What medications interact with Risperdal Consta?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Risperdal Consta. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products. When the levels of a medication are increased or decreased in your bloodstream, this can affect the medication's efficacy and safety.

The following types of medications may interact with Risperdal Consta:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Risperdal Consta.

Saphris (asenapine)

Brand name: Saphris®.

Active ingredient name: Asenapine.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Organon Canada Inc..

Form: Oral tablets (5 mg SL, 10 mg SL).

Generic: No.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes (with suggested criteria for coverage*).

*This product has a therapeutic note which suggests that physicians should prescribe it for the acute treatment of manic or mixed episodes associated with bipolar I disorder as either: Monotherapy, after a trial of lithium or divalproex sodium has failed, and trials of less expensive atypical antipsychotic agents have failed due to intolerance or lack of response; OR co-therapy with lithium or divalproex sodium, after trials of less expensive atypical antipsychotic agents have failed due to intolerance or lack of response.

OHIP+ coverage: Yes (with suggested criteria for coverage).

*This product has a therapeutic note which suggests that physicians should prescribe it for the acute treatment of manic or mixed episodes associated with bipolar I disorder as either: monotherapy, after a trial of lithium or divalproex sodium has failed, and trials of less expensive atypical antipsychotic agents have failed due to intolerance or lack of response; OR co-therapy with lithium or divalproex sodium, after trials of less expensive atypical antipsychotic agents have failed due to intolerance or lack of response.

What is Saphris used for?

Saphris is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia in adults. It is also used to treat adults with bipolar disorder. Saphris is sometimes used to treat other conditions. Talk to your doctor to understand why you are taking Saphris.

How should I take Saphris?

Saphris is a sublingual tablet that must dissolve under your tongue. Place the tablet under your tongue and let it dissolve completely. Do not swallow, crush or chew. Do not eat or drink for at least 10 minutes after taking this medication. This medication is most often taken two times per day.

Saphris is available in 5 mg and 10 mg sublingual tablets in Canada.

Adults: The dose range for Saphris is 5 mg - 10 mg twice daily. The maximum daily dose is 20 mg. Your doctor may prescribe doses that are higher than 20 mg based on your individual situation.

What are the most common side effects seen with Saphris?

The most common side effects of Saphris include:

- Drowsiness
- Restlessness (akathisia)
- Headache
- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal side effects)
- Nausea, vomiting, upset stomach
- Insomnia
- Dizziness
- Weight gain

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Saphris?

- A decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Saphris is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Saphris?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Saphris. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription. At this time there appears to be only a handful of clinically-important medication interactions with Saphris.

The following types of medications may interact with Saphris

- Certain medications for allergies [e.g., Benadryl (diphenhydramine)]
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Fluvoxamine (may increase levels of Saphris)

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Saphris.

Seroquel (quetiapine)

Brand name: Seroquel®.

Active ingredient name: Quetiapine, Quetiapine XR.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: AstraZeneca Canada Inc.

Form: Oral tablets.

Generic: Yes: Apo-Quetiapine and Apo-Quetiapine ER (Apotex Inc.); Auro-Quetiapine (Auro Pharma Inc.); Ach-Quetiapine XR and Quetiapine (Accord Healthcare Inc.); Bio-Quetiapine (Biomed Pharma); CO Quetiapine (Cobalt Pharmaceuticals Comp.); JAMP-Quetiapine ER and JAMP-Quetiapine (JAMP Pharma Corp.); M-Quetiapine XR (Mantra Pharma Inc.); Mar-Quetiapine (Marcan Pharmaceuticals Inc.); Mint-Quetiapine and Mint Quetiapine ER (Mint Pharmaceuticals Inc); Nat-Quetiapine (Natco Pharma Canada Inc.); PMS-Quetiapine (Pharmascience Inc.); Pro-Quetiapine (Meliapharm Inc.); ; Ran-Quetiapine (Ranbaxy Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc.); Sandoz Quetiapine XRT and Sandoz Quetiapine (Sandoz Canada

Inc.); Teva-Quetiapine ER and Teva Quetiapine (Teva Canada Ltd.); Van-Quetiapine (Vanc Pharmaceuticals Inc.), NRA Quetiapine XR and NRA Quetiapine (Nora Pharma), Quetiapine XR and Quetiapine (Sanis Health Inc.), Quetiapine ER and Quetiapine (Sivem Pharmaceuticals ULC), M-Quetiapine XR (Mantra Pharma Inc.), AG Quetiapine (Angita Pharma Inc.).

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes.

OHIP+ coverage: Yes

What is Seroquel used for?

Seroquel is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia in adults. Seroquel may also be used to treat the symptoms of mania or depression in people with bipolar disorder and it may be also be used to treat major depressive disorder. It may also be used in some treatment centres for managing withdrawal from certain substances. Discuss why you are taking Seroquel with your doctor.

How should I take Seroquel?

Seroquel is available in 25 mg, 100 mg, 200 and 300 mg tablets.

The usual starting dose is 25 mg twice daily. The recommended dosage range is 50 mg - 800 mg per day. Doses for the treatment of schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses tend be 600 mg - 800 mg per day. The usual dose for bipolar depression and major depressive disorder is 300 mg per day. Your doctor may prescribe doses higher than recommended. Discuss your dose with your physician.

