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Tardive Dyskinesia

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Synonyms

[Neuroleptic-induced dyskinesias](#)

Definition

Tardive dyskinesia is a neurological syndrome caused by the long-term use of neuroleptic or antiemetic drugs.

Current Knowledge

Tardive dyskinesia is characterized by repetitive, involuntary movements. Features of the disorder may include grimacing, tongue protrusion, lip smacking, puckering and pursing, and rapid eye blinking. Rapid movements of the arms, legs, and trunk may also occur. Involuntary movements of the fingers may appear.

Treatment: Stopping the offending medications may help to decrease the symptoms. Recovery may take months to years if it happens at all.

References and Readings

Goetz, C. G., & Horn, S. (2004). Tardive dyskinesia. In R. L. Watts & W. C. Koller (Eds.), *Movement disorders* (2nd ed., pp. 629–638). New York: McGraw-Hill.