

Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services

Drug Information Sheet: **Novel Antipsychotics**

olanzapine (Zyprexa)
 risperidone (Risperdal)

quetiapine (Seroquel)
 ziprasidone (Geodon)
 aripiprazole (Abilify)

Other: _____

Antipsychotic 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.

These newer atypical antipsychotic agents have different adverse effects than older antipsychotics. Some individuals will tolerate and respond to these medications better than to the older neuroleptic agents. Some side effects may include:

Common

dizziness
rapid heart rate
drowsiness
nausea

Less Common

weight gain
sexual dysfunction
menstrual cycle upset
muscle tightness/spasm
metabolic changes

Rare

heart rhythm changes
diabetes
breast tenderness
lactation
tardive dyskinesia

Tardive Dyskinesia (T.D.) causes face and body movements that are involuntary. In some cases, it may be permanent.

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