

Extrapyramidal System (EPS) Side-Effects Associated with Neuroleptic Medication
& Differentiation from Tardive Dyskinesia (TD)

EPS SIDE EFFECTS	CLINICAL SIGNS	INCIDENCE	ONSET AFTER DRUG RX OR DOSE ↑	RESPONSE			
				To Anti-Cholinergic	To Neuroleptic ↑	To Neuroleptic ↓	Tolerance over time
Acute Dyskinesia		About 2%	Early: within 1-5 days (most)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
*Akathisia	Foot taping, walking in place, pacing/unable to sit, restless legs (swinging, pumping), Verbal Complaints – “jittery, antsy, nervous inside”	About 21%	Early: within 5-60 days (most)	Yes, but some say minimally responsive	No	Yes	Little
*Dystonia	Head snapped back or to the side, Rigidity, Back arching, Lock jaw, Eye rolled up, Muscle pain/cramping	About 2%	Early: within 1-5 days (most)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes, but anti-cholinergics preferred
*Pseudo-Parkinsonism	Drooling, Slowed movement, Tremor/pill rolling, Lack of blinking, Shuffled gait, Mask like expression in face	About 41%	Early: within 5-30 days (most)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
*“Rabbit” Syndrome	Lip tremor, Perioral tremor	Very rare	Mixed: some experts say early, some late	Yes; but some experts say no	No	Yes	No
*Tardive Dyskinesia	Tics/Grimaces, Excessive blinking, Tongue protrusion, Writhing limbs	About 20%	Late: 1-2 years or more (most)	No, may worsen	Yes	No	No, but may improve in some cases
NMS	Mental status change, Fever, sweating, Autonomic change: increase in blood pressure & pulse, Rigidity & stiffness, Elevated CPK	USA 0.07% – 2.2%, World .5% – 1%	90% within 10 days BUT it can be years (unpredictable)	No	No	Yes, STOP	No