Loxitane (loxapine) basics

Treats schizophrenia. Loxitane (loxapine) is not recommended as a first choice medicine for treatment of schizophrenia, but it can be good if other medicines haven’t worked because of bad side effects.

What to expect when starting

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug effectiveness</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>Months</th>
<th>Long term</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loxitane (loxapine)</td>
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Possible side effects†

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Side effect</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>Months</th>
<th>Long term</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty controlling movement</td>
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<td>Muscle spasms</td>
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<td>Fast heartbeat</td>
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† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

Tips from pharmacists

- Take Loxitane (loxapine) with food to avoid stomach upset.
- Don't drive or do anything requiring concentration until you know how Loxitane (loxapine) affects you since it can make you sleepy.
- Don't drink alcohol or take narcotics while taking Loxitane (loxapine) since you can have problems breathing.
- Be very careful getting up if you've been sitting or lying down for a while as Loxitane (loxapine) can cause changes in your blood pressure, which might make you more likely to faint or fall.

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.

Higher risk of death
Older people who have dementia and psychosis have a higher risk of death if they take antipsychotic medicines like Loxitane (loxapine). They shouldn't be given this medicine.

Difficulty controlling movements
Some people have noticed changes in being able to control movements while on Loxitane (loxapine). This can be permanent if it’s not taken care of right away. Call your doctor right away if this happens.

Neuroleptic malignant syndrome
Antipsychotic medications like Loxitane (loxapine) can cause neuroleptic malignant syndrome, which is rare but life-threatening. Symptoms include a very high fever, sweating, stiff muscles, and a fast or irregular heartbeat. Call your doctor or 911 right away.