

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 or other conditions.

Symptoms of these conditions are:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hallucinations (hearing voices) <input type="checkbox"/> Delusions (beliefs that are false) <input type="checkbox"/> Fearful feelings <input type="checkbox"/> Paranoia or suspiciousness <input type="checkbox"/> Agitation, aggression, or hostility <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of energy or motivation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Poor concentration <input type="checkbox"/> Rapid thoughts <input type="checkbox"/> Pacing and restlessness <input type="checkbox"/> Fluctuations in mood <input type="checkbox"/> Insomnia |
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Aripiprazole is sometimes prescribed for other uses; ask your health care professional for more information

Other information

- This medication can take up to 6 weeks to achieve desired results, but you should begin to see improvement within the first two 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 your aripiprazole with food, if vomiting continues, call your prescriber.
Insomnia	Ask your prescriber about taking your doses in the morning and early afternoon.
Drowsiness	Use caution when driving or operating machinery. Ask your prescriber about taking your dose at bedtime if drowsiness occurs.
Restlessness, Agitation	Talk to your prescriber about possibly adjusting the dose of your aripiprazole, or a medication can be given to counteract 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	Suck on 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. If this should happen, tell your prescriber so that your dose may be adjusted or a medication can be given to counteract these effects.
Increased Blood Sugar	Have your blood sugar checked by your prescriber regularly, especially if you have diabetes or a higher risk for diabetes.
Increased Lipids (Cholesterol and Triglycerides)	Your prescriber may 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:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Headache ▪ Fine worm-like tongue movements, unusual face, mouth, or jaw movements ▪ Fast or irregular heartbeat (palpitations) ▪ Slow or difficult speech ▪ Difficulty swallowing or breathing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Risk of stroke (in individuals over 65 years old) ▪ Seizures or convulsions ▪ Shuffling walk ▪ Blurred vision ▪ Fever ▪ Skin rash or yellowing of the skin or eyes |
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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.