

Pipotiazine

Piportil L4 / long-acting injection

An antipsychotic given as a long-acting injection. A practical guide to appointments, benefits and side effects.

From Jeffrey Panko, PMHNP-BC's education collection ·

Draft for review · Clinical content has not been revalidated for this website.

FRENCH PRODUCT: 25 mg/mL

GIVEN INTO A MUSCLE BY YOUR CARE TEAM

Concentration is not the injection dose. Your clinic sets the dose and appointment schedule.

What it is used for

Treats schizophrenia and other long-term psychotic disorders. It may reduce distress from voices, suspiciousness and related symptoms.

This guide concerns the French Piportil L4 injection. It is not an FDA-approved medicine; availability varies by country.

How it works

Blocking some dopamine signals can help psychotic symptoms. It may also cause stiffness, restlessness or hormone changes.

The diagram shows drug targets, not a separate benefit from each target.

What to expect over time

BEFORE STARTING

Review earlier medicine responses, allergies, physical health and the injection plan with your care team.

FIRST WEEKS

The injection releases medicine slowly. Benefits and side effects may develop over days to weeks; keep early check-ins.

BETWEEN VISITS

Track sleep, symptoms and daily activities. Tell the clinic if problems return before the next injection.

Taking your medication

Attend the injection appointments your clinic schedules. This medicine goes into a muscle, not into a vein. Do not inject it yourself.

Missed a visit? Call the clinic promptly. Do not add tablets or an extra injection yourself.

If another medicine is prescribed during the changeover, follow that separate plan. Do not stop it just because you received an injection.

When to get help

Emergency help: high fever with stiff muscles or confusion; collapse; seizure; chest pain or difficulty breathing; or face/throat swelling.

Seek urgent care for severe belly pain or swelling with constipation, or inability to urinate.

Contact a clinician promptly for fever or sore throat, new involuntary movements, marked restlessness, yellow skin/eyes, or a swollen painful leg.

Early side effects

Dry mouth, constipation, blurred vision, sleepiness or dizziness on standing can happen. Rise slowly and avoid driving until you know your response. Tell the clinic about symptoms that persist or interfere with daily life.

Other effects to discuss

Stiffness, shaking or an urge to keep moving may be medicine effects. Weight, periods, breast milk production or sexual function can change. These are worth discussing, not something you have to quietly put up with.

What to keep track of

Keep blood tests, heart tracings and physical-health checks. Your team follows blood counts, weight, blood sugar, cholesterol and movement symptoms. Report new medicines and missed appointments.

Before you start

Tell the clinic about sesame or medicine allergies, previous very low white blood cells, trouble urinating, narrow-angle glaucoma, constipation, seizures, heart disease, blood clots, diabetes or liver/kidney problems. Discuss pregnancy and breastfeeding before treatment decisions.

Medicines & interactions

Every medicine & supplement

Bring a complete list, including pharmacy products and supplements. Check with a pharmacist before starting or stopping anything.

Heart-rhythm risks

Certain antibiotics, heart medicines, antidepressants and methadone may be unsuitable. Some combinations are prohibited. A pharmacist should check the exact combination.

Parkinson & hormone medicines

Tell your team about levodopa, dopamine-related Parkinson medicines, cabergoline or quinagolide. They can work against this medicine or create other risks. Do not stop them yourself.

Alcohol & sedating medicines

Avoid alcohol. Sleeping medicines, opioids and sedating allergy products may add to drowsiness. Some medicines also worsen constipation or dizziness on standing.

Everyday tips

Book the next visit before leaving the clinic and make a transport or reminder plan if needed.

Bring a short note of what has improved and what has become harder. Your experience matters alongside symptom scores.

Use therapy, practical support and regular sleep routines alongside the medicine plan.

Avoid overheating and dehydration. Use sun protection and report unusual skin sensitivity.

Your questions, answered

Can the injection be removed?

No. It keeps releasing medicine after the appointment. Call early about side effects so your team can help and review future doses.

Can I stop if I feel better?

Plan that together. Feeling better may mean treatment is helping. The timing of a reduction or switch must account for the previous injection.

What if I am pregnant or breastfeeding?

Contact your prescriber promptly; do not change treatment alone. Pregnancy needs an individual plan. Breastfeeding is discouraged with this product; discuss feeding or medicine alternatives.

What if I received too much?

Seek urgent medical advice or emergency care immediately, even if you feel well. Bring the medicine name and injection details. Effects may be delayed and prolonged.

Storage & safety

If the pharmacy gives you ampoules to bring to the clinic, keep them protected from light and out of children's reach. Ask the pharmacist about transport, expiry and disposal.

A final reminder

General adult education about the French Piportil L4 product, not an individual injection plan or a complete risk list. Follow your clinic's instructions and local product leaflet.

About this information

For general information only; not a substitute for individualized medical advice. This sheet does not cover every risk or interaction. Ask your prescriber or pharmacist before changing how you take this medication.

Sources

1. <https://base-donnees-publique.medicaments.gouv.fr/medicament/62000861/extrait>
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Educational inclusion does not mean this medication or its indications are treated at this practice. Review the guide for your exact product with your prescriber or pharmacist.

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