

## **PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET (PIL)**

### **SCHEDULING STATUS**

Schedule 5

### **PROPRIETARY NAME, STRENGTH, AND PHARMACEUTICAL FORM**

## **RISPERDAL® Tablet**

*Risperidone*

**Oral tablets for swallowing**

### **Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking RISPERDAL**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have further questions, please ask your doctor or your pharmacist.
- RISPERDAL has been prescribed for you personally and you should not share your medicine with other people. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.

### **1. WHAT RISPERDAL CONTAINS**

RISPERDAL is a so-called antipsychotic.

The active substance in RISPERDAL is risperidone.

The composition of RISPERDAL oral tablets is as follows:

- Each RISPERDAL 0,25 mg tablet contains 0,25 mg of risperidone
- Each RISPERDAL 0,5 mg tablet contains 0,5 mg of risperidone
- Each RISPERDAL 1 mg tablet contains 1 mg of risperidone
- Each RISPERDAL 2 mg tablet contains 2 mg of risperidone
- Each RISPERDAL 3 mg tablet contains 3 mg of risperidone
- Each RISPERDAL 4 mg tablet contains 4 mg of risperidone

The oral tablets also contain: lactose, maize starch, cellulose, hypromellose, magnesium stearate, silicon dioxide, sodium laurylsulfate and propylene glycol.

The 0,25 mg tablet also contains talc, titanium dioxide and yellow ferric oxide

The 0,5 milligram tablet also contains talc, titanium dioxide and red ferric oxide

The 2 milligram tablet also contains talc, titanium dioxide and orange yellow S

The 3 milligram tablet also contains talc, titanium dioxide and quinoline yellow

The 4 milligram tablet also contains talc, titanium dioxide, quinoline yellow & indigotin lake

## **2. WHAT RISPERDAL IS USED FOR**

RISPERDAL is indicated for the treatment of:

Acute and chronic schizophrenic psychoses and related psychosis in which positive symptoms (such as hallucinations, delusions, thought disturbances, hostility, suspiciousness) and/or the negative symptoms (such as blunted affect, emotional and social withdrawal, poverty of speech) are prominent. RISPERDAL also alleviates affective symptoms (such as depression, guilt feelings, anxiety) associated with schizophrenia. In patients who have shown an initial treatment response, RISPERDAL is also effective in maintaining the clinical improvement.

Mania in bipolar disorder. These episodes are characterised by symptoms such as elevated, expansive or irritable mood, inflated self-esteem, decreased need for sleep, pressured speech, racing thoughts, distractibility, or poor judgment, including disruptive or aggressive behaviours.

RISPERDAL can also be used to treat disruptive behaviours like aggression, impulsiveness and self-injury in children aged 5-12 years who are intellectually disabled.

### **3. BEFORE YOU TAKE RISPERDAL**

#### **Do not take RISPERDAL**

Do not take RISPERDAL if you know that you are hypersensitive (allergic) to risperidone or any of the other ingredients of RISPERDAL. Allergy can be recognised for instance by skin rash, itching, shortness of breath or swollen face. If any of these occur, contact your doctor right away.

Do not give RISPERDAL to children under 5 years of age with conduct and other disruptive behaviours.

Do not take RISPERDAL if you have Parkinson's disease or Lewy Body Dementia.

#### **Take special care with RISPERDAL:**

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking RISPERDAL if:

- You have a heart problem. Examples include an irregular heart rhythm or if you are prone to low blood pressure or if you are using medicines for your blood pressure. RISPERDAL can cause low blood pressure. Your dose needs to be adjusted.
- You know of any factors which would increase your chance of you having a stroke, such as high blood pressure, cardiovascular disorder or blood vessels problems in the brain
- You have experienced involuntary movements of the tongue, mouth and face

- You have ever had a condition whose symptoms include high temperature, muscle stiffness, sweating or a lower level of consciousness (also known as Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome)
- You know that you have had low levels of white blood cells in the past (which may or may not have been caused by other medicines). Your doctor may check your white blood cell counts
- You are diabetic
- You have epilepsy
- You are a man and you have ever had a prolonged or painful erection
- You have problems controlling your body temperature or overheating
- You have kidney problems
- You have liver problems
- You have abnormally high level of the hormone prolactin in your blood or if you have a possible prolactin-dependent tumour
- You or someone else in your family has a history of blood clots.

If you are not sure if any of the above applies to you, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using RISPERDAL.