What are the most common side effects seen with Seroquel?

The most common side effects of Seroquel include:

- Lightheadedness or dizziness
- Drowsiness
- Weight gain
- Headache
- Upset stomach or abdominal pain
- Blurred vision
- Abnormal dreams or nightmares
- Irritability

What are rare but potentially serious interactions with Seroquel?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Sudden cardiac death
- Torsades de pointes (serious heart arrhythmia)
- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Seroquel is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Seroquel?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Seroquel. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products.

The following types of medications may interact with Seroquel:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Protease inhibitors (for HIV/AIDS treatment)
- Ketoconazole

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Seroquel.

Vraylar (cariprazine)

Brand name: Vraylar®.

Active ingredient name: Cariprazine.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: AbbVie

Form: Oral capsule

Generic: No.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes

OHIP+ coverage: Yes.

What is Vraylar used for?

Vraylar is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia in adults. It can be used alone or in combination with other therapies for schizophrenia. Vraylar is also approved and used to treat other conditions, such as major depressive disorder and bipolar disorder. Talk to your doctor to understand why you are taking Vraylar.

How should I take Vraylar?

Vraylar can be taken with or without food. It is usually taken once daily, preferably at a similar time each day.

Vraylar is available in 1.5 mg, 3.0 mg, 4.5 mg, and 6 mg capsules in Canada.

Adults: The dose range for Vraylar for schizophrenia is 1.5 mg - 6 mg daily. The usual dose for most adults is 6 mg once per day. Doses as high as 9 mg per day have been tested however this dose did not work better than the 6 mg dose for those studied. Your doctor may prescribe doses that are higher than 6 mg based on your individual situation. Talk to your doctor about your dose, especially if you are experiencing side effects. The dose range of Vraylar for bipolar mania is 3-6 mg/day and for bipolar depression is 3 mg/day. Vraylar can also be used to augment antidepressant therapy in individuals with major depressive disorder. The recommended dose is 3 mg/day.

What are the most common side effects seen with Vraylar?

The most common side effects of Vraylar include:

- Weight gain
- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal side effects)
- Restlessness (akathisia)
- Headache
- Insomnia
- Nausea
- Toothache
- Constipation

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Vraylar?

- Decreased blood counts (leukopenia, neutropenia)
- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
- Suicidal ideation

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Vraylar is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Vraylar?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Vraylar. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products. When the levels of a medication are increased or decreased in your bloodstream, this can affect the medication's efficacy and safety.

The following types of medications may interact with Vraylari:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Anti-Parkinson agents (e.g., dopamine agonists)

Zeldox (ziprasidone)

Brand name: Zeldox®.

Active ingredient name: Ziprasidone.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Upjohn Canada ULC.

Form: Oral capsules.

Generic: Yes: Auro-Ziprasidone (Auro Pharma Inc.).

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes.

OHIP+ coverage: Yes.

What is Zeldox used for?

Zeldox is used to treat symptoms of schizophrenia and related psychotic illnesses in adults. It may also be used to treat symptoms of bipolar disorder. Zeldox is sometimes used to treat other conditions. Talk to your doctor to understand why you are taking Zeldox.

How should I take Zeldox?

Zeldox should be taken with food to increase the absorption of the medication into the bloodstream. It is best taken after a full meal versus after a small snack. Zeldox is most often taken twice daily, however it can be given once daily in some cases.

Zeldox is available in 20 mg, 40 mg, 60 mg and 80 mg capsules. The dose range for Zeldox is 20 mg - 80 mg twice daily. Your doctor may prescribe doses higher than 160 mg per day based on your clinical situation. If your dose is above this range discuss the reasons with your doctor.

What are the most common side effects seen with Zeldox?

The most common side effects of Zeldox include:

- Feeling unusually tired or sleepy
- Nausea or upset stomach
- Constipation
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal side effects)

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Zeldox?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)

- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Sudden cardiac death
- Torsades de pointes (serious heart arrhythmia)
- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Zeldox is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

Also, in early studies with Zeldox, it was found to impact conduction of the heart. This may increase the risk of arrhythmia in certain individuals. If you have any of the following heart conditions, you should discuss the risks and benefits of taking Zeldox with your doctor:

- Long QT syndrome (a specific heart rhythm problem)
- A recent heart attack
- Severe heart failure

New safety information in the United States indicates that ziprasidone may be associated with rare but serious skin reactions. If you develop a fever with a rash and/or swollen lymph glands you should seek medical attention. A medical assessment is important to determine if your symptoms may be due to your medication or to another cause.

What medications interact with Zeldox?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Zeldox. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products.

The following types of medication may interact with Zeldox:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Zeldox.

Zyprexa (olanzapine)

Brand name: Zyprexa® and Zyprexa® Zydis®.

Active ingredient name: Olanzapine.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Eli Lilly Canada Inc.

Form: Oral tablets, orally disintegrating tablets.

