

Antipsychotics are medications that can help reduce the symptoms of conditions like schizophrenia and bipolar disorder.

There are long-acting injectable (LAI) forms of these medications that slowly release the medication over a longer period. Many people find LAIs helpful if they do not want to remember to take a medication every day. LAI antipsychotics can help you get a steady level of medication and reduce the risk of hospitalizations. Some examples of LAI antipsychotics include [Abilify Maintena®](#) (aripiprazole), [Invega Sustenna®](#) (paliperidone), and [Uzedv®](#) (risperidone).

### What can I expect with LAI antipsychotics?

- ➔ LAI antipsychotics are given every 2 weeks to 6 months, depending on the specific LAI. You may need to start with a shorter-acting medication before you can transition to a longer-acting one.
- ➔ LAI antipsychotics must be given by a healthcare professional, such as your psychiatrist or pharmacist. Depending on the LAI, the medication may be given in your abdomen, arm, or buttocks.
- ➔ You may see symptoms, such as hallucinations and disorganized thinking, start to get better after 2 weeks, but it may take 6 to 8 weeks to see the full effects.
- ➔ People on LAI antipsychotics may experience pain at the injection site, drowsiness, restlessness, and weight changes.
  - » Abnormal muscle movements are a rare but possible side effect of antipsychotics. Please contact your physician immediately if these occur.
  - » You will also need regular physicals and lab work done to ensure the medication is safe and effective. The table below shows what is being measured and how often, and it can help you keep track of the physicals/lab work you need.

#### Monitoring Protocols for Members on Antipsychotic Medications\*

	Baseline	4 Weeks	8 Weeks	12 Weeks	Quarterly	Annually	Every 5 Years
Personal and Family History	✓					✓	
Weight (BMI)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Waist Circumference	✓	✓				✓	
Blood Pressure	✓	✓		✓		✓	
Blood Sugar (HbA1c)	✓	✓		✓		✓	
Cholesterol	✓	✓		✓			✓

\*More frequent assessments may be needed based on clinical status.

- ➔ You must receive your injection on time. The symptoms of your condition may worsen if you do not receive your injection promptly. You may also have to restart your LAI antipsychotic if it has been too long since your last injection.

## How can I remember to get my injection?

- ➔ After an injection, set up an appointment for your next injection as soon as possible. Ask if you can get an appointment card from your physician or pharmacist.
- ➔ Set up reminders on your phone or calendar for when you are due for your next injection.
- ➔ Let family members, caregivers, and other supports, like your case manager, know that you are on an LAI and how they can support you, such as by giving you reminders for your injection and physicals/lab appointments.
- ➔ Some pharmacies may be able to administer the injection. They may also offer other services, like appointment reminders and ride shares to and from the pharmacy for injections. Please see the *Pharmacies that provide LAI services* section for detailed information on pharmacies.
- ➔ If you received an LAI antipsychotic during a hospital stay, make sure to bring your discharge paperwork to your next outpatient follow-up appointment.

## Does my insurance cover LAI antipsychotics?

Pennsylvania Medicaid covers most LAI antipsychotics. Sometimes, there are requirements for the medication that your physician has to submit paperwork for to the insurance company – this is called a prior authorization.

Pennsylvania Medicaid recipients generally do not have copays for antipsychotic medications. Talk to your physician or pharmacist if you need additional support accessing your medication.

## How can I learn more about my LAI antipsychotic and treatment?

Community Behavioral Health (CBH) encourages physicians to include you in decisions regarding your LAI antipsychotic medication. CBH encourages you to understand why you are taking medication and ensure you are comfortable receiving it.

Before your next appointment, think about some of these questions and let your physician know about any concerns that you may have:

- ➔ How have I been feeling since my last injection?
- ➔ Am I happy with the way my current medication manages my symptoms?
- ➔ Do I have any new symptoms?
- ➔ Do I feel like my current treatment manages my symptoms long enough for me to focus on my goals?
- ➔ Is there something about my current medication that isn't working well for my life?
- ➔ What medication risks and side effects am I most concerned about?

## Pharmacies that provide LAI services

The table below has information about pharmacies that offer LAI services, such as dispensing and administration. Each pharmacy has different services available, but Altruix – Trevose Specialty Pharmacy, Shop and Carry Pharmacy, Sunray Specialty Pharmacy, and select ACME pharmacies offer the most services.

