










## Risperidone

This is an easy way to read this word...ris-perry-done

	<p><b>What is this leaflet for?</b></p> <p>This leaflet is to help you understand more about your medicine.</p> <p>Your medicine could look different to the photographs on this leaflet.</p>
	<p><b>What is the medicine called?</b></p> <p>Risperidone is also called Risperdal.</p> <p>You will see 1 of these names on your prescription.</p> <p>Risperidone could come as tablets or as a liquid.</p>
	<p><b>What is risperidone for?</b></p> <p>Risperidone could be used for different reasons.</p> <p>Risperidone is used for psychoses and mania.</p> <p>Risperidone is sometimes used for people who have behaviour problems.</p> <p>For example, it could...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• help if you are anxious</li><li>• help calm you down</li><li>• help you feel less angry</li><li>• help you feel less tense.</li></ul>
	<p><b>What will risperidone do?</b></p> <p>Risperidone should help you feel calm and relaxed.</p> <p>It could take some time for risperidone to have its full effect.</p> <p>This effect should reduce your behaviour problem.</p>

	<p>For example, it may...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• help you control your temper</li><li>• help you stop hurting yourself</li><li>• help you stop breaking things.</li></ul>
   	<p><b>What are the side effects of risperidone?</b></p> <p>Side effects are effects medicine can have on your body that are not wanted.</p> <p>Not everyone taking a medicine will get side effects.</p> <p>Many side effects will go away with time.</p> <p>Many side effects are rare.</p> <p><b>You might want to talk to your doctor if you have any side effects.</b></p> <p>For example, these are some side effects of risperidone...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• headache</li><li>• feeling dizzy when you stand up</li><li>• feeling more restless and agitated</li><li>• you could lose interest in sex</li><li>• constipation</li><li>• feeling sleepy or sluggish</li><li>• problems with sleeping</li><li>• putting on weight</li><li>• if you are female, your periods could change.</li></ul>



Some side effects are more serious.

You should tell someone straight away if...

- you have a fever or high body temperature
- you feel stiff
- you feel shaky
- you have blurred vision or things look fuzzy
- you have a rash or your skin looks blotchy.



## How and when do I take risperidone?

The label on your risperidone packet should tell you when to take your medicine.

The label should tell you how much medicine you should take.

You should follow these instructions carefully.



You should swallow your tablet with water or measure and swallow your liquid.




Some types of risperidone can be dissolved on the tongue or in a drink. This type of risperidone is called Quicklet.



If you have this type of risperidone, you should let the tablet dissolve on your tongue and swallow or mix it in mineral water, orange juice or black coffee but not cola. You should drink this straight away.

You should ask your pharmacist if you are unsure about which type of risperidone you have.

If you forget to take your medicine, tell someone straight away.

	<p>You should carry on taking your medicine even if you feel better unless your doctor asks you to stop.</p> <p>You should talk to your doctor before you stop taking your medicine.</p>
	<p><b>What do I need to know about risperidone?</b></p> <p>Drinking alcohol whilst taking risperidone could make you feel drowsy.</p> <p>Some medicines do not work well together.</p> <p>You should tell your doctor about any other medicines you are taking.</p>
	<p><b>Where can I get more information?</b></p> <p>This leaflet does not tell you everything about risperidone.</p> <p>If you want more information about risperidone...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• you can ask your pharmacist, doctor or nurse for more information</li><li>• you can ask your carer to get more information</li><li>• you can phone NHS Direct on 0845 4647</li><li>• you can phone a medicine information helpline on 020 3228 2999.</li></ul>

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It can be downloaded from [www.ld-medication.bham.ac.uk](http://www.ld-medication.bham.ac.uk).

The information in this leaflet came from...

- the British National Formulary ([www.bnf.org](http://www.bnf.org))
- the United Kingdom Psychiatric Pharmacy Group Patient Advisory Leaflets ([www.ukppg.org.uk/ukppg-pals.html](http://www.ukppg.org.uk/ukppg-pals.html))
- Miriam Wilcher's Handbook for Carers of People with Learning Disabilities.

This is an unofficial information leaflet.

Some of the pictures are from the CHANGE Health Picture Bank, CHANGE, Units 19/20, Unity Business Centre, 26 Roundhay Road, Leeds, LS7 1AB.

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