Generic: Yes: Apo-Olanzapine, Apo-Olanzapine ODT (Apotex Inc.); Auro-Olanzapine ODT (Auro Pharma Inc.), CO Olanzapine, CO Olanzapine ODT (Cobalt Pharmaceuticals Co.); Mylan-Olanzapine (Mylan Pharmaceuticals ULC); Jamp Olanzapine ODT and Jamp Olanzapine FC (Jamp Pharma Cooperation); Mar-Olanzapine (Marcan Pharmaceuticals Inc); Mint-Olanzapine ODT and Mint Olanzapine (Mint Pharmaceuticals Inc.), Olanzapine (Sanis Health Inc.); PMS-Olanzapine, PMS-Olanzapine ODT (Pharmascience Inc.); Ran-Olanzapine and Ran-Olanzapine ODT (Ranbaxy Pharmaceuticals Inc); Sandoz Olanzapine, Sandoz Olanzapine ODT (Sandoz Canada Inc.); Teva-Olanzapine, Teva-Olanzapine ODT (Teva Canada Ltd.); Van-Olanzapine (Vanc Pharmaceuticals Inc), NRA-Olanzapine ODT and NRA-Olanzapine (Nora Pharma), Novo-Olanzapine OD (Novopharm Ltd.), Olanzapine ODT and Olanzapine (Sivem Pharmaceuticals ULC), Olanzapine ODT and Olanzapine (Sanis Health Inc.), AG-Olanzapine FC (Angita Pharma Inc.).

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes.

OHIP+ coverage: Yes.

Note: Zyprexa[®] is also available as an injection—Zyprexa[®] IntraMuscular.

This short-acting intramuscular injection is approved for use in Canada and is used primarily for acute situations. It is discussed in more detail below. There is also Zyprexa[®] long-acting depot injection however it is not approved for use in Canada. It is available for use in the United States.

What is Zyprexa used for?

Zyprexa is used to treat symptoms of schizophrenia and related psychotic illnesses in adults. It may also be used to treat bipolar disorder. Zyprexa is sometimes used to treat other conditions. Talk to your doctor to understand what you are using Zyprexa for.

How should I take Zyprexa?

Zyprexa can be taken with or without food. It can be taken once daily.

Zyprexa is available in 2.5 mg, 5 mg, 7.5 mg, 10 mg, 15 mg, and 20 mg tablets. Zyprexa Zydis orally-disintegrating tablets are available in 5 mg, 10 mg, 15 mg, and 20 mg doses. The usual dose range for Zyprexa is 5 mg - 20 mg daily. Your doctor may prescribe doses greater than 20 mg based on your clinical situation. Talk to your doctor about your specific dose.

What are the most common side effects seen with Zyprexa?

The most common side effects of Zyprexa include:

- Drowsiness
- Weight gain (can be significant)
- Increased appetite

- Dizziness
- Constipation
- Dry mouth
- Hyperglycemia (high blood sugar)
- Hyperlipidemia (increase in cholesterol and/or triglycerides)

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Zyprexa?

- Decreased white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Cerebrovascular event (stroke)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Pancreatitis
- Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Zyprexa Intramuscular is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Zyprexa?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Zyprexa. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products. When the levels of a medication are increased or decreased in your bloodstream, this can affect the medication's efficacy and safety.

The following medications might increase the levels of Zyprexa in the bloodstream:

- fluvoxamine (anti-depressant)
- ketoconazole (anti-fungal)
- ciprofloxacin (antibiotic)

The following medications might decrease the levels of Zyprexa in the bloodstream:

- Omeprazole (proton pump inhibitor)
- Cigarettes

Smoking cigarettes interacts with Zyprexa by decreasing the levels in the blood. If you smoke regularly inform your healthcare provider and indicate approximately how many cigarettes you smoke per day. If you decide to quit and/or reduce the number of cigarettes you smoke, it is important to tell your doctor or pharmacist as your Zyprexa dose may need to be adjusted.

The following types of medications may interact with Zyprexa:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)

It is best to avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Zyprexa.

Zyprexa IntraMuscular (olanzapine tartrate)

Brand name: Zyprexa® IntraMuscular.

Active ingredient name: Olanzapine tartrate.

Type of medication: Atypical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Eli Lilly Canada Inc.

Form: Injection.

Generic: No.

Listed on Ontario formulary: No.

OHIP+ coverage: No.

Note: Zyprexa® IntraMuscular is also available in tablet form as Zyprexa® and Zyprexa® Zydys®.

What is Zyprexa IntraMuscular used for?

Zyprexa intramuscular injection is a short-acting injectable antipsychotic medication. Although it is an injection it is not a depot or long-acting injection. It is used most often in a hospital setting if an individual needs medicine quickly to help them calm down. This medication is not used long-term to control the symptoms of schizophrenia or other psychotic illnesses.

How should I take Zyprexa IntraMuscular?

Zyprexa IntraMuscular is available as a single-use vial containing 10 mg of olanzapine.

Your doctor will decide on the best dose for you based on your needs. Most people need only one dose, but your doctor may give you additional doses as needed. You will receive no more than three injections in a 24-hour period.

What are the most common side effects seen with Zyprexa IntraMuscular?

The most common side effects of Zyprexa IntraMuscular include:

- Drowsiness
- Dizziness
- Injection-site pain
- A feeling of restlessness (akathisia)

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Zyprexa?

- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)

- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Zyprexa IntraMuscular is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Zyprexa IntraMuscular?

