

PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

MEDICINE TO TREAT MENTAL DISORDERS

Risperidone
Olanzapine
Quetiapine

ABOUT your medicine

Your doctor has prescribed for you a medicine to treat the symptoms of mental disorders, e.g. risperidone, olanzapine or quetiapine.

HOW does my medicine work?

The medicine works by reducing transmission of certain neurotransmitters in the brain. By doing so, it helps to control symptoms of mental illnesses such as reduced ability to express emotion, lack of energy, thought disorder, hallucinations, delusions, etc.

HOW should I take the medicine?

Your doctor will tell you how much of the medicine to take and how often. Your dose may need to be changed several times initially in order to find out the dose that works best for you. Do not take more medicine or take it more often than your doctor tells you to.

The medicine can be taken with or without food. Do not stop taking the medicine suddenly without asking your doctor.

If you have been prescribed the liquid dosage form of risperidone, measure your dose carefully using the special tube (pipette) that comes with your medicine. You may mix your dose with water, low fat milk, coffee or orange juice. Do not mix with cola or tea. The medicine should be taken within 4 hours after mixing.

What should I do if **I FORGET** a dose?

If you miss a dose or forget to take your medicine, take it as soon as you can. If it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then to take the medicine and skip the missed dose. Do not double the dose.

What **PRECAUTIONS** should I take?

Before taking your medicine, inform your doctor if:

- You are allergic to this medicine or any other medicine
- You are currently taking any other medicines
- You have any medical conditions such as blood pressure problems, any heart conditions (especially irregular heart beat), Parkinson's disease, difficulty in urinating or enlarged prostate, glaucoma, a history of breast cancer, a history of epilepsy and kidney or liver problem
- You are pregnant or planning to get pregnant or are breastfeeding

Avoid exposing yourself to strong direct sunlight when you are taking the medicines **and use a sunscreen when outdoors**.

If you develop

- high fever, muscle stiffness with excessive sweating or
- irregular heart beat or
- fits / convulsions

after taking the medicines, see your doctor immediately.

What are the possible **SIDE-EFFECTS** of the medicine?

1. Uncontrolled muscle movements

The medicines may cause side effects that include muscle spasms, tremor, twitching in the face and body and uncontrolled movement of the tongue, face and jaw. Talk to your doctor if you experience any of the uncontrolled movements.

2. Drowsiness & dizziness

The medicines can make you feel sleepy and giddy. Be careful if you are driving a car or using machinery. Avoid drinking alcohol.

3. Other side effects

The medicines may cause other side effects such as blurred vision, constipation and dry mouth. Tell your doctor if you have problems with these side effects.

How should I **STORE** the medicine?

Store in a cool, dry place. Protect from moisture, heat and direct sunlight.

National University Hospital

5 Lower Kent Ridge Road, Singapore 119074

Tel: (65) 6779 5555 Fax: (65) 6779 5678

Website: www.nuh.com.sg

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The information provided in this publication is meant purely for educational purposes and may not be used as a substitute for medical diagnosis or treatment. You should seek the advice of your doctor or a qualified healthcare provider before starting any treatment or if you have any questions related to your health, physical fitness or medical conditions.

Information is correct at time of printing and subject to revision without prior notice.

Keep all medication out of reach of children

Discard all medication that has expired or is no longer required