

Aripiprazole (Abilify®), Abilify Discmelt®)

ALAMEDA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Client's Name _____

Date _____

Initial Medication Instructions _____

What does this medication help to treat?

- Schizophrenia
- Schizoaffective disorder
- Bipolar disorder
- Depression
- Irritability associated with autism
- And other conditions and symptoms (ask your provider for more information)

Symptoms of these conditions are:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hallucinations (hearing voices) | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor concentration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delusions (beliefs that are false) | <input type="checkbox"/> Rapid thoughts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fearful feelings | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacing and restlessness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paranoia or suspiciousness | <input type="checkbox"/> Fluctuations in mood |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agitation, aggression, or hostility | <input type="checkbox"/> Insomnia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of energy or motivation | |

Other information

- This medication can take up to 6 weeks to achieve desired results, but you should begin to see improvement within the first 1-2 weeks of treatment.
- It is very important to keep all appointments with your clinic, prescriber, and laboratory.
- Your prescriber will need to monitor your weight, blood pressure, cholesterol level, and sugar level in your blood while on this medication.

Side Effects and Management

Common (greater than 10 in 100 clients on this medication)

Nausea , Vomiting or Upset Stomach	Try taking aripiprazole with food, if vomiting continues, call your prescriber.
Insomnia	Ask your prescriber about taking your doses in the morning or earlier in the day
Drowsiness	Use caution if driving or operating machinery. Ask your prescriber about taking aripiprazole at bedtime.
Restlessness, Agitation	Talk to your prescriber about possible dosing adjustments or about a medication that can be given to treat this effect.
Dizziness	Get up slowly from chairs. Dangle feet off the side of the bed before getting up.

Uncommon (~1 to 10 in 100 clients on this medication)

Dry Mouth	Use sugarless gum or candy or melt bits of ice in your mouth. Call your prescriber if your mouth feels dry for more than 2 weeks.
Muscle Effects: stiffness, tremor	You may experience muscle stiffness, spasm, or restlessness. Talk to your prescriber about your options; possible dosing adjustments or about a medication that can be given to treat this effect.
Increased Blood Sugar	Have your blood sugar checked by your prescriber regularly, especially if you have diabetes or a higher risk for diabetes.
Increased Cholesterol	Your prescriber will want to check your blood every 3 to 6 months to make sure your cholesterol or triglycerides are not too high.
Weight Gain	Avoid foods high in fat and sugar. Eat balanced meals and maintain an active lifestyle.

Rare (less than 1 in 100 clients on this medication)

Call your prescriber immediately if you experience any of these:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Trouble controlling urges to engage in risky behaviors (ex: gambling, sexual indiscretion, others)▪ New or worsening thoughts of suicide▪ Headache or Fever▪ Fine worm-like tongue movements, unusual face, mouth, or jaw movements (Tardive Dyskinesia)▪ Fast or irregular heartbeat (palpitations) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Difficulty swallowing or breathing▪ Risk of stroke (in individuals over 65 years old)▪ Seizures or convulsions▪ Shuffling walk▪ Blurred vision▪ Slow or difficult speech▪ Skin rash or yellowing of the skin or eyes |
|--|--|

References: Clinical Psychopharmacology, LexiComp 2011

Note: This information is not intended to cover all possible uses, precautions, interactions, or adverse effects for this medication. If you have further questions about the medications you are taking check with your health care professional.