Zyprexa IntraMuscular is for short-term use; hence the risk of medication interactions is reduced. The most clinically-significant interaction with this medication is intramuscular lorazepam. These two medications should not be given at the same time. If a person needs Lorazepam in addition to Zyprexa IntraMuscular, it should be given as an oral tablet.

Typical Antipsychotic Medications

Clopixol (zuclopenthixol)

Brand name: Clopixol[®], Clopixol[®] Acuphase, Clopixol[®] Depot.

Active ingredient name: Zuclopenthixol.

Type of medication: Typical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Lundbeck Canada Inc.

Form: Oral tablets, intramuscular injection.

Generic: No.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes (Clopixol[®] Depot and Clopixol[®] tablets are covered as general benefits; Clopixol[®] Acuphase is not covered).

OHIP+ coverage: Clopixol and Clopixol Depot covered.

What is Clopixol used for?

Clopixol is used to treat schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses in adults. Clopixol can be used for other conditions. Ask your doctor why you are being prescribed Clopixol.

How Should I take Clopixol?

Oral Clopixol can be taken with or without food. It can be taken once per day or multiple times per day depending on individual preference. The injectable forms of Clopixol must be given by a healthcare provider. The injections may be given in a hospital, a clinic, a doctor's office or even an individual's home in some cases.

Clopixol is available in 10 mg and 25 mg tablets. The usual dosage range for oral Clopixol tablets is 20 mg - 150 mg per day. The average dose is around 30 mg - 75 mg per day. Discuss your individual dose with your doctor.

There are also two forms of Clopixol for intramuscular injection: Clopixol Acuphase is a 50 mg/mL solution and Clopixol Depot is a 200 mg/mL solution.

Clopixol Acuphase is a short-acting injection. It lasts up to 72 hours. It is used most often in hospital settings. It is given in a dose range of 50 mg - 150 mg every 48 - 72 hours. Most individuals will only receive one dose. Clopixol Acuphase is not used long-term to control the symptoms of schizophrenia or other psychotic illnesses.

Clopixol Depot is a long-acting injection that is given every 2 - 4 weeks to control the symptoms of schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses. The dose range for Clopixol depot injection is 100 mg - 600 mg every 2 - 4 weeks. The most common dosage range is 200 mg - 400 mg every 4 weeks. Discuss your individual dose with your doctor.

What are the most common side effects seen with Clopixol?

The most common side effects of Clopixol include:

- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal side effects)
- Changes in monthly menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Decreased sexual interest and/or function
- Swelling of breasts and milk production in both men and women
- Dry mouth
- Blurred or altered vision (difficulty reading small print)
- Constipation

What are rare but potentially serious adverse effects with Clopixol?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
- Sudden cardiac death (heart attack)
- Torsades de pointes (serious heart arrhythmia)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Clopixol is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some patients with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Clopixol?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Clopixol. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products.

The following types of medications may interact with Clopixol:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Anti-Parkinson agents

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Clopixol.

Fluanxol (flupentixol)

Brand name: Fluanxol®.

Active ingredient name: Flupentixol.

Type of medication: Typical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Lundbeck Canada Inc.

Form: Oral tablets, intramuscular injection.

Generic: No.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Oral: Yes; Injection: Yes (20 mg and 100 mg).

OHIP+ coverage: Fluanxol and Fluanxol Depot are both covered.

What is Fluanxol used for?

Fluanxol is used to treat schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses in adults. It may be used for other conditions such as depression. Ask your doctor why you are being prescribed Fluanxol.

How Should I take Fluanxol?

Oral Fluanxol can be taken with or without food. It can be taken once per day or multiple times per day depending on individual preference.

The injectable form of Fluanxol must be given by a healthcare provider. The injections may be given in a hospital, a clinic, a doctor's office or even an individual's home in some cases.

Fluanxol is available in 0.5 mg, 3 mg, and 5 mg tablets.

Fluanxol Depot is available in two strengths: a 2% solution and a 10% solution.

The dosage range for oral Fluanxol is 16 mg - 224 mg per day. Ask your doctor about your specific dose.

The dosage range for Fluanxol depot is 20 mg - 40 mg every 2 - 4 weeks. In some cases, doses may go above this range. Discuss your individual dose with your doctor.

What are the most common side effects seen with Fluanxol?

The most common side effects of Fluanxol include:

- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal symptoms)
- Changes in monthly menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Decreased sexual interest and/or function
- Swelling of breasts and milk production in both men and women
- Muscle spasm (dystonia)

What are rare but potentially serious adverse effects with Fluanxol?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
- Sudden cardiac death (heart attack)
- Torsades de pointes (serious heart arrhythmia)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Fluanxol is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Fluanxol?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Fluanxol. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products.

The following types of medications may interact with Fluanxol:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Anti-Parkinson agents

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Fluanxol.

Haldol (haloperidol)

Brand name: Haldol®.

Active ingredient name: Haloperidol.

Type of medication: Typical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Ortho McNeil Products .

Form: Oral tablets, intramuscular injection (short-acting and long-acting depot).

Generic: Yes: Haloperidol Injection, Haloperidol LA (Sandoz Canada Inc.); Teva-Haloperidol (Teva Canada Limited).

