

Frequently Asked Questions about Olanzapine

Will I become addicted or dependent on Olanzapine?

- Olanzapine is not addictive, and does not cause any physical or emotional dependency. Olanzapine works by regulating chemicals which are already present in our brain, called “neurotransmitters.”

I read that Olanzapine is “psychotropic” medication. Does this mean it will change my personality?

- **This medication will not change your personality.** You will still be the same person. It will help to reduce repetitive thoughts, which cause anxiety.

Will I have to stay on Olanzapine forever?

- No, you may not always need to take Olanzapine. You and your healthcare provider can discuss when would be the right time for you to stop taking this medication. Do not stop taking Olanzapine without talking with your healthcare provider first.

How will Olanzapine affect my weight?

- The main role of Olanzapine in your treatment is to help decrease worrisome thoughts. Olanzapine may also help to improve your appetite, but the amount (dose) used in your treatment does not usually result in weight gain.

I read that Olanzapine can make you drowsy. Will this affect my participation in school or sports?

- Olanzapine can increase drowsiness, however this is usually greatest at the start of therapy. The drowsiness usually decreases over time.
- Taking Olanzapine at bedtime can help to reduce daytime drowsiness and any impact on school or sports.

I’m concerned that Olanzapine may cause other side effects. Where can I get more information before I try this medication?

- If you have any questions about what you have read or heard about Olanzapine, talk with your pharmacist or a member of your healthcare team. They will give you more information to help you decide if you wish to try this medication.