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PSYCHIATRY

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PATIENT EDUCATION

Loxapine

Generic oral capsules / Adasuve supervised inhalation

A guide for adults taking loxapine.
Follow the directions on your prescription and your provider's recommendations.

REPORT NEW MOVEMENT SYMPTOMS | ADASUVE IS NEVER A HOME RESCUE INHALER

Formulations: Oral capsules and the single-use inhaled formulation are not interchangeable. Adasuve requires screening and respiratory monitoring under its restricted clinical program.

What it is used for

Oral loxapine treats schizophrenia. Inhaled Adasuve treats acute agitation associated with schizophrenia or bipolar I disorder in adults in an equipped healthcare setting.

How it works

It blocks dopamine and serotonin receptors. Oral and inhaled delivery produce different onset and exposure, and inhalation adds a specific airway risk.

What to expect over time

Some symptoms improve earlier than others. Changes in hallucinations, mood, or organized thinking often develop over several weeks. Track practical goals, such as regular sleep and daily activities, and report side effects or limited benefit.

Taking your medication

- Take oral capsules at the prescribed times.
- If you miss a dose, take it when you remember unless it is almost time for the next dose. Then skip it. Do not double a dose.
- Do not use inhaled loxapine outside the prescribed supervised setting.
- Tell staff about any asthma, COPD, wheezing, or use of airway medicines before inhalation.

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Side effects and safety

Possible side effects

- Sleepiness, dizziness, or lightheadedness
- Restlessness, stiffness, or tremor
- Changes in appetite, weight, or digestion

Keeping track of treatment

Some side effects resolve with time; others may require a change of medication. Discuss persistent or bothersome side effects with your provider.

Expect periodic checks of weight, blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol, and movement symptoms. Some changes, such as higher blood sugar, may occur before you feel different.

Report new mouth, tongue, face, or limb movements. Tardive dyskinesia is a movement disorder that can persist after medication is stopped.

If you take too much

For a suspected overdose, call Poison Control at **1-800-222-1222** immediately, even if you feel well. Call 911 for a seizure, collapse, trouble breathing, or inability to wake.

Before you start

Discuss diabetes, heart-rhythm problems, fainting, seizures, low blood counts, swallowing difficulties, and kidney or liver disease. Antipsychotics increase the risk of death in older adults with dementia-related psychosis.

Discuss pregnancy, pregnancy plans, and breastfeeding with your provider. Treatment decisions should consider both the medication and the condition being treated.

Adasuve must not be used with asthma, COPD, active airway symptoms, or a history of bronchospasm. These inhalation restrictions are separate from oral precautions.

Medicines and interactions

Review all your medications with your provider, including over-the-counter medicines and supplements. Have new medications checked before taking them.

Alcohol, opioids, sleeping pills, and sedating allergy medicines can increase impairment. Blood-pressure medicines may add lightheadedness or falls.

Medicines that affect heart rhythm or dopamine signaling need particular review. Some antibiotics, antifungals, and seizure medicines change antipsychotic levels.

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Living with your treatment

When to get help

Emergency symptoms. Call 911 for wheezing or breathing difficulty after inhaled treatment, or for fever with severe stiffness and confusion, a seizure, or collapse. In a facility, alert staff immediately.

Prompt medical advice. Contact your provider promptly for new involuntary movements, trouble swallowing, severe restlessness, or symptoms of high blood sugar such as unusual thirst and frequent urination.

If you feel unsafe or have thoughts of self-harm, call 911 or go to an emergency department.

Your questions answered

Can I stop when I feel better?
Consult with your provider. Continuing treatment may prevent symptoms from returning. Abrupt stopping can cause withdrawal symptoms or a relapse.

What if I cannot sit still?
An inner urge to keep moving can be akathisia, a medication side effect. Tell your provider promptly; it can be mistaken for worsening anxiety.

Everyday tips

Stand up slowly. Avoid driving until you know how the medication affects alertness and coordination.

Stay hydrated and take breaks in hot weather. Some antipsychotics interfere with temperature regulation.

Discuss appetite or weight changes early, and keep scheduled monitoring visits.

Storage and safety

Keep medication in its labeled container, away from excess heat and moisture and out of reach of children and pets. Do not share it. Ask a pharmacy about disposal of unused medication.

Sources

MedlinePlus: Oral loxapine
DailyMed: Adasuve Medication Guide

Educational handout; does not replace your prescription or provider's recommendations.