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes. (Haldol brand name not covered)

OHIP+ coverage: Yes.

What is Haldol used for?

Haldol is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses in adults and sometimes children. Haldol is used to treat other conditions as well. Ask your doctor why you are being prescribed Haldol.

How should I take Haldol?

Haldol can be taken with or without food. It can be taken once daily. The liquid form of Haldol should not be mixed with tea or coffee as they are not compatible.

Haldol is available in 1 mg, 2 mg, 5 mg, 10 mg, and 20 mg tablets. Long-acting Haldol injection is available in 50 mg and 100 mg/mL vials.

The usual dose of oral Haldol is 4 mg - 20 mg daily. Haldol can be taken once daily, however, some doctors like to give it 2 - 3 times daily. Your doctor may prescribe doses higher than this range depending on your clinical situation. Discuss your individual dose with your doctor.

If you are receiving long-acting haloperidol injections, you will probably receive injections every 2 - 4 weeks. Some people may need more frequent injections compared to others. The usual dose range for the depot injection of Haldol is 50 mg - 200 mg every 2 - 4 weeks.

What are the most common side effects seen with Haldol?

The most common side effects of Haldol include:

- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal symptoms)
- Muscle spasms (dystonia)
- Changes in monthly menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Decreased sexual interest and/or function
- Swelling of breasts and milk production in males and females
- Dizziness
- Drowsiness
- Nausea
- Loss of appetite
- Headache
- Dry mouth
- Blurred vision
- Insomnia

What are rare but potentially serious adverse effects with Haldol?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
- Sudden cardiac death (heart attack)
- Torsades de pointes (serious heart arrhythmia)
- Seizures

In addition to the above physical side effects, Haldol has potential mood side effects. In some individuals

Haldol may cause low mood or depression. Some individuals may also feel unhappy, dissatisfied, indifferent and restless. Haldol has also caused confusion and symptoms of memory loss in some individuals. Finally, some individuals have developed anxiety symptoms while taking Haldol.

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Haldol is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Haldol?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Haldol. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products.

The following types of medications may interact with Haldol:

- Bromocriptine
- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Anti-Parkinson agents

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Haldol.

Largactil (chlorpromazine)

Brand name: Largactil®.

Active ingredient name: Chlorpromazine.

Type of medication: Typical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Rhone-Poulenc Rorer-Ethical Division Products

Form: Oral tablets.

Generic: Yes: Teva-Chlorpromazine.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes.

OHIP+ coverage: Largactil brand not covered, Teva-Chlorpromazine covered.

What is Largactil used for?

Largactil is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses. It is also used to prevent and treat nausea and vomiting, for relief of restlessness and anxiety before surgery, and to manage symptoms of mania in bipolar disorder. It is used to treat adults and children. In children it is most commonly used for nausea and vomiting, to calm them before surgery and in some cases for behavioural issues.

How should I take Largactil?

Largactil is available as 25 mg, 50 mg and 100 mg tablets.

Adults: The usual dosage range of Largactil for schizophrenia and psychotic illnesses is 50 mg - 400 mg per day. Doses above this range can be used for some individuals.

Discuss your individual dose with your doctor.

Children: Your child's doctor will decide what is the best dose based on your child's symptoms, age, weight and response. Discuss the dose with your doctor.

What are the most common side effects seen with Largactil?

The most common side effects of Largactil include:

- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal symptoms)
- Changes in monthly menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Decreased sexual interest and/or function
- Swelling of breasts and milk production in males and females
- Sleepiness
- Constipation
- Dry mouth
- Dizziness
- Postural low blood pressure (ongoing from sitting to standing)
- Weight gain
- Increased sensitivity to sun

What are rare but potentially serious adverse effects with Largactil?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Liver dysfunction (jaundice)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
- Torsades de pointes (serious heart arrhythmia)
- Systemic lupus

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Largactil is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Largactil?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Largactil. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products.

The following types of medications may interact with Largactil

- Certain antibiotics (e.g., ciprofloxacin, clarithromycin)
- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Largactil.

Loxapac (loxapine)

Brand name: Loxapac®.

Active ingredient name: Loxapine succinate.

Type of medication: Typical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Wyeth Pharmaceuticals (brand name only). Generic available from Pendopharm, Division of Pharmascience Inc.

Form: Oral tablets, oral solution, short-acting injection.

Generic: Yes: Xylac (Pendopharm, Division of Pharmascience Inc).

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes – tablet formulation only. (Brand name Loxapac® not covered).

OHIP+ coverage: Yes.

What is Loxapac used for?

Loxapac is used to treat symptoms of schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses in adults and adolescents 16 years and older. It can also be used to treat other conditions. Discuss with your doctor the reason you are using Loxapac.

How should I take Loxapac?

Loxapac can be taken with or without food. It is often taken twice daily, but can also be taken once daily. Discuss your dosing schedule with your physician.

Loxapac is available as 2.5 mg, 5 mg, 10 mg, 25 mg and 50 mg tablets. The oral solution is available in a 25 mg/mL concentration. The injection is available in a 50 mg/mL concentration.

