

Your medication

Risperidone (Risperdal)



IH-V-169
R.D. 3/03
Pg. 1 of 2

Why do I need this medicine?

Risperidone is an antipsychotic medicine which helps to clear up your thoughts. It also helps with problems like hearing voices or seeing things. It may also be used to treat other psychiatric conditions.

How do I take this medicine?

- Take this medicine just like your doctor told you.
- The medicine can be taken on an empty stomach **or** with food.
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as possible. If you do not remember until it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and return to your normal schedule. **Do not take two doses at the same time.**

What common side effects may I have?

These effects may go away as you get used to the medicine. You may:

- feel sleepy
- feel dizzy
- be tired,
- have trouble keeping your mind on one thing
- have trouble sleeping
- feel sick to your stomach
- gain weight
- be constipated (have hard, dry bowel movements)

Call your doctor right away if:

- you start shaking
- you feel your muscles jumping
- you notice changes in your feelings that are not usual for you
- you get a rash (itchy red bumps on your skin)

(over)

What special things do I need to know?

- **Before** taking any other medicine (prescription or those you can buy without a prescription) talk to your doctor.
- Tell your doctor if you are **allergic to any medicine**.
- Make sure to **keep your appointments** for doctor visits and blood tests.
- If you are dizzy or sleepy stand up slowly after you have been sitting or lying down. If you are dizzy or sleepy, **do not** drive or do other jobs where you need to be alert.
- **Do not** drink alcohol while you are taking this medicine. Beer, wine or hard liquor may make you more dizzy or sleepy.
- **Do not** share this medicine with anyone.
- Keep all medicine out of the reach of children. Even small amount of this medicine may make a child very sick or cause death. Keep all your medicines in a safe place where children cannot get them.
- If you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breast-feeding, tell your doctor **before** you take this medicine. **This medicine may have harmful effects on unborn babies**. If you are not using birth control, be sure and tell your doctor.
- All medicines can cause side effects. Usually, these side effects will get better after a few days. If they do not, you should tell your doctor. The doctor can make some changes in the medicine. **Do not** stop taking the medicine unless the doctor tells you to. Side effects **do not** mean that you are allergic to the medicine.

My special instructions

Call your health care provider if you have any questions