

[Home](#)2. [Abilify Maintena](#)

# Abilify Maintena

**Generic name:** [aripiprazole lauroxil](#) (injection) [ *AR-i-PIP-ra-zole* ]**Drug class:** [Atypical antipsychotics](#)Medically reviewed by [Melisa Puckey, BPharm](#). Last updated on Feb 9, 2025.[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#) [FAQ](#)

## What is Abilify Maintena?

Abilify Maintena (aripiprazole) extended-release injection is used alone or in combination with other aripiprazole preparations to treat [schizophrenia](#) (a mental illness that causes disturbed or unusual thinking, loss of interest in life, and strong or inappropriate emotions).

Abilify Maintena injection is also used for the ongoing treatment of people with [bipolar I disorder](#) (manic-depressive disorder; a disease that causes episodes of depression, episodes of mania, and other abnormal moods)

Abilify Maintena belongs to a class of medications called atypical antipsychotics. It works by changing the activity of certain natural substances in the brain.

**Abilify Maintena is an extended-release injectable suspension given once a month.**

## Abilify Maintena side effects

### Common Abilify Maintena side effects

Common Abilify Maintena side effects may include:

- [Increase in weight](#) 17%
- An inability to remain still ([akathisia](#)) 11%
- [Constipation](#) 10%
- Injection site pain 5%
- Sedation 5%
- Dry mouth 4%
- Upper respiratory tract infection 4%
- Decrease in weight 4%
- Dizziness 4%

- Diarrhea 3%
- Vomiting 3%
- [Muscle and joint pain](#) 3%
- Tremor 3%
- Abdominal discomfort 2%
- Nasal congestion 2%.

These common side effects occurred in 2% or more of patient treated with Abilify Maintena over a 12 week clinical trial that was double-blind and placebo-controlled Trial.

## Serious side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have signs of an allergic reaction: hives, difficult breathing, swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

High doses or long-term use of aripiprazole can cause a serious movement disorder ([tardive dyskinesia](#)) that may not be reversible. The longer you use Abilify Maintena, the more likely you are to develop this disorder, especially if you are a woman or an older adult.

You may have increased sexual urges, unusual urges to gamble, or other intense urges while using this medicine. Talk with your doctor if this occurs.

Abilify Maintena may cause serious side effects. Call your doctor at once if you have:

- uncontrolled muscle movements in your face (chewing, lip smacking, frowning, tongue movement, blinking or eye movement);
- feeling unusually hot or cold;
- trouble swallowing;
- a seizure;
- feeling like you might pass out (even while lying down);
- severe nervous system reaction - very stiff (rigid) muscles, high [fever](#), sweating, confusion, fast or uneven heartbeats, tremors, feeling like you might pass out;
- low blood cell counts - fever, chills, tiredness, mouth sores, skin sores, easy bruising, unusual bleeding, pale skin, cold hands and feet, feeling light-headed or short of breath;
- signs of infection - fever, chills, [sore throat](#), body aches, unusual tiredness, loss of appetite, bruising or bleeding; or
- high blood sugar - increased thirst, increased urination, dry mouth, fruity breath odor.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Abilify Maintena side effects](#) (more detail)

## Related/similar drugs

## Lybalvi

Lybalvi is used to treat adults with manic or mixed episodes associated with bipolar I disorder ...

### Reviews & ratings

8.1 / 10

[16 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

## Fanapt

Fanapt (iloperidone) is an antipsychotic medication used to treat schizophrenia. Includes Fanapt ...

### Reviews & ratings

6.4 / 10

[30 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

### FEATURED

## Caplyta

Caplyta (lumateperone) may be used to treat schizophrenia or depression associated with bipolar ...

### Reviews & ratings

6.6 / 10

[184 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

## Abilify

Abilify is an antipsychotic medicine used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia and bipolar ...

### Reviews & ratings

6.1 / 10

[1,187 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

## Seroquel

Seroquel is used to treat the

symptoms of schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and major depressive ...

#### Reviews & ratings

7.0 / 10

[694 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

### Risperidone

Risperidone is used to treat schizophrenia and symptoms of bipolar disorder. Learn about side ...

#### Reviews & ratings

5.6 / 10

[731 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

### Olanzapine

Olanzapine (brand name Zyprexa) is an atypical antipsychotic that may be used to treat adults and ...

#### Reviews & ratings

5.9 / 10

[1,091 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

### Quetiapine

Quetiapine is an atypical antipsychotic used to treat schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and major ...

#### Reviews & ratings

7.2 / 10

[2,249 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

### Lamictal

Lamictal is an anti-epileptic medication used treat seizures in adults and children over 2 years ...

#### Reviews & ratings

[View more](#)

## Warnings

Abilify Maintena is not approved for use in older adults with psychotic conditions related to dementia. Aripiprazole may increase the risk of death in older adults with dementia-related psychosis.

## Before taking this medicine

You should not be treated with Abilify Maintena if you are allergic to aripiprazole.

Tell your doctor if you have never taken Abilify Maintena.

Abilify Maintena may increase the risk of death in older adults with dementia-related psychosis and is not approved for this use.

