

Classification

Atypical anti-psychotic

Prehospital Indications

Agitation in a cooperative patient (able to self-administer medication)

Other Common Indications

None

Adult Dose

10 mg ODT given ONCE

Pediatric Dose

10mg ODT given ONCE for pediatric patients longer than the length-based resuscitation tape

Mechanism of Action

2nd generation anti-psychotic. Antagonizes serotonin 5-HT, dopamine, histamine and alpha-1 receptors. The precise mechanism is unknown but thought to be mediated through serotonin 5-HT and dopamine receptor sites.

Pharmacokinetics

Onset is 10-15 min; duration is hours

Contraindications

Pregnancy
Dementia related psychosis
Patients ≤14 years AND on the length-based resuscitation tape
Ondansetron co-administration (QT prolongation)

Interactions

CNS Depressant (enhances sedative effect)
Blood pressure lowering agents (enhances hypotensive effect)
QT prolonging drugs (additive prolongation of QT may produce torsade de pointes/polymorphic ventricular tachycardia)

Adverse Effects

Dry mouth
Dystonic reaction
Drowsiness
GI upset
Headache
Orthostatic hypotension
Sedation

Prehospital Considerations

- Caution use in patients >70 years of age.
- May cause prolonged QT interval. Caution in patients with known prolonged QT syndrome or recent/simultaneous use of other QT-prolonging drugs.
- Should not be administered in patients known to be pregnant, regardless of gestational age.
- Patients with known schizophrenia or bipolar disorder that are symptomatic (i.e., hearing voices, paranoid thoughts) may benefit most for symptom management. May be administered safely for undifferentiated agitation.
- Monitor airway and sedation if concomitant CNS depressant use is suspected as depressant effects may be enhanced.

- Look Alike; Sound Alike medications are defined as those medications when written or verbally pronounced have the potential to lead to a medication error by mimicking the appearance or sound of another medication. The drug names Olanzapine and Ondansetron are similar enough to cause confusion. A second check of drug names should be performed before administration.