If you are taking an oral form of Loxapac, your initial dose will usually be 10 mg twice daily. Most people need between 60 mg - 100 mg daily, but your doctor will decide on the ideal dose based on your response, up to a maximum of 250 mg a day. Some individuals may be on higher doses. Discuss your dose with your prescriber.

The injectable form of Loxapac is a short-acting injection most often used in a hospital setting to help calm patients. It is used short-term and not continued into the community.

What are the most common side effects seen with Loxapac?

The most common side effects of Loxapac include:

- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal symptoms)

- Changes in monthly menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Decreased sexual interest and/or function
- Swelling of breasts and milk production in males and females
- Blurred vision
- Dizziness
- Drowsiness
- Dryness of mouth
- Headache
- Increased sensitivity of skin to sun
- Nausea or vomiting
- Weight gain (less compared to atypical antipsychotics)

What are rare but potentially serious adverse effects with Loxapac?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
- Sudden cardiac death (heart attack)
- Torsades de pointes (serious heart arrhythmia)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Loxapac is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Loxapac?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Loxapac. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products.

The following types of medications may interact with Loxapac:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Anti-Parkinson agents

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Loxapac.

Modecate (fluphenazine)

Brand name: Modetin®.

Active ingredient name: Fluphenazine HCL.

Type of medication: Typical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Bristol Myers Squibb Canada Inc., Apotex Inc.

Form: Oral tablets.

Generic: Yes.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Oral: Yes.

OHIP+ coverage: Fluphenazine oral.

What is Modecate used for?

Modecate is used to treat schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses in adults. It may be used for other conditions such as tourette's syndrome as well. Ask your doctor why you are being prescribed Modecate.

How Should I take Modecate?

Oral Modecate can be taken with or without food. It is usually taken divided doses 3-4 times per day, however it can be given once per day depending on individual preference.

The injectable form of Modecate is no longer available in most jurisdictions.

Modecate is available in 1 mg, 2 mg, and 5 mg tablets.

The dosage range for oral Modecate for schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders is 2.5 mg - 10 mg per day. Ask your doctor about your specific dose.

What are the most common side effects seen with Modecate?

The most common side effects of Modecate include:

- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal symptoms)
- Changes in monthly menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Decreased sexual interest and/or function
- Swelling of breasts and milk production in both men and women
- Muscle spasm (dystonia)

What are rare but potentially serious adverse effects with Modecate?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
- Sudden cardiac death (heart attack)
- Torsades de pointes (serious heart arrhythmia)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Modecate is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the

potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Modecate?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Modecate. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products.

The following types of medications may interact with Modecate:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Anti-Parkinson agents

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Modecate.

Neuleptil (periciazine)

Brand name: Neuleptil®.

Active ingredient name: Pericyazine.

Type of medication: Typical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Searchlight Pharma Inc.

Form: Oral capsules, oral drops.

Generic: No.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes

OHIP+ coverage: Neuleptil brand covered.

What is Neuleptil used for?

Neuleptil is used to control symptoms of hostility, impulsiveness and aggressiveness when used with other medications in adults and children over 5 years old. It is also used to treat schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses in adults.

How should I take Neuleptil?

Neuleptil is available in 5 mg, 10 mg and 20 mg tablets.

The starting dose for adults is usually 5 mg - 20 mg in the morning and 10 mg - 40 mg in the evening. Older adults will start at 5 mg a day. Your doctor may increase your dose if needed, but not usually more than 30 mg a day. Some doses may go above 30 mg per day. Discuss your individual dose with your doctor.

Children 5 years and older usually take 2.5mg - 10 mg in the morning and 5 mg - 30 mg in the evening.

What are the most common side effects seen with Neuleptil?

The most common side effects of Neuleptil include:

- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal symptoms)

- Changes in monthly menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Decreased sexual interest and/or function
- Swelling of breasts and milk production in males and females
- Dizziness
- Drowsiness
- Dry mouth
- Nausea
- Headache
- Weight changes
- Blurred vision

What are rare but potentially serious adverse effects with Neuleptil?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
- Sudden cardiac death (heart attack)
- Torsades de pointes (serious heart arrhythmia)
- Seizures

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Neuleptil is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Neuleptil?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Neuleptil. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription.

The following types of medications may interact with Neuleptil:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Anti-Parkinson agents

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Neuleptil.

Nozinan (methotrimeprazine)

Brand name: Nozinan®.

Active ingredient name: Methotrimeprazine.

Type of medication: Typical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Sanofi-Aventis Canada Inc. (brand name only). Generic available from AA Pharma Inc.

Form: Injection, oral tablets.

Generic: Yes: Methotrimeprazine.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes

OHIP+ coverage: Yes .

What is Nozinan used for?

Nozinan is used to treat symptoms of schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses. It may also be used to treat bipolar disorder, or conditions associated with anxiety. Nozinan may be used to treat other conditions as well. Discuss with your doctor why you are using Nozinan.

How should I take Nozinan?

Nozinan can be taken with or without food. It can be taken once per day, however, it is most often given twice or three times daily.

Nozinan is available in injectable form in a 25 mg/mL concentration. The generic form of Nozinan is also available in 2 mg, 5 mg, 25 mg and 50 mg tablets.

