



Canadian Consortium for
**Early Intervention
in Psychosis**

TREATMENT OPTIONS

FOR MANAGING SCHIZOPHRENIA AND ITS SYMPTOMS

UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF MEDICATION AND THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF ANTIPSYCHOTICS

Medicine is just one aspect of schizophrenia treatment—but it's an important one. Drugs for the treatment of schizophrenia are called “antipsychotics”. While they cannot cure the illness altogether, they can **help control symptoms and prevent relapses**.

There are two different types of antipsychotics:



First-generation antipsychotics are also known as “traditional” antipsychotics. As their name suggests, drugs in this category were the first developed to treat schizophrenia. **They can help with positive symptoms**, such as hallucinations, delusions and paranoia.



Second-generation antipsychotics (also known as “new” or “atypical”) were developed more recently. **They can help with both positive and negative symptoms**, like depression, withdrawal and trouble with planning or organization. They also offer less risk of certain side effects related to movement.

Antipsychotics also vary in how they are taken:



Oral antipsychotics are taken by mouth **every day** (in pill form).



Long-acting injectable antipsychotics (or “LAIs”) are given by injection. They may be given **every 2 weeks, once monthly, or every 3 months** (4 times per year), depending on which option you and your doctor choose. Many people choose LAIs as a more convenient way of taking medication.

Remember: Antipsychotics can only do their job if they're taken as prescribed! Help your loved one stay on track with their treatment by reminding them how their medicine is (or could be) helping with their specific symptoms, and may help them accomplish their goals.*

***Note:** The side effects of medication can often have a negative impact on the quality of life of your loved one. It is important that your loved one keeps a list clarifying how each side effect interferes with their life satisfaction. It is important for the doctor to acknowledge the impacts and affirm you loved one's concerns and address ways to possibly deal with this.

ANTIPSYCHOTIC OPTIONS AVAILABLE IN CANADA

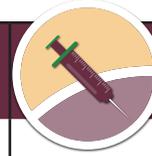


First-generation daily oral antipsychotics:

- Clopixol® (zuclopenthixol)*
- Fluaxol® (flupentixol)*
- Haldol® (haloperidol)*
- Largactil® (chlorpromazine)
- Loxapac® (loxapine)
- Majeptil® (thiopropazine)
- Modecate® (fluphenazine)*
- Navane® (thiothixene)
- Neuleptil® (periciazine)
- Nozinan® (methotrimeprazine)
- Orap® (pimozide)
- Stelazine® (trifluoperazine)
- Stemetil® (prochlorperazine)
- Trilafon® (perphenazine)

Second-generation daily oral antipsychotics:

- Abilify® (aripiprazole)
- Clozaril® (clozapine)
- Invega® (paliperidone)
- Latuda® (lurasidone)
- Risperdal® (risperidone)
- Saphris® (asenapine)
- Seroquel® (quetiapine)
- Zeldox® (ziprasidone)
- Zyprexa® (olanzapine)



Second-generation long-acting injectable antipsychotics:

- Taken every 2 weeks:*
- Risperdal® Consta® (risperidone)
- Taken monthly:*
- Abilify Maintena® (aripiprazole extended release)
 - Invega Sustenna® (paliperidone palmitate)
- Taken every 3 months (4 times per year):*
- Invega Trinza® (paliperidone palmitate)

*Also available as a **long-acting injectable** taken every 2-4 weeks.

Talk to your doctor about which antipsychotic may be best for you/your loved one, as not all antipsychotics are right for everyone. Speak openly about any medication concerns or side effects you experience.



Note: This list may not include all available options. Generics of some of the above antipsychotics may also be available. All registered trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

ADDITIONAL APPROACHES TO TREATING SCHIZOPHRENIA

While antipsychotics are an important part of schizophrenia treatment, medication is not the only step to take toward getting control of this illness. **Non-pharmacological treatment** is another key element to treating schizophrenia, as it can help you and your loved one understand how to better manage the symptoms and improve general functioning.



Psychotherapy may include:

Rehabilitation:

- May involve employment and/or educational supports to help individuals achieve their personal goals.

Counselling:

- Some individuals may benefit from counselling and support with regards to drug or alcohol use.

Cognitive behavioural therapy:

- This type of psychotherapy helps individuals develop skills to manage a wide variety of symptoms that may be experienced.

Family education:

- Learning about the illness and treatment helps family members to play a crucial role in their loved one's care.

For more information on living with psychosis and how to help a loved one with schizophrenia, visit www.earlypsychosisintervention.ca.



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SCHIZOPHRENIA SOCIETY OF CANADA
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE LA SCHIZOPHRÉNIE
UNE SOURCE D'ESPOIR, DE SOUTIEN ET D'ENTRAIDE.

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