

Antipsychotic Medications

Potential Side Effects

- Trouble thinking and remembering
- Sleepy or can't sleep
- Nightmares
- Agitated, irritated, restless

- Low blood pressure, dizzy
- Fast or uneven heart rate
- Blurred vision
- Dehydration, delirium

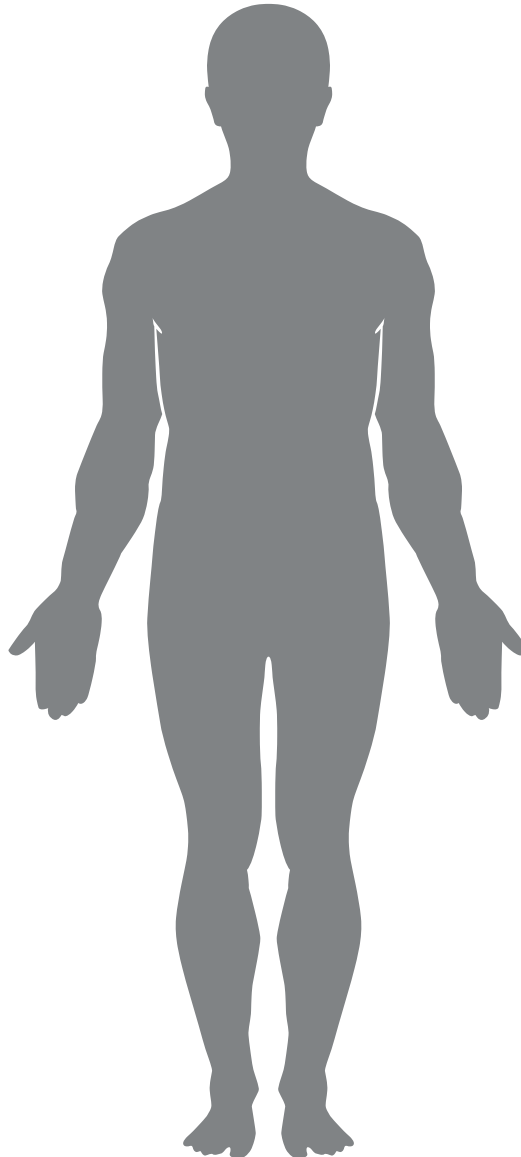
- Dry mouth or drooling
- Trouble swallowing or talking
- Cough, trouble breathing
- Stiff neck/joints, back pain

- Loss of appetite
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea or constipation
- Weight gain or loss

- Loss of bladder control
- Can't empty bladder

- Sweating, dry skin, rash
- Sensitive to sun

- Trouble walking , shuffles feet
- Stiff or shaking muscles



Antipsychotic Medicines

Examples:

Seroquel (quetiapine)
Risperdal (risperidone)
Zyprexa (olanzapine)
Haldol (haloperidol)

May help for a short time for symptoms that are dangerous or distressing.

May help long term for some mental illnesses.

Try to understand why the person is upset or what they need before using these medicines.

Watch Closely:

Side effects are common in older adults. Use at the lowest dose, for as short a time as possible.

Risks:

- Falls
- Health problems such as diabetes and increased blood cholesterol
- Pneumonia
- Strokes, heart problems, sudden death

For more information: [See AUA Toolkit website](#)

Seniors Health Strategic Clinical Network (SCN) in collaboration with Addiction & Mental Health SCN