



## ANTICHOLINERGIC - INFORMED CONSENT FOR MEDICATION

<u>Medication Category:</u> Anticholinergics (also called Anti-Dyskinetics or Anti-Parkinson agents)	<u>Medications in this Category:</u> benzotropine mesylate (Congentin); biperiden (Akineton); procyclidine (Kemadrin); thyhexyphenidyl (Artane)
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Anticipated dosage range: \_\_\_\_\_

About your medicine: Anticholinergic medication is used to reduce the frequency and severity of some of the muscle related side effects of antipsychotic medication. These are often referred to as “extrapyramidal side effects” or EPS. They are also referred to as pseudoparkinsonian side effects. Symptoms of EPS that can be treated with these anticholinergic medications include dystonias (muscle spasms), akathisia (restlessness, inability to be still), akinesia (loss of spontaneity, a “wooden” feeling), and tremors.

### Side Effects:

Every drug is capable of producing side effects. Many people who take Anticholinergic medications 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.

Possible side effects include:

More Common: Blurred vision, constipation, decrease in sweating, drowsiness, dry mouth, increased sensitivity of eyes to light, and nausea or vomiting.

Less Common: Dizziness or light-headedness when getting up from a lying or sitting position, headache, muscle cramps, nervousness, numbness or weakness in hands or feet, skin rash, increased heart rate, mood or mental changes, and unusual warmth, dryness and flushing of skin.

Precautions: These drugs are potentially habit forming.

By my signature below, I give consent for the above-named medication to be administered. My signature also indicated that I have read and discussed the reasons for the use of this medication, and its potential risks and benefits, that I do not have an alcohol or drug abuse problem and that I know that these medications and alcohol or illicit drugs should not be used at the same time.

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

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

Pathway Clinic, SC/Wisconsin Eating Disorder Specialists/The REDI Clinic

### General Guidelines for Use:

- Always inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist if you have ever had an allergic reaction to any medication before starting on a new medication.
- May cause drowsiness, dizziness, or blurred vision. Use caution when driving or performing other tasks requiring alertness.
- This medicine may cause you to have a dry mouth. For temporary relief use sugarless gum or sugarless candy. The lack of normal amounts of saliva can increase the risk of tooth cavities and mouth infections, which are more likely if you frequently use hard candy with sugar. It is also important to maintain good dental hygiene.
- If you experience stomach upset, try taking this medicine with meals or immediately after meals to decrease this problem.
- Do not take this medicine within 1 hour of taking antacid or medicine for diarrhea. Taking them too close together will make this medicine less effective.
- Difficult urination and constipation can occur. Use “stool softeners” if necessary. Notify your doctor or nurse if either difficult urination or constipation persists.
- This medication may cause your eyes to become sensitive to light. Wearing sunglasses and avoiding too much exposure to bright light may help lessen the discomfort.
- Notify your doctor or nurse if a rapid heartbeat, pounding sensation in chest, confusion, hallucinations, eye pain, or rash occurs.
- Notify your doctor if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant or if you are breast-feeding.
- Keep out of the reach of children.