

Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week

May 5-11, 2024

Tardive dyskinesia (TD) affects approximately 600,000 people in the United States.^{1,2}

- TD is a persistent, involuntary movement disorder that is associated with prolonged use of antipsychotic medication that may be necessary to treat individuals living with mental illnesses, such as bipolar disorder, major depressive disorder, schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder.^{1,3,4}
- Certain prescription medicines (metoclopramide and prochlorperazine) used to treat gastrointestinal disorders may also cause TD.^{5,6}
- TD is characterized by uncontrollable, abnormal and repetitive movements of the face, torso, limbs, and fingers or toes.^{1,4,7,8}

Nearly
65%
of people in the U.S. living
with TD are undiagnosed.⁹

TD is a chronic condition that is unlikely to improve without treatment.^{4,8} The uncontrollable movements of TD may include^{3,7,8}:



**Lip smacking,
puckering or pursing**



**Tongue darting
or protrusion**



**Excessive
blinking**



**Jaw chewing, clenching or
side-to-side movements**



**Twisting or dancing
fingers and toes**

These involuntary movements associated with TD can negatively impact people physically, socially and emotionally.¹¹ People living with TD may also feel judged and ashamed, adding to a sense of worry, isolation and stigma.^{8,11-14} Even mild uncontrollable body movements from TD could have emotional and social consequences.¹¹

It is important that people who are taking antipsychotic medication be monitored by a healthcare provider for drug-induced movement disorders (DIMDs), such as TD. Periodic screenings for abnormal movements in people taking antipsychotic medication is essential for detection, proper diagnosis and appropriate management to help improve therapeutic outcomes. The American Psychiatric Association 2020 clinical guidelines for the treatment of schizophrenia recommend screening for TD at least every six months in high-risk patients and at least every 12 months for others at risk of developing TD.¹⁰

In an effort to raise awareness of TD, states are being asked to declare May 5-11, 2024 as **TD Awareness Week**.

1 in 5

U.S. adults live with a
mental illness.¹⁵

May is also Mental Health Awareness Month, and as we work to increase awareness and support for those impacted by mental health conditions, it is important to remember that those living with a mental illness and taking antipsychotics for a prolonged period of time may develop or already have TD.

Over the last six years, **50 states, Washington, D.C. and various mental health advocacy organizations** have declared the first full week of May as TD Awareness Week.

Learn more about TD, living with TD and how to treat TD by visiting **TalkAboutTD.com**.

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AWARENESS WEEK

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