The oral starting dose of Nozinan for schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses is 50 mg - 75 mg per day. The dose is increased up to a maximum of 1000 mg per day depending on response. Discuss your individual dose with your doctor.

What are the most common side effects seen with Nozinan?

The most common side effects of Nozinan include:

- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal symptoms)
- Changes in monthly menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Decreased sexual interest and/or function
- Swelling of breasts and milk production in males and females
- Drowsiness
- Dry mouth
- Nausea
- Headache
- Weight changes
- Blurred vision

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Nozinan?

- Decreased white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Torsades de pointes (a serious heart arrhythmia)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Nozinan is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Nozinan?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Nozinan. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products.

The following types of medication may interact with Nozinan:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Nozinan.

Orap (pimozide)

Brand name: Orap®.

Active ingredient name: Pimozide.

Type of medication: Typical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: AA Pharma Inc. .

Form: Oral tablets.

Generic: Yes (AA Pharma Inc.).

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes.

OHIP+ coverage: Yes.

What is Orap used for?

Orap is used to treat symptoms of schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses in adults. Some research suggests individuals with autism and schizophrenia do very well with pimozide treatment. Orap may also be used to treat Tourette's Syndrome in children.

How should I take Orap?

Orap is available in 2 mg and 4 mg tablets. It is given once daily.

The usual dosage range for Orap for schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses is 2 mg - 12 mg per day.

The most common daily dose is 6 mg per day. Doses above 20 mg are not recommended.

What are the most common side effects seen with Orap?

The most common side effects of Orap include:

- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal symptoms)
- Changes in menstrual cycle
- Decrease in sexual interest and/or function
- Swelling of the breasts and milk production in both men and women
- Decreased weight
- Dry mouth
- Nausea
- Headache
- Difficulty sleeping (insomnia)

In addition to the above physical side effects, Orap can cause mood side effects. Some individuals may develop low mood or depression while on Orap. In addition, some individuals may also describe feeling a sense of unease, dissatisfaction with life, indifference or unhappiness. If your mood or feelings change while taking Orap, inform your doctor. Your doctor will assess you to determine if you are experiencing side effects from the medication or symptoms from your illness.

What are rare but potentially serious side effects seen with Orap?

- Decreased white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Drug-induced lupus
- Anaphylactic reaction (severe allergy)
- Torsades de Pointes (a serious heart arrhythmia)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Orap is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Orap?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Orap. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal or vitamin products.

Orap has the potential for several significant medication interactions. It is very important to be sure to inform your doctor and pharmacist of all medications you are taking if you are on Orap.

The following types of medications may interact with Orap:

- Amiodarone (anti-arrhythmic)

- Certain medications for HIV infection
- Other antipsychotic medication (typical and atypical)
- Certain anti-depressants (amitriptyline, desipramine, citalopram, escitalopram, fluoxetine, paroxetine, nortriptyline, sertraline)
- Certain antibiotics (clarithromycin, ciprofloxacin, erythromycin, levofloxacin)
- Anti-fungals (fluconazole, ketoconazole)
- Grapefruit juice

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Orap.

Stelazine (trifluoperazine)

Brand name: Stelazine®.

Active ingredient name: Trifluoperazine.

Type of medication: Typical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Smith Kline Beecham Pharma Inc.

Form: Oral tablets.

Generic: Yes (AA Pharma Inc.).

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes.

OHIP+ coverage: Yes.

What is Stelazine used for?

Stelazine is used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses in adults and children over 6 years of age.

How should I take Stelazine?

Stelazine is available in 1 mg, 2 mg, 5 mg, 10 mg and 20 mg tablets. It is also available as syrup in 1 mg and 10 mg/mL concentrations.

Adults: The usual starting dosage for adults with schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses is 2 mg - 5 mg twice a day. Most people will show optimum response on 15 mg or 20 mg daily, although some may require 40 mg a day or more. Discuss your individual dose with your doctor.

Children: The starting dose is 1 mg administered once or twice daily. Your child's dosage may be increased gradually.

What are the most common side effects seen with Stelazine?

The most common side effects of Stelazine include:

- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal symptoms)
- Changes in monthly menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Decreased sexual interest and/or function
- Swelling of breasts and milk production in males and females
- Drowsiness

- Dizziness
- Dry mouth
- Insomnia
- Fatigue
- Loss of appetite
- Blurred vision

What are rare but potentially serious adverse effects with Stelazine?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
- Sudden cardiac death (heart attack)
- Torsades de pointes (serious heart arrhythmia)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Stelazine is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Stelazine?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Stelazine. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products.

The following types of medications may interact with Stelazine:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Anti-Parkinson agents

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Stelazine.

Stemetil (prochlorperazine)

Brand name: Stemetil®.

Active ingredient name: Prochlorperazine.

Type of medication: Typical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Aventis Pharma.

Form: Oral tablets..

Generic: Yes (AA Pharma Inc.)

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes (AA Pharma Inc. Only).

OHIP+ coverage: Yes (AA Pharmac Inc. Only).

What is Stemetil used for?

Stemetil can be used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses. However, it is more commonly used to prevent and treat nausea and vomiting associated with chemotherapy and radiation. It is indicated in adults and children over 2 years of age.

How should I take Stemetil?