To make sure Abilify Maintena is safe for you, tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- a problem in receiving an injection in the arm or buttocks;
- [heart disease](#), a [heart attack](#) or stroke;
- high or [low blood pressure](#);
- high blood sugar, diabetes (in you or family member);
- a seizure;
- [high cholesterol](#) or triglycerides;
- [dehydration](#); or
- low white blood cell (WBC) counts.

Using antipsychotic medicine in the last 3 months of pregnancy may cause serious problems in the newborn. Tell your doctor right away if you get pregnant. Do not stop the medicine without your doctor's advice.

If you are pregnant, your name may be listed on a pregnancy registry to track the effects of aripiprazole on the baby.

Ask a doctor if it is safe to breastfeed while using this medicine.

 [Abilify Maintena pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (more detail)

## How is Abilify Maintena given?

**Abilify Maintena is injected into a muscle once a month by your healthcare provider.**

Your doctor may occasionally change your dose and dosing schedule.

If you have never used Abilify Maintena, you may need to take aripiprazole by mouth (in tablet or liquid form) before you receive your first injection.

You will need to continue taking aripiprazole by mouth for 14 days after your first injection. Follow your doctor's dosing instructions very carefully.

Your blood sugar will need to be checked on a regular basis, and you may need other medical tests.

Use Abilify Maintena as prescribed by your doctor. If you already use other antipsychotic medication, you may need to keep using it for a short time. Do not change your dose or dosing schedule without your doctor's advice.

## Abilify Maintena Dosing Information

### Usual Adult Abilify Maintena Dose for Schizophrenia:

**Initial dose:** Abilify Maintena 400 mg IM once; continue aripiprazole IR 10 to 20 mg orally once a day for 14 days

**Maintenance dose:** 300 to 400 mg IM once a month; the dose should not be given sooner than 26 days after the previous injection.

### General dosing information for schizophrenia

- Before starting therapy with extended-release IM formulations, tolerability should be established with oral formulations; it may take up to 2 weeks to fully assess tolerability due to the half-life of aripiprazole.
- The first dose of the extended-release IM formulation should be given on the same day as the initiation/re-initiation dose; providers should avoid injecting both formulations in the same deltoid or gluteal muscle.
- For patients who experience adverse reactions with 400 mg/month extended-release IM suspension doses your doctor may consider reducing the dose to 300 mg/month.
- Dose regimen adjustments (including addition of oral supplementation) will be needed for missed doses.

### Usual Adult Abilify Maintena Dose for Bipolar Disorder:

**Initial dose:** 400 mg IM once; continue aripiprazole IR 10 to 20 mg orally once a day for 14 days

**Maintenance dose:** 300 to 400 mg IM once a month; the dose should not be given sooner than 26 days after the previous injection

### General dosing information for bipolar disorder

- For patients who experience adverse reactions with 400 mg/month extended-release IM suspension doses your doctor may consider reducing the dose to 300 mg/month.
- The dose recommended for maintenance treatment is the same dose needed to stabilize patients during acute treatment; healthcare providers should periodically reassess need for maintenance treatment.

 [Detailed Abilify Maintena dosage information](#)

## What happens if I miss a dose?

Call your doctor for instructions if you miss an appointment for your aripiprazole injection.

If you miss the second or third doses, and:

- if more than 4 weeks and less than 5 weeks have elapsed since the last injection, administer the injection as soon as possible.
- if more than 5 weeks have elapsed since the last injection, restart and also take oral aripiprazole for 14 days with the next administered injection.

If the fourth or subsequent doses are missed:

- if more than 4 weeks and less than 6 weeks have elapsed since the last injection, administer the injection as soon as possible.
- if more than 6 weeks have elapsed since the last injection, restart and also take oral aripiprazole for 14 days with the next administered injection.

## What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

Overdose symptoms may include [drowsiness](#), weak or shallow breathing, [vomiting](#), aggression, tiredness, confusion, tremors, fast, slow, or uneven heart rate, a light-headed feeling, [high blood pressure](#), [seizures](#), or fainting.

## Abilify Maintena Copay card

With the Abilify Maintena Copay Card ,you may pay as little as \$10 a month. The Abilify Maintena Copay Card Copay Card helps you save money on prescriptions with an annual maximum benefit of \$8,000 and a monthly \$1,400 maximum.

## Who is eligible for the Abilify Maintena Copay Card?

You are eligible for the Abilify Maintena Copay Card if you have commercial or private insurance, a valid prescription, and live in the United States and Puerto Rico. You are not eligible for the Copay Card if you are under 18 years of age, or are covered in whole or in part by any state program or federal healthcare program, including, but not limited to, Medicare or Medicaid (including Medicaid managed care), Medigap, VA, DOD, or TRICARE.

## How do I apply for the copay card?

You can apply for the Abilify Maintena Copay Card online; a link is on the [Abilify Maintena Price Guide page](#).

## What should I avoid while receiving Abilify Maintena?

Avoid getting up too fast from a sitting or lying position, as this may cause dizziness. Also, avoid driving or engaging in hazardous activities until you know how this medicine will affect you. Dizziness or drowsiness can cause falls, accidents, or severe injuries.

