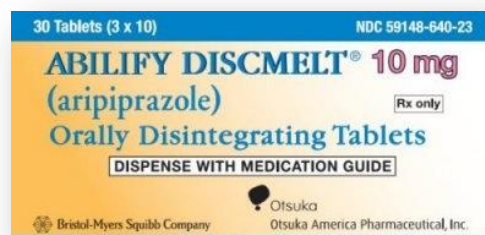


Aripiprazole (Abilify®)

Dementia Drug Education Handout



Why this drug is used?	To treat behavioral symptoms associated with dementia.		
Typical dosing:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin with 5 mg daily. • May increase dose 5 mg every week. • Maximum daily dose is 30 mg. 		
Formulations & Estimated Cost:	<p>1. Tablet, immediate-release (generic available): <u>Strengths:</u> 2 mg, 5 mg, 10 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg, 30 mg <u>Cost (30 day supply):</u> \$960 - \$1360</p> <p>2. Tablet, orally-disintegrating (generic available): <u>Strengths:</u> 10 mg, 15 mg <u>Cost (30 day supply):</u> \$1140</p> <p>3. Solution (generic available): <u>Strengths:</u> 1 mg/mL <u>Cost (150 mL bottle):</u> \$1060</p>		
Contraindication & Precautions for this drug:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypersensitivity to aripiprazole. May include: swelling, rash, hives. • Impulses to gamble, shop, binge eat, or have sex. 		
Common Side Effects:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dizziness • Sleepiness • Feeling tired/weak • Restlessness • Anxiety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headache • Upset stomach • Weight gain • Hard stools • Difficulty sleeping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in appetite • Irritation nose/throat • Dry mouth • Drooling • Stuffy nose



<p>Managing this medication:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take it with or without food. 2. Take this drug at the same time each day. 3. Do not chew, break, or crush tablets. 4. For the orally-disintegrating tablets, do not push the tablet out of the foil when opening. Use dry hands to take it out and put on your tongue. Water is not needed. Do not swallow whole. 6. Measure solution doses carefully. Use the measuring device that comes with the drug. 7. <i>Inform your health-care provider if you experience:</i> suicidal thoughts, impulses to gamble, shop, binge eat, or have sex; confusion, twitching, change in balance, trouble swallowing or speaking, seizures, blurred vision, fever, muscle cramps, sweating, heartbeat that does not feel normal, trouble chewing or sticking out tongue, or other side effects
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References:

1. Lexicomp – aripiprazole, Abilify®
2. Red Book Average Wholesale Price of Drugs 2015
3. Kirby Lee, PharmD, MA, MAS and Ron Finley, RPh, UCSF Memory and Aging Center