RISPERDAL can cause you to gain weight. Significant weight gain can adversely affect your health. Your doctor should regularly measure your body weight.

As diabetes mellitus or worsening of pre-existing diabetes mellitus has been seen in patients taking RISPERDAL, your doctor should check for signs of high blood sugar. In patients with pre-existing diabetes mellitus, blood glucose should be monitored regularly.

RISPERDAL commonly raises levels of a hormone called “prolactin”. This may cause side effects such as menstrual disorders or fertility problems in women, breast swelling in men (see POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS). If such side effects occur, evaluation of the prolactin level in blood is recommended.

During an operation on the eye for cloudiness of the lens (cataract), the pupil (the black circle in the middle of your eye) may not increase in size as needed. Also, the iris (the coloured part of the eye) may become floppy during surgery and that may lead to eye damage. If you are planning to have an operation on your eye, make sure you tell your eye doctor that you are taking RISPERDAL.

#### Elderly people with dementia

In elderly patients with dementia, there is an increased risk of stroke. You should not take RISPERDAL if you have dementia caused by stroke.

During treatment with RISPERDAL you should frequently see your doctor.

Medical treatment should be sought straight away if your care-giver notices a sudden change in your mental state or sudden weakness or numbness of your face, arms or legs, especially on one side, or slurred speech, even for a short period of time.

Studies in elderly patients with dementia have shown that RISPERDAL taken by itself or with furosemide, is associated with a higher rate of death. Tell your doctor if you are taking furosemide. Furosemide is a medicine which is sometimes used to treat high blood pressure, some heart problems or to treat swelling of parts of the body caused by the build up of too much fluid.

#### **Taking RISPERDAL with food and drink:**

You can take RISPERDAL with or without food. You should avoid drinking alcohol when taking RISPERDAL.

### **Pregnancy and Breastfeeding**

If you are pregnant or breastfeeding your baby, please consult your doctor, pharmacist or other health care professional for advice before taking RISPERDAL.

If you are pregnant or if you are planning to become pregnant, you should inform your doctor, who will decide if you can take RISPERDAL. Shaking, muscle stiffness and/or weakness, sleepiness, agitation, breathing problems, and difficulty in feeding, have been observed in newborns, if a mother used RISPERDAL in the last trimester of her pregnancy.

Do not breastfeed if you are taking RISPERDAL. Consult your doctor in that case.

### **Driving and using machinery:**

Dizziness, tiredness and vision problems may occur during treatment with RISPERDAL. Do not drive or use any tools or machines without talking to your doctor first.

### **Important information about some ingredients of RISPERDAL:**

RISPERDAL tablets contain lactose (a type of sugar). If you have been told by your doctor that you cannot tolerate or digest some sugars, talk to your doctor before taking RISPERDAL tablets.

### **Taking other medicines with RISPERDAL:**

Always tell your healthcare professional if you are taking other medicine. (This includes complementary or traditional medicines).

RISPERDAL can enhance the effect of alcohol and medicines that reduce the ability to react (e.g., "tranquilisers", narcotic painkillers, certain antihistamines, certain antidepressants). So don't drink alcohol and only take such medicines if your doctor prescribes them.

Some medicines for treating Parkinson's disease (dopamine agonists, e.g. levodopa) may counteract RISPERDAL.

If you are taking medicines for high blood pressure, consult your doctor, as taking these medicines together with RISPERDAL may cause the blood pressure to drop too low.

RISPERDAL should be used with caution when taking medications that may change the electrical activity of the heart, such as but not restricted to: medicines for malaria, heart rhythm disorders, allergies, other antipsychotics, antidepressants, water tablets or other medicines affecting body salts (sodium, potassium, magnesium).

Carbamazepine, a medicine mainly used for epilepsy or trigeminal neuralgia (severe pain attacks in the face), may change the effect of RISPERDAL. Therefore, inform your doctor if you start or stop taking carbamazepine.

Fluoxetine and paroxetine, medicines mainly used to treat depression and various anxiety disorders, may increase the level of RISPERDAL in your blood. Therefore, tell your doctor if you start and/or stop taking fluoxetine or paroxetine.

Cimetidine and ranitidine, two medicines used to reduce stomach acid, may slightly increase the level of RISPERDAL in your blood, but they are unlikely to change the effect of RISPERDAL.

Erythromycin, an antibiotic, does not have an effect on level of RISPERDAL in the blood.

Topiramate, a medicine used to treat epilepsy, does not have a significant effect on the level of RISPERDAL in the blood.

Galantamine and donepezil, medicines used to treat dementia, do not have an effect on RISPERDAL.

RISPERDAL does not show an effect on lithium or valproate, two medicines used to treat mania, or on digoxin, a heart medication.

Taking RISPERDAL with furosemide, a medicine used to treat conditions such as heart failure and hypertension, may be associated with harmful effects. Tell your doctor if you are taking furosemide (See “Take special care with RISPERDAL”).

#### **4. HOW TO TAKE RISPERDAL**

RISPERDAL comes in the form of oral tablets for swallowing.

You may take RISPERDAL either together with or between meals. The oral tablets may be taken with some liquid.

It is very important that the correct amount of RISPERDAL be taken, but this will vary from person to person. That is why your doctor will adjust the amount until the desired

effect is obtained. Follow your doctor's instructions carefully and do not change or stop the required dosage without consulting him or her first.

Do not share medicines prescribed for you with others.

RISPERDAL can be taken in one intake or divided over two intakes per day. The doctor will determine how much is appropriate for the particular situation, and may adjust the dose accordingly, to choose the lowest dose that is best for you.

**Please inform your healthcare professional if you have impaired kidney or liver function,** your doctor will tell you how many tablets is appropriate for your particular situation.

**If you take more RISPERDAL than you should:**

In the event of overdose, one or more of the following signs may occur: reduced consciousness, drowsiness, sleepiness, excessive trembling, excessive muscle stiffness, fast beating heart, and low blood pressure. Cases of abnormal electrical conduction in the heart (QT prolongation) and convulsion have been reported. Overdose can happen if you are taking other medications together with RISPERDAL.

In the event of an overdosage, consult your doctor or pharmacist. If neither is available, contact the nearest hospital or poison control centre.

**If you forget to take RISPERDAL:**

*In the initial treatment period:*

Take the missed dose as soon as possible instead of your next dose. Then continue to take the remaining doses in the order described above.

*Thereafter:*

Do not take the missed dose but take your next dose as usual and continue your course.

**Important note:** never take more than 16 mg per day.

**Effects when treatment with RISPERDAL is stopped:**

You should not stop taking RISPERDAL unless told to do so by your doctor. Your symptoms may return. If your doctor decides to stop RISPERDAL, your dose may be decreased gradually over a few days.

## 5. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

RISPERDAL can have side effects.

Listed below are adverse reactions related to RISPERDAL treatment.

Not all side effects reported for RISPERDAL are included in this leaflet. Should your general health worsen or if you experience any untoward effects while taking RISPERDAL, please consult your doctor, pharmacist or other health care professional for advice.

**Frequent side effects:**

- Difficulty falling or staying asleep;
- Parkinsonism: This condition may include: slow or impaired movement, sensation of stiffness or tightness of the muscles (making your movements jerky), and sometimes

even a sensation of movement "freezing up" and then restarting. Other signs of parkinsonism include a slow shuffling walk, a tremor while at rest, increased saliva and/or drooling, and a loss of expression on the face;

- Feeling sleepy, or less alert;
- Headache.
- Pneumonia, infection of the chest (bronchitis), common cold symptoms, sinus infection, urinary tract infection, ear infection, feeling like you have the flu;
- RISPERDAL can raise your levels of a hormone called "prolactin" found on a blood test (which may or may not cause symptoms). When symptoms of high prolactin occur, they may include in men breast swelling, difficulty in getting or maintaining erections, or other sexual dysfunction. In women they may include breast discomfort, leakage of milk from the breasts, missed menstrual periods, or other problems with your cycle;
- Weight gain, increased appetite, increased or decreased appetite;
- Sleep disorder, irritability, depression, anxiety, restlessness;
- Dystonia: This is a condition involving slow or sustained involuntary contraction of muscles. While it can involve any part of the body (and may result in abnormal posture), dystonia often involves muscles of the face, including abnormal movements of the eyes, mouth, tongue or jaw;
- Dizziness;
- Dyskinesia: This is a condition involving involuntary muscle movements, and can include repetitive, spastic or writhing movements, or twitching;
- Tremor (shaking);
- Blurry vision, eye infection or "pink eye";
- Rapid heart rate, high blood pressure, shortness of breath;

- Sore throat, cough, nosebleeds, stuffy nose;
- Abdominal pain or discomfort, vomiting, nausea, constipation, diarrhoea, indigestion, dry mouth, toothache;
- Rash, skin redness;
- Muscle spasms, bone or muscle ache, back pain, joint pain;
- Incontinence (lack of control) of urine;
- Swelling of the body, arms or legs, fever, chest discomfort, weakness, fatigue (tiredness), pain;
- Fall.

#### **Less frequent side effects**

- Infection of the breathing passages, bladder infection, eye infection, tonsillitis, fungal infection of the nails, infection of the skin, an infection confined to a single area of skin or part of the body, viral infection, skin inflammation caused by mites;
- Decrease in the type of white blood cells that help to protect you against infection, white blood cell count decreased, decrease in platelets (blood cells that help you stop bleeding), anaemia, decrease in red blood cells, increase in eosinophils (a type of white blood cell) in your blood;
- Allergic reaction;
- Diabetes or worsening of diabetes, high blood sugar, excessive drinking of water;
- Weight loss, loss of appetite resulting in malnutrition and low body weight;
- Increased cholesterol in your blood;
- Elated mood (mania), confusion, decreased sexual drive, nightmares;
- Tardive dyskinesia (twitching or jerking movements that you cannot control in your face, tongue, or other parts of your body). Tell your doctor immediately if you

experience involuntary rhythmic movements of the tongue, mouth and face.

Withdrawal of RISPERDAL may be needed;

- Sudden loss of blood supply to brain (stroke or "mini" stroke);
- Unresponsive to stimuli, loss of consciousness, low level of consciousness;
- Convulsion (fits), Fainting;
- A restless urge to move parts of your body, balance disorder, abnormal coordination, dizziness upon standing, disturbance in attention, problems with speech, loss or abnormal sense of taste, reduced sensation of skin to pain and touch, a sensation of tingling, pricking, or numbness of skin;
- Oversensitivity of the eyes to light, dry eye, increased tears, redness of the eyes;
- Sensation of spinning (vertigo), ringing in the ears, ear pain;
- Atrial fibrillation (an abnormal heart rhythm), an interruption in conduction between the upper and lower parts of the heart, abnormal electrical conduction of the heart, prolongation of the QT interval from your heart, slow heart rate, abnormal electrical tracing of the heart (electrocardiogram or ECG), a fluttering or pounding feeling in your chest (palpitations);
- Low blood pressure, low blood pressure upon standing (consequently, some people taking RISPERDAL® may feel faint, dizzy, or may pass out when they stand or sit up suddenly, flushing);
- Pneumonia caused by inhaling food, lung congestion, congestion of breathing passages, crackly lung sounds, wheezing, voice disorder, breathing passage disorder;
- Stomach or intestinal infection, stool incontinence, very hard stool, difficulty swallowing, excessive passing of gas or wind;
- Hives (or "nettle rash"), itching, hair loss, thickening of skin, eczema, dry skin, skin discolouration, acne, dandruff, skin disorder, skin lesion;

- An increase of CPK (creatine phosphokinase) in your blood, an enzyme which is sometimes released with muscle breakdown;
- Abnormal posture, joint stiffness, joint swelling, muscle weakness, neck pain;
- Frequent passing of urine, inability to pass urine, pain when passing urine;
- Erectile dysfunction, ejaculation disorder;
- Loss of menstrual periods, missed menstrual periods or other problems with your cycle (females);
- Development of breasts in men, leakage of milk from the breasts, sexual dysfunction, breast discomfort, vaginal discharge;
- Swelling of the face, mouth, eyes, or lips;
- Chills, an increase in body temperature;
- A change in the way you walk;
- Feeling thirsty, feeling unwell, feeling "out of sorts", discomfort;
- Increased liver transaminases in your blood, Increased GGT (a liver enzyme called gamma-glutamyltransferase) in your blood, Increased liver enzymes in your blood;
- Procedural pain.
- Infection;
- Inappropriate secretion of a hormone that controls urine volume;
- Sugar in the urine, Low blood sugar, High blood triglycerides (a fat);
- Lack of emotion, inability to reach orgasm;
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (confusion, reduced or loss of consciousness, high fever, and severe muscle stiffness);
- Blood vessel problems in the brain;
- Coma due to uncontrolled diabetes;

- Shaking of the head;
- Glaucoma (increased pressure within the eyeball), problems with movement of your eyes, eye rolling, eyelid margin crusting;
- Irregular heart beat;
- Blood clot in the legs, blood clot in the lungs;
- Trouble breathing during sleep (sleep apnoea), fast, shallow breathing;
- Inflammation of the pancreas, a blockage in the bowels;
- Swollen tongue, chapped lips, rash on skin related to drug;
- Breakdown of muscle fibers and pain in muscles (rhabdomyolysis);
- A delay in menstrual periods, enlargement of the glands in your breasts, breast enlargement, discharge from the breasts;
- Decreased body temperature, coldness in arms and legs;
- Symptoms of drug withdrawal;
- Yellowing of the skin and the eyes (jaundice).
- Life threatening complications of uncontrolled diabetes;
- Serious allergic reaction with swelling that may involve the throat and lead to difficulty breathing
- Lack of bowel muscle movement that causes blockage
- **Eye problems during cataract surgery.** During cataract surgery, a condition called intraoperative floppy iris syndrome (IFIS) can happen if you take or have taken RISPERDAL. If you need to have cataract surgery, be sure to tell your eye doctor if you take or have taken RISPERDAL.
- Dangerously low numbers of a certain type of white blood cell needed to fight infection in your blood;

- Severe allergic reaction characterised by fever, swollen mouth, face, lip or tongue, shortness of breath, itching, skin rash and sometimes drop in blood pressure;
- Dangerously excessive intake of water;
- Increased insulin (a hormone that controls blood sugar levels) in your blood;
- Rapid heartbeat upon standing;
- Priapism (a prolonged penile erection that may require surgical treatment);
- Hardening of the skin.

If you notice any side effects not mentioned in this leaflet, please inform your doctor or pharmacist.

## **6. STORING AND DISPOSING OF RISPERDAL**

Store all medicines out of reach of children.

Keep RISPERDAL at or below 25°C (this is at a normal room temperature). Store tablets in the original package until required for use.

The letters "EXP" on the packaging means that the medicine cannot be kept indefinitely. Therefore, you should not use RISPERDAL beyond the date printed after "EXP" (month and year), even if it has been stored properly.

Return all unused medicine to your pharmacist.

Do not dispose of unused medicine in drains or sewerage systems (e.g. toilets).

## **7. PRESENTATION OF RISPERDAL**

RISPERDAL oral tablets are supplied in cartons containing one or more blisters of 10 tablets each.

## 8. IDENTIFICATION OF RISPERDAL

### Tablets

RISPERDAL 0,25 mg	A yellowish, ochre, oblong, biconvex, film-coated tablet with "Ris 0,25" inscription on one side and with or without "JANSSEN" inscription on the other side
RISPERDAL 0,5 mg	A brownish red, oblong, biconvex, half-scored film-coated tablet with "Ris 0,5" inscription on one side and with or without "JANSSEN" inscription on the other side.
RISPERDAL 1 mg	A white, oblong, film-coated half-scored tablet with "Ris 1" inscription on one side and with or without "JANSSEN" inscription on the other side.
RISPERDAL 2 mg	A orange, oblong, film-coated half-scored tablet with "Ris 2" inscription on one side and with or without "JANSSEN" inscription on the other side.
RISPERDAL 3 mg	A yellow, oblong, film-coated half-scored tablet with "Ris 3" inscription on one side and with or without "JANSSEN" inscription on the other side.
RISPERDAL 4 mg	A green, oblong, film-coated half-scored tablet with "Ris 4" inscription on one side and with or without "JANSSEN" inscription on the other side.

## 9. REGISTRATION NUMBER/REFERENCE NUMBER

### Tablets

RISPERDAL 0,25 mg	33/2.6.5/0110
RISPERDAL 0,5 mg	33/2.6.5/0111
RISPERDAL 1 mg; 2 mg; 3 mg; 4 mg	27/2.6.5/0235 - 0238

**10. NAME AND ADDRESS OF REGISTRATION HOLDER**



JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICA (PTY) LTD

(Reg. No. 1980/011122/07)

Building 6, Country Club Estate

21 Woodlands drive

Woodmead, 2191

RA-JACZA-Medinfo@its.jnj.com

Tel: 011 518 7000

**11. DATE OF PUBLICATION**

Date on the registration certificate for RISPERDAL tablet range:

RISPERDAL 0,25 mg and 0,5 mg : 18 July 2001; RISPERDAL 1 mg, 2 mg, 3 mg and  
4 mg: 23 September 1993

Date of most recently revised Patient Information Leaflet: 25 November 2016