## Antipsychotic-related side effects

### Parkinsonism
- Resting tremor (4–6Hz, slower than physiologic or intention tremor)
- Pill-rolling of hand
- Bradykinesia
- Rigidity
- Shuffling gait
- Stooped posture

### Options
- A. Reduce antipsychotic dose.
- B. Switch to antipsychotic with less parkinsonism risk.
- C. Maintain antipsychotic; treat side effect with:
  - Benztrapine 1–2mg twice a day (BID) or
  - Diphenhydramine 25–50mg BID

### Acute dystonia
- Involuntary upward gaze
- Facial grimacing
- Laryngeal spasms
- Neck spasms
- Abdominal wall spasms
- Spine spasms

### Options
- Urgent medical treatment!
- Intramuscular/ intravenous (IM/IV) benztrapine 1–2mg or
- IM/IV diphenhydramine 25–50mg

### Akathisia
- Feels restless
- Trouble standing still
- Paces
- Feet constantly moving or rocking

**Barnes Akathisia Rating Scale is recommended.**

### Options:
- A. Reduce antipsychotic dose.
- B. Switch to antipsychotic with less akathisia risk.
- C. Maintain antipsychotic; treat side effect with:
  - Propranolol 10–30mg BID (titrate response, BP, HR) or
  - Clonazepam (0.5 to 1mg BID) or
  - Lorazepam (1mg two to three times a day) or
  - Clonidine (0.1mg TID).

### Tardive dyskinesia
- Repetitive, involuntary, purposeless movement of:
  - Face, mouth or tongue
  - Upper or lower extremities
  - Trunk

### Options:
- Evaluate medications and medical conditions for other causes of dyskinesia.
- Consider referral to neurology, ideally a movement disorder specialist.

**Treatment**
- A. Trial reduction of antipsychotic dose
- B. Quetiapine monotherapy switch in addition to clozapine monotherapy
- C. Trial of clonazepam augmentation
- D. Switch to clozapine
- E. Use of other non-medication treatment modalities such as electroconvulsive therapy

Abnormal Involuntary Movement Scale (AIMS) is expected:
[https://cpnp.org/ed/movement-disorders#scales](https://cpnp.org/ed/movement-disorders#scales)

Abnormal Involuntary Movement Scale and Barnes Akathisia Rating Scale: [https://cpnp.org/ed/movement-disorders#scales](https://cpnp.org/ed/movement-disorders#scales)