# Putting A Spotlight On... Tardive Dyskinesia

## What is Tardive Dyskinesia?

• Tardive Dyskinesia is a movement disorder characterized by uncontrollable, abnormal, and repetitive movements of the face, torso, and/or other body parts.

### What are the signs/symptoms?

- Symptoms include:
  - Orofacial dyskinesia or oro-bucco-lingual dyskinesia: Uncontrolled movements in the face namely lips, jaw, or tongue. You might:
    - Stick out your tongue without trying
    - Blink your eyes fast
    - Chew
    - Smack or pucker your lips
    - Puff out your cheeks
    - Frown
    - Grunt
  - Dyskinesia of the limbs: It can also affect arms, legs, fingers, and toes. That can cause you to:
    - Wiggle your fingers
    - Tap your feet
    - Flap your arms
    - Thrust out your pelvis
    - Sway from side to side

### What is Tardive Dyskinesia a result of?

• Tardive Dyskinesia is a result of prolonged use of treatments that block dopamine receptors in the brain.

### What are the complications of Tardive Dyskinesia?

- occupational impairment
- social stigmatization
- increased mortality
- suicide

### **References**:

- <u>Science Direct</u>
- <u>NINDS</u>
- <u>WebMD</u>

