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IN BRIEF

A New Indication for *Uzed*y

*Uzed*y, an extended-release, subcutaneous (SC) formulation of the second-generation antipsychotic drug risperidone, was approved by the FDA in 2023 for treatment of schizophrenia in adults. It has now been approved for use as monotherapy or in combination with lithium or valproate for maintenance treatment of bipolar I disorder in adults. Extended-release, intramuscular (IM) formulations of risperidone (*Risperdal Consta* and *Rykindo*) are also approved for treatment of bipolar I disorder (see Table 1).^{1,2}

Pronunciation Key

*Uzed*y: ue ze dee

Table 1. Extended-Release Risperidone Products for Bipolar Disorder

Drug	Formulations ¹	Usual Adult Dosage ²	Cost ³
<i>Risperdal Consta</i> (Janssen) generic	12.5, 25, 37.5, 50 mg kits	25-50 mg IM q2 weeks ⁴	\$1290.00 1062.00
<i>Rykindo</i> (Luye)	25, 37.5, 50 mg kits	25-50 mg IM q2 weeks ⁵	1229.10
<i>Uzed</i> y (Teva)	50, 75, 100 mg prefilled syringes	50-100 mg SC once/month	1313.20

1. Formulations approved for maintenance treatment of bipolar I disorder.
2. Patients should establish tolerability with oral risperidone before starting treatment with an injectable formulation.
3. Approximate WAC for 28 days' treatment at the lowest usual adult dosage with *Risperdal Consta* or *Rykindo* or 30 days' treatment with *Uzed*y. WAC = wholesaler acquisition cost or manufacturer's published price to wholesalers; WAC represents a published catalogue or list price and may not represent an actual transactional price. Source: AnalySource® Monthly. December 5, 2025. Reprinted with permission by First Databank, Inc. All rights reserved. ©2025. www.fdbhealth.com/policies/drug-pricing-policy.
4. Oral risperidone should be given with the first dose and continued for 3 weeks.
5. Oral risperidone should be given with the first dose and continued for 7 days.

MAINTENANCE TREATMENT – Lithium, used alone or in combination with another drug, is generally considered the drug of choice for maintenance treatment of bipolar disorder. Valproate, lamotrigine, and carbamazepine are alternatives. Second-generation antipsychotic drugs are effective in preventing recurrