

Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services

Drug Information Sheet: **Conventional Neuroleptics**

- chlorpromazine (Thorazine)
- haloperidol (Haldol)
- fluphenazine (Prolixin)
- loxapine (Loxitane)

- thioridazine (Mellaril)
- trifluoperazine (Stelazine)
- perphenazine (Trilafon)
- thiothixene (Navane)

Other: _____

Neuroleptic agents are used to treat confusion, voices, agitation, and fearfulness associated with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, depression, and other conditions. In addition, they can maintain the ability to think clearly.

Like any medication, these neuroleptic agents can have some side effects:

Common

blurred vision
drowsiness
dry mouth
muscle stiffness
restlessness

Less Common

skin sensitivity to the sun
dizziness
tremor
decreased sex drive
muscle spasm
menstrual upset

Rare

heat stroke
seizure
skin discoloration
neuroleptic malignant
syndrome
choking

Tardive Dyskinesia (T.D.) is a condition that may be caused by the neuroleptics. It causes face and body movements that are involuntary. In some patients, it may be permanent, but it is usually reversible over a period of time. Your physician will help you to differentiate T.D. from less serious body movements such as tremors, spasms and restlessness.

These medications need to be taken daily, and work gradually. It may take several weeks or months for a full beneficial effect.