



## Tardive Dyskinesia (TD) Facts

### TD can dramatically affect quality of life:

It “moderately or extremely affects” the following areas:

- Ability to work (46%)
- Ability to sleep (53%)
- Ability to eat and drink (35%)<sup>1</sup>

Almost half of people with TD experience moderate to severe anxiety or depression.<sup>2</sup> When untreated, TD can cause people to feel self-conscious and can even affect employment and social opportunities.

People taking first-generation or second-generation antipsychotics are at risk of developing TD.<sup>3</sup> Those over 50 taking these medicines are in a high-risk population.

Nothing has been found to cure TD, but two FDA-approved medications may lessen the severity of TD symptoms. All patients should have access to appropriate diagnosis and treatment options.

**An estimated 600,000 people in the U.S. have TD, a medication-induced movement disorder.**

Almost seven million people in the U.S. take antipsychotic medications for a wide range of ailments from schizophrenia to insomnia. Tragically, an estimated 600,000 U.S. citizens have developed a movement disorder called tardive dyskinesia because they took an antipsychotic, anti-nausea drug, or other prescription medicine that acts similarly in the brain. TD is often permanent and can dramatically impact daily activities, career pursuits, personal relationships and hobbies.

<sup>1</sup> Patient ATU 2021. Target patients (n=350). Responses based on survey question: Since first experiencing involuntary movements, how has your ability to perform the following daily activities been affected, if at all?

<sup>2</sup>Published Commentary from Psychiatric Times. 2019.

<https://www.psychiatrictimes.com/view/tardive-dyskinesia-facts-and-figures>. Accessed: February 4, 2022

<sup>3</sup> Dolder CR, Jeste DV. Incidence of tardive dyskinesia with typical versus atypical antipsychotics in very high-risk patients. *Biol Psychiatry* 2003; 53:1142-1145.



# TD Awareness Week: May 1-7

All 50 states and DC now recognize the first week in May as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week

## How you can participate

Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week is observed during the first week of May, to coincide with the start of Mental Health Awareness Month. This year is the 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary of TD Awareness Week. All states and the District of Columbia have recognized TD Awareness Week, and resolutions to recognize this week have been introduced in both the US House and Senate.

To participate in TD Awareness Week, post stats and infographics about TD on your social media channels. Use the hashtag #TDawarenessweek for all relevant content and to find content you can share.

## Proposed FDA Neuroscience Center of Excellence

In December 2021, a bipartisan bill was introduced to fund and establish a Neuroscience Center of Excellence at the Food and Drug Administration. Funding this important initiative could provide the research that the tardive dyskinesia community requires to help reduce the rates of TD or even discover a cure for this debilitating disorder.

## The crucial role of in-person care

Screenings for movement disorders require a physical assessment and visual examination of the body, and telehealth places substantial limitations on a provider's ability to conduct a thorough physical examination. While telehealth has been a lifeline for many patients during the COVID-19 pandemic, telehealth must complement, not replace, face-to-face care.

## TD language added to HHS FY22 Consolidated Appropriations Act

In mid-March 2022, President Biden signed into law the Fiscal Year 2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act that included language regarding tardive dyskinesia in the HHS section. The Committee encourages HHS to prioritize the importance of screening, diagnosing and treating TD.

## BRAIN Initiative

Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) – established in 2016, NIH's BRAIN Initiative, which seeks to revolutionize our understanding of the brain, will require a long-term, sustained investment in innovative brain research. The BRAIN Initiative was funded at \$680 million in FY 2023. As appropriations for FY 2024 are being considered, we urge you to support the robust funding required to continue this crucial endeavor.