

ARIZOLE

Aripiprazole

Consumer Medicine Information

This leaflet provides important information about using this medicine. **You should also speak to your doctor or pharmacist if you would like further information or if you have any concerns or questions about using this medicine.**

Where to find information in this leaflet:

1. Why am I using this medicine?
2. What should I know before I use this medicine?
3. What if I am taking other medicines?
4. How do I use this medicine?
5. What should I know while using this medicine?
6. Are there any side effects?
7. Product details

1. Why am I using this medicine?

This medicine contains the active ingredient aripiprazole.

This medicine belongs to a group of medicines called antipsychotic agents which improve the symptoms of certain types of mental illness.

This medicine is used to treat symptoms of schizophrenia.

Schizophrenia is a mental illness with disturbances in thinking, feelings and behaviour.

Your doctor may have prescribed this medicine for another reason. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why this medicine has been prescribed for you.

There is no evidence that this medicine is addictive.

This medicine is available only with a doctor's prescription.

This medicine is not recommended for use in children under the age of 18, as safety and efficacy have not been established in this age group.

2. What should I know before I use this medicine?

Warnings

Do not use this medicine if:

- you are allergic to aripiprazole, or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.
- always check the ingredients to make sure you can use this medicine.

Symptoms of an allergic reaction include:

- rash, itching or hives on the skin.
- shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty breathing.
- swelling of the face, lips, tongue, throat or other parts of the body.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have allergies to:

- any other medicines.
- any other substances such as foods, preservatives or dyes.

Do not take this medicine after the expiry or use by date printed on the pack.

If you take this medicine after this date has passed, it may not work as well.

Do not take this medicine if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.

If this is the case, return it to your pharmacist.

If you are not sure whether you should start taking this medicine, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

Check with your doctor if you:

- Have any other medical conditions especially the following:
 - A reaction to some medicines with a sudden increase in body temperature, sweating, fast heartbeat, muscle stiffness and fluctuating blood pressure, which may lead to coma. This reaction is called neuroleptic malignant syndrome.
 - A reaction to some medicines with abnormal movements of the tongue, or other uncontrolled movements of the mouth, tongue, cheeks or jaw which may progress to the arms and legs. This reaction is called tardive dyskinesia.
 - Low blood pressure.
 - Problems with your heart or blood vessels.
 - Epilepsy, seizures or fits.
 - Problems with your oesophagus (food pipe) such as difficulty in swallowing.
 - High blood sugar or diabetes mellitus.
 - Alzheimer's disease or dementia.
 - Alcohol or drug abuse or dependence or a history of one of these.
 - Venous thromboembolism or are at risk of venous thromboembolism.
 - Have a history of or are at risk

of sleep apnoea (a sleep disorder where your breathing is interrupted during sleep).

- Lactose intolerance.

- Take any medicines for any other condition.

Your doctor may need to adjust or stop your dose.

All thoughts of suicide must be taken seriously. Tell your doctor or a mental health professional immediately if you have any suicidal thoughts, feelings about hurting yourself or other significant mood changes.

Suicidal thoughts and behaviours have been reported during treatment with this medicine.