



**Risky.**

## Riskier:

### Side Effects Of Atypical Antipsychotics

- **Olanzapine** – Weight gain and diabetes are particularly common<sup>1</sup>
- **Risperidone** – Hyperglycemia, weight gain and elevated prolactin levels leading to gynecomastia (breast enlargement in males) and galactorrhea (milky nipple discharge) are most common adverse events<sup>1,2</sup>
- **Aripiprazole** – Akathisia and anxiety can occur; 23% incidence of somnolence reported in pediatric patients 10 to 17 years<sup>3,4</sup>

Risperidone, Olanzapine & Aripiprazole

**KNOW THE RISKS BEFORE  
DECIDING TO PRESCRIBE**

1. Drugs for Psychiatric Disorders. *Treat Guidel Med Lett* – JUN-2006; 4(46): 35-45.
2. Choice of an Antipsychotic. *Med Lett Drugs Ther* – 22 DEC-2003; 45(1172): 102-103.
3. Second-Generation Antipsychotics – Aripiprazole Revisited. *Med Lett Drugs Ther* – 10 OCT-2005; 47(1219): 81-82.
4. Abilify® (aripiprazole) prescribing information, November 2009.

Like all drugs, atypical antipsychotics have both benefits and risks. Please see complete efficacy and safety information on olanzapine, risperidone and aripiprazole in *The Medical Letter* newsletters.

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