



## Antipsychotics in the Management of Acute Agitation & Psychosis in the ED

Name	Usual Oral Dosage	Usual IM Dosage	Common Side Effects	Drug-Drug Interactions	Pediatric Dosing (5-11 years)
Midazolam (Versed)	5 mg	2-5 mg	Sedation, respiratory depression	Parenteral olanzapine given within 2 hours of benzodiazepines can cause respiratory depression	0.1 mg/kg PO/IM Risk of paradoxical reaction
Lorazepam (Ativan)	1-2 mg	2 mg	Sedation, respiratory depression	Parenteral olanzapine given within 2 hours of benzodiazepines can cause respiratory depression	0.1 mg/kg PO/IM Risk of paradoxical reaction
Olanzapine (Zyprexa)	initial 2.5-10 mg; average 5-10 mg; max 30 mg/day	initial 5-10 mg; average 5-10 mg; max 30 mg/day	anticholinergic, sedation, seizure (1%)	Parenteral olanzapine given within 2 hours of benzodiazepines can cause respiratory depression	Initial 1.25-2.5 mg PO/IM
Haloperidol (Haldol)	initial 1-2 mg; average 5-10 mg; max 20 mg/dose or 30 mg/day	initial 2.5 mg; average 5-10 mg; max 20 mg/dose or 30 mg/day	sedation (+), extra-pyramidal symptoms, prolonged QTc with IV doses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Avoid with other drugs that prolong QTc</li><li>• Consider using in conjunction with one dose of either diphenhydramine 25 mg (IM) or benztropine 2mg (IM) to reduce risk of dystonia</li></ul>	0.01-0.03 mg/kg PO/IM Less preferred in children due to risk of extra-pyramidal symptoms

Name	Usual Oral Dosage	Usual IM Dosage	Common Side Effects	Drug-Drug Interactions	Pediatric Dosing (5-11 years)
Risperidone (Risperdal)	initial 0.25-1 mg average 1-2 mg max 6 mg/day	N/A	orthostasis (+), sedation	Increase dose if taking cytochrome P450 inducers, decrease dose if taking cytochrome P450 inhibitors	0.25-0.5 mg PO
Quetiapine (Seroquel)	initial 12.5-50 mg max 400 mg	N/A	sedation (++), orthostatic hypotension (++)	Increase dose if taking cytochrome P450 inducers, decrease dose if taking cytochrome P450 inhibitors	
Aripiprazole (Abilify)	initial 2-5 mg; max 30 mg/day	5.25-15 mg; max 30 mg/day		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase dose if taking cytochrome P450 inducers, decrease dose if taking cytochrome P450 inhibitors</li> <li>• Delayed onset of action</li> </ul>	
Ziprasidone (Geodon)	initial 20-40 mg; average 40-80 mg; max 160 mg/day	initial 10-20 IM; average 20 mg/dose; max 40 mg/day IM	orthostasis, can increase QTc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid with other drugs that prolong QTc</li> <li>• Oral ziprasidone must be given with &gt; 500 calories for adequate absorption</li> </ul>	

### EPS: Extra-Pyramidal Symptoms

Cytochrome P450: Typical inducers: rifampin, anti-epileptics. Typical inhibitors: protease inhibitors, azole antifungals, fluoxetine

Use all agents with caution in the elderly and start at lower doses, especially those causing hypotension and prolonged QTc (quetiapine, ziprasidone).