Prochlorperazine is available as 5 mg and 10 mg tablets. The injection is available in a 5 mg/mL concentration. It is also available as 10 mg suppositories. In higher doses Stemetil is used to treat schizophrenia. In lower doses, it is used to treat and prevent nausea and vomiting associated with chemotherapy and radiation. Your doctor will determine the right dose and form that best meets your needs.

What are the most common side effects seen with Stemetil?

The most common side effects of Stemetil include:

- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal symptoms)
- Changes in monthly menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Decreased sexual interest and/or function
- Swelling of breasts and milk production in males and females
- Dizziness
- Drowsiness
- Dry mouth
- Insomnia
- Excitement and bizarre dreams
- Decreased appetite
- Headache
- Weight changes
- Blurred vision

What are rare but potentially serious adverse effects with Stemetil?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
- Sudden cardiac death (heart attack)
- Torsades de pointes (serious heart arrhythmia)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Stemetil is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related

psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Stemetil?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Stemetil. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products.

The following types of medications may interact with Stemetil:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Anti-Parkinson agents

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Stemetil.

Trilafon (perphenazine)

Brand name: Trilafon®.

Active ingredient name: Perphenazine.

Type of medication: Typical antipsychotic.

Available in Canada from: Schering Pharma Inc. (brand name only). Generic available from AA Pharma Inc.

Form: Oral tablets.

Generic: Yes: Perphenazine.

Listed on Ontario formulary: Yes.

OHIP+ coverage: Yes.

What is Trilafon used for?

Trilafon is used to manage psychotic illnesses, depression and schizophrenia. It is also used as a tranquilizer to help reduce agitated and disruptive behaviour and to manage severe nausea and vomiting. It is approved for use in people 12 years of age and older.

How should I take Trilafon?

Perphenazine is available in 2 mg, 4 mg, 8 mg, and 16 mg tablets. Your doctor will decide what the best dose is for you. The recommended dose varies widely. It will depend on your condition and your response, up to a maximum of 24 mg daily.

What are the most common side effects seen with Trilafon?

Because studies have shown an increased risk of death in elderly people with dementia, Trilafon should be used with caution in this group.

The most common side effects of Trilafon include:

- Abnormal movements (extrapyramidal symptoms)
- Changes in monthly menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Decreased sexual interest and/or function
- Swelling of breasts and milk production in males and females
- Blurred vision
- Constipation
- Drowsiness
- Dry mouth

What are rare but potentially serious adverse effects with Trilafon?

- Decrease in white blood cell count (agranulocytosis)
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
- Sudden cardiac death (heart attack)
- Torsades de pointes (serious heart arrhythmia)

Warnings/Precautions

Elderly individuals with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic medication are at an increased risk of death compared to individuals not receiving antipsychotics. Most deaths appear to be either cardiovascular or infectious. Trilafon is not approved for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis. Some individuals with dementia may, however, be treated with this medication. Discuss the potential risks and benefits of this medication with your doctor for this indication.

What medications interact with Trilafon?

Tell all your doctors, pharmacists and dentist that you are taking Trilafon. You should also tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medications, including those obtained without a prescription, and herbal and vitamin products.

The following types of medications may interact with Trilafon:

- Certain medications for allergies (e.g., Benadryl [diphenhydramine])
- Certain medications for sleep (e.g., lorazepam, zopiclone)
- Certain medications for pain (e.g., fentanyl)
- Anti-Parkinson agents

Avoid drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs while taking Trilafon.

Other Psychotropic Medications Often Prescribed

In addition to antipsychotic medications your doctor may prescribe other medications to help treat symptoms of your schizophrenia or other psychotic illnesses. Some other commonly-prescribed medications are listed below. If you are receiving one of these medications discuss the reasons for use, dosage, side effects and potential medication interactions with your doctor and pharmacist.

1. **Mood Stabilizers:** Mood stabilizers are often used to treat bipolar disorder. They may also be used to treat schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses. They are often added to antipsychotic treatment. The following is a list of most-commonly prescribed mood stabilizers:
 - Lithium
 - Divalproex Sodium
 - Carbamazepine
 - Lamotrigine

2. **Benzodiazepines:** Benzodiazepines can be used to treat many conditions. They can be used to help people sleep, to help with symptoms of anxiety and sometimes to help people feel calm. Discuss with your doctor why you are using benzodiazepines. The following is a list of commonly-prescribed benzodiazepines:
 - Lorazepam
 - Clonazepam
 - Alprazolam
 - Diazepam

3. **Anti-depressants:** Anti-depressants are used to treat low mood. They can be used to treat major depressive disorder on their own. However, they may also be added to antipsychotic treatment to treat low mood in individuals with schizophrenia or other psychotic illnesses. The following is a list of commonly-prescribed anti-depressants:
 - Citalopram
 - Escitalopram
 - Paroxetine
 - Fluoxetine
 - Fluvoxamine
 - Sertraline
 - Mirtazapine
 - Trazadone
 - Venlafaxine
 - Desvenlafaxine
 - Duloxetine
 - Vortioxetine
 - Amitriptyline
 - Nortriptyline
 - Clomipramine
 - Phenelzine
 - Moclobemide
 - Levomilnacipran