Pharmacy	Contact	Dispenses LAIs	Delivers to Physician Offices	Administers Onsite
<b>ACME Pharmacies</b> Multiple locations (see information below)	See information below	✓	✓	✓
<b>Altruix – Trevose Specialty Pharmacy</b> 3800 Horizon Blvd Suite #103 Trevose, PA 19053	P: 800-927-6703 F: 215-357-2129	✓	✓	✓
<b>CVS Specialty</b> (Center City) 1117 Walnut St Philadelphia, PA 19107	P: 215-627-2143 F: 215-627-8943	✓	✓	
<b>Elwyn Pharmacy</b> 194 S New Middletown Rd Media, PA 19063	P: 610-566-2226 F: 610-566-0521	✓		
<b>Genoa Healthcare</b> (North Philadelphia; located within COMHAR) 2600 N American St Philadelphia, PA 19133	P: 215-426-1007 F: 215-426-2667	✓	✓	
<b>Genoa Healthcare</b> (West Philadelphia; located within Community Council Health Systems) 4900 Wyalusing Ave Philadelphia, PA 19131	P: 215-764-6519 F: 267-744-4459	✓	✓	
<b>Jefferson Specialty Pharmacy</b> 3500 Horizon Dr King of Prussia, PA 19406	P: 844-469-7542 F: 215-955-8182	✓	✓	
<b>Shop and Carry Pharmacy</b> (North Philadelphia) 1301 Lindley Ave Philadelphia, PA 19141	P: 267-297-5030 F: 267-297-5783	✓	✓	✓
<b>Sunray Specialty Pharmacy</b> (West Philadelphia) 152 S 52nd St, Suite 201 Philadelphia, PA 19139	P: 215-471-4000 F: 215-471-4001	✓	✓	✓
<b>Walgreens Specialty – Community Pharmacy</b> (Center City) 1227 Locust Street Philadelphia, PA 19107	P: 215-772-2772 F: 215-772-2798	✓	✓	

**ACME Pharmacies**

ACME pharmacies can administer LAIs at any of their pharmacy locations. The physician would send a prescription to one of the ACME stores with instructions on either administering the medication to the patient at the pharmacy or to be delivered to the medical office. If the medication is to be administered at the pharmacy, the pharmacy will contact the patient to schedule an appointment. The ACME pharmacy locations in the Philadelphia area are:

<b>Northwest Philadelphia</b> 7010 Germantown Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19119* 215-247-4995	<b>Northeast Philadelphia</b> 8200 Roosevelt Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19152 215-338-4967
<b>Northeast Philadelphia</b> 920 Red Lion Rd, Philadelphia, PA 19115 215- 676-6279	<b>Northeast Philadelphia</b> 6601 Roosevelt Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19149* 215-338-6601
<b>Northeast Philadelphia</b> 180 West Girard Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19123 215-574-1221	<b>Northwest Philadelphia</b> 5927-59 Ridge Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19128* 215-487-3419

**Northeast Philadelphia**  
2101-41 Cottman Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19149\*  
215-728-1015

**Northwest Philadelphia**  
7700 Crittenden St, Philadelphia, PA 19118  
215-248-6495

**South Philadelphia**  
1400 E Passyunk Ave, Philadelphia PA 19147  
215-551-3321

**Southwest Philadelphia**  
1901 Johnston St, Philadelphia, PA 19145\*  
215-336-5553

**Northeast Philadelphia**  
6640 Oxford Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19111\*  
215-725-9319

*\* These ACME locations have a private consultation room. Due to the site of administration and manufacturer requirements, Abilify Asimtufi®, Invega Hafyera®, and most doses of Aristada® must be administered in an ACME location with a consultation room.*

### Sunray Specialty Pharmacy

Sunray Specialty Pharmacy coordinates with other independent pharmacies within its network. The specialty store can dispense LAIs and deliver them to the pharmacy, where the pharmacist will administer the injectable to the patient. For patients who may need it, Sunray also offers car share services to get the patient to and from their preferred pharmacy location. In addition to the specialty location in West Philadelphia, the following pharmacies can administer LAIs:

**Holmesburg Pharmacy (Northeast Philadelphia)**  
8039 Frankford Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19136  
215-332-2400

**Nice Pharmacy (Northeast Philadelphia)**  
110 E Allegheny Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19134  
215-425-0100

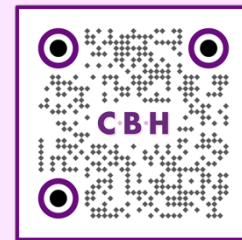
**Port Richmond Pharmacy (Northeast Philadelphia)**  
2636 E Allegheny Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19134  
215-426-5099

**Sunray Drugs – K&A (Northeast Philadelphia)**  
825 E Allegheny Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19134  
215-425-7700

**Sunray Drugs – Progress Plaza (North Philadelphia)**  
1501 N Broad St, Philadelphia, PA 19122  
215-235-4000

### CBH Website: Pharmacy Education and Resources for Members

*Includes medication wallet card, guides, tip sheets, and other valuable tools and resources to get informed about and properly use medications you may be prescribed*



SCAN ME!



**CBH Member Services**  
**888.545.2600**  
**cbhphilly.org**



**You are one phone call away from getting help.**

*Compassionate, trained professionals answer all calls 24-hours a day, 7 days a week. Callers will receive counseling, guidance, assessment, and referrals/warm transfers to other services as indicated.*