Do not drink alcohol. Dangerous side effects could occur.

Drink plenty of fluids while receiving Abilify Maintena to avoid becoming overheated or dehydrated during exercise, in hot weather, or by not drinking enough.

Avoid sunlight or tanning beds. Wear protective clothing and use [sunscreen](#) (SPF 30 or higher) when you are outdoors.

## What other drugs will affect this medicine?

Sometimes it is not safe to use certain medicines at the same time. This includes prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#). Some drugs can affect your blood levels of other drugs you use, which may increase side effects or make the medicines less effective.

Tell your doctor about all your current medicines. Many drugs can affect Abilify Maintena, especially:

- blood pressure medications;
- a benzodiazepine sedative like [Valium](#), [Klonopin](#), or [Xanax](#);
- bronchodilator [asthma](#) medication;
- cold or allergy medicine ([Benadryl](#) and others);
- medicine to treat [overactive bladder](#);
- medicine to treat [Parkinson's disease](#); or
- medicine to treat stomach problems, [motion sickness](#), or [irritable bowel syndrome](#).

This list is not complete and many other drugs may interact with aripiprazole. Not all possible drug interactions are listed here. To check for drug interactions see [Abilify Maintena Interactions](#).

 [Abilify Maintena drug interactions](#) (more detail)

## Does Abilify Maintena interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

Abilify Maintena

+

Enter a drug name

Add

## Abilify Maintena Package Insert

Review the [Abilify Maintena Package Insert](#) for more detailed information about this medicine. The Abilify Maintena Package Insert (PI) contains more comprehensive information on Indications and Usage, Dosage and Administration, Clinical Pharmacology, Clinical Studies, Drug Interaction, and more.

Discuss any medical questions with your doctor or other health care provider. This is not all the information you need about this medicine for safe and effective use, and it does not take the place of talking to your doctor about your treatment.

The Package Insert is sometimes called Abilify Maintena Prescribing Information or FDA label.

## Ingredients



**Active ingredient:** aripiprazole monohydrate.

**Inactive ingredients:** carboxymethyl cellulose sodium, mannitol, sodium phosphate monobasic monohydrate and sodium hydroxide.

## Manufacturer

Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., Tokyo, 101-8535 Japan.

## Popular FAQ

What is the difference between Abilify and Abilify Maintena?



How do you administer Abilify Maintena?



How to switch from Abilify Maintena to Aristada?



How often is Abilify Maintena given?



Why should you take aripiprazole in the morning?



Does Abilify cause weight gain?



How does Abilify MyCite work?



## More FAQ

- [What drugs cause tardive dyskinesia?](#)

[View more FAQ...](#)

## References

1. [Abilify Maintena Product Label](#)

## More about Abilify Maintena (aripiprazole)

- [Check interactions](#)
- [Compare alternatives](#)
- [Pricing & coupons](#)
- [Reviews \(69\)](#)
- [Drug images](#)
- [Latest FDA alerts \(5\)](#)
- [Side effects](#)

- [Dosage information](#)
- [During pregnancy](#)
- [FDA approval history](#)
- [Drug class: atypical antipsychotics](#)
- [Breastfeeding](#)

## Patient resources

### Other brands

[Aristada](#), [Abilify Asimtufii](#), [Abilify Discmelt](#), [Aristada Initio](#)

## Professional resources

- [Abilify Maintena prescribing information](#)
- [Aripiprazole \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

### Other brands

[Aristada](#), [Abilify Asimtufii](#), [Opienza](#), [Aristada Initio](#)

## Other formulations

- [Abilify](#)
- [Abilify MyCite Maintenance Kit oral with sensor](#)

## Related treatment guides

- [Bipolar Disorder](#)
- [Schizophrenia](#)

## Further information

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

[Medical Disclaimer](#)

### DRUG STATUS

#### Availability

**Rx** Prescription only

#### Pregnancy & Lactation

 Risk data available

#### CSA Schedule\*

**N/A** Not a controlled drug



## Approval History



Drug history at FDA



## User Reviews & Ratings

6.2 / 10

[69 Reviews](#)

## Images

[Abilify Maintena 300 mg lyophilized powder for injection](#)



[View larger images](#)

## Drugs.com Mobile App

Access drug & treatment information, identify pills, check interactions and set up personal medication records.



### About

[About Drugs.com](#)

[Advertising policy](#)

[Attribution & citations](#)

### Terms & privacy

[Terms of use](#)

[Editorial policy](#)

[Privacy policy](#)

### Support

[Help center](#)

[Sitemap](#)

[Contact us](#)



[Subscribe to our newsletter](#) for the latest medication news, new drug approvals and FDA alerts.

**Drugs.com** provides accurate and independent information on more than 24,000 prescription drugs, over-the-counter medicines and natural products. This material is provided for educational purposes only and is not intended for medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Data sources include Micromedex (updated 7 Apr 2025), Cerner Multum™ (updated 13 Apr 2025), ASHP (updated 10 Apr 2025) and others.



Ad Choices  
ADVERTISEMENT



Copyright © 2000-2025 Drugs.com. All rights reserved.