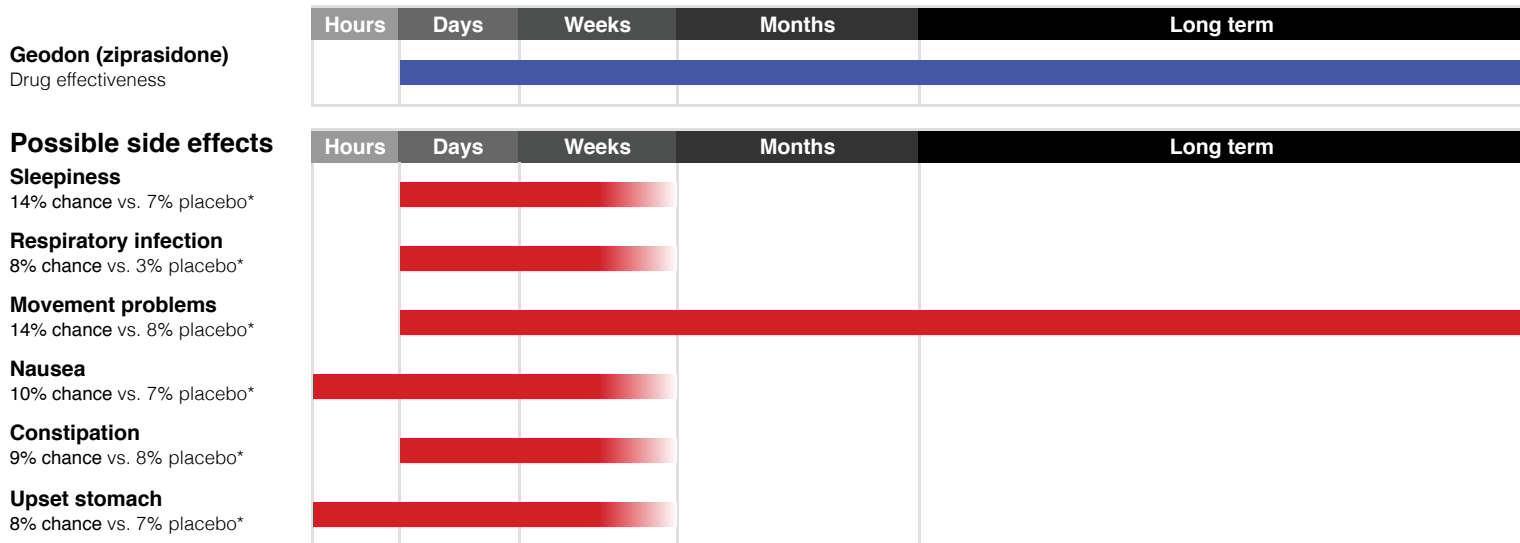


Geodon (ziprasidone) basics

Helps control your thoughts and mood. Geodon (ziprasidone) treats bipolar disorder and schizophrenia with fewer side effects than similar medications, but has a risk of abnormal heart rhythm.

What to expect when starting

Here's when people typically experience benefits as well as some possible side effects. Your experience may be different.



* Placebo is a sugar pill with no medicinal benefit.

Tips from pharmacists

- Take Geodon (ziprasidone) twice a day with food.
- Avoid driving and doing other tasks or actions that call for you to be alert until you see how this drug affects you.
- It usually takes 4-6 weeks to see the full effects, so continue to take Geodon (ziprasidone) regularly.
- Geodon (ziprasidone) can cause heart problems, so call your doctor right away if you feel faint or a change in your heartbeat.
- Let your doctor know if you're taking a diuretic (water pill) or chronic diarrhea.

Risks and warnings

The FDA has identified these as possible serious or life-threatening risks with this medication. Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Increased risk of death

Older patients with dementia-related psychosis have a higher risk of death when treated with antipsychotic medications. Geodon (ziprasidone) is not approved to treat dementia-related psychosis. Talk to your doctor if you have questions.

Suicidal thoughts or behavior

Geodon (ziprasidone) may raise the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior. Watch for worsening depression or any unusual changes in mood or behavior, especially during the first few months of treatment or when the dose changes. Tell your doctor right away if you have unusual thoughts or feel like your symptoms are getting worse.

Heart problems

Geodon (ziprasidone) can raise your risk of heart rhythm changes. You may need to have heart and blood tests before you start taking Geodon (ziprasidone) and during treatment.