



## ABILIFY-INFORMED CONSENT FOR MEDICATION

<u>Medication Category:</u> Novel Antipsychotic/Mood Stabilizer	<u>Medications in this Category:</u> aripripazole (Abilify)
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Anticipated Dosage Range: \_\_\_\_\_

About Your Medication: Aripripazole is an antipsychotic medication that is used in the treatment of schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and other psychotic illnesses. It is also FDA approved as an add-on therapy for treatment resistant depression. Aripripazole appears to affect several different brain neurotransmitters.

Side Effects: Every medication is capable of producing side effects. Many people who take aripripazole experience no, or minor side effects. The frequency and severity of side effects depend on many factors including dose, duration of therapy and individual susceptibility.

Seek emergency medical attention if you have any of these signs of an allergic reaction: hives; difficulty breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat. Stop using aripripazole and call your prescriber at once if you have any of these serious side effects: fever, stiff muscles, confusion, sweating, fast or uneven heartbeats; jerky muscle movements you cannot control; sudden numbness or weakness, headache, confusion, or problems with vision, speech, or balance; fever, chills, body aches, flu symptoms; white patches or sores inside your mouth or on your lips; increased thirst or urination, loss of appetite, fruity breath odor, drowsiness, dry skin, nausea, and vomiting; seizure (convulsions); thoughts of hurting yourself; feeling like you might pass out; jaundice (yellowing of your skin or eyes); or urinating less than usual or not at all.

Less serious aripripazole side effects may include: choking or trouble swallowing; dizziness, drowsiness, or weakness, constipation, mild stomach upset; headache, anxiety; sleep problems (insomnia); or weight gain.

Aripripazole has also been associated with diabetes, risk factors for diabetes (obesity, family history of diabetes), or unexpected increases in thirst, urination or hunger. Increases in blood sugar levels (hyperglycemia), in some cases serious and associated with coma or death, have been reported in patients taking medicines like aripripazole. Ask your prescriber about the need to monitor blood sugar level before and during treatment.

Lightheadedness and faintness caused by a sudden change in heart rate and blood pressure when rising quickly from a sitting or lying position (orthostatic hypotension) has been reported with aripripazole.

Precautions: Medications like aripipazole can affect your judgment, thinking, or motor skills. You should not drive or operate heavy machinery until you know how aripipazole affects you. Since medicines like aripipazole can impact your body's ability to reduce body temperature, you should avoid overheating and dehydration.

While you are taking medication for depression, anxiety or other psychiatric illnesses you may need to be monitored for worsening symptoms of depression and/or suicidal thoughts at the start of therapy or when doses are changed. This concern about the increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behaviors may be greater if you are 18 years of age or younger. In patients younger than 18 years, the period of risk may extend beyond start of therapy or when doses are changed. Your prescriber may want you to monitor for the following symptoms: anxiety, panic attacks, difficulty sleeping, irritability, hostility, impulsivity, severe restlessness and mania (mental and/or physical hyperactivity). These symptoms may be associated with the development of worsening symptoms of depression and/or suicidal thoughts or actions. Contact your prescriber or other mental health provider if you develop any new or worsening mental health symptoms during treatment with a psychiatric medication. Do not stop taking your medication without consulting with your prescriber.

By my signature below, I give consent for the above-named medication to be administered and for a change of medication within this medication category. My signature also indicates that I am aware of, have read and discussed the reasons for the use of this medication, and its potential risks and benefits.

Client Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_