# Tardive Dyskinesia (TD) **Overview**



## What is TD?

Tardive dyskinesia (TD) is a real, chronic condition associated with taking certain mental health medicines (antipsychotics) and some people may experience mild, moderate or severe uncontrollable TD movements in the face, torso, limbs, and fingers or toes.<sup>12</sup> Movements may appear rapid and jerky or slow and writhing.<sup>3,4</sup> TD is unlikely to improve without treatment.<sup>5</sup>

#### What Causes TD?

Taking certain mental health medicines (antipsychotics) for a while is thought to result in too much dopamine activity in the brain, which could lead to uncontrolled body movements known as TD.<sup>12</sup> These medicines may have been prescribed to treat one of the following conditions:12

- Schizoaffective disorder Depression
- Bipolar disorder Anxiety disorder

Other prescription medicines used to treat upset stomach, nausea, and vomiting may also cause TD.

#### How Common is TD?

TD affects approximately 600,000 people in the U.S.

Based on a study, about 25% of people with TD are diagnosed and 75% of those potentially living with TD have not yet been diagnosed.6

#### What Are Risk Factors for TD?



**Older Age (55+)**<sup>7</sup>



Substance Use Disorder<sup>8</sup>



Being postmenopausal<sup>9</sup>

## **How Does TD Affect Everyday Lives?**

According to a survey, patients with diagnosed or suspected TD [n=350] reported the condition moderately or extremely affected them in the below three areas6:



TD movements can affect everyday life-work, social outings, and daily activities. These movements can also affect emotional well-being. Many people with TD reported feelings of anxiety, frustration, and low self-esteem.<sup>10</sup>

\*The survey evaluated 1,000 patients on medications such as antipsychotics. Base: Patient ATU 2021: Target patients (n=350). Responses based on survey question: Since first experiencing involuntary movements, how has your ability to perform the following daily activities been affected, if at all? Rating scale: 1 to 5 when 1 means "not affected at all," and 5 means "extremely negatively affected."

# **Could It Be TD?**

If you have been taking antipsychotics for a while and have uncontrollable body movements talk to your healthcare provider.

#### **TD Resources**

Please visit TalkAboutTD.com and follow @Neurocrine on Twitter and Facebook to learn more about TD and the available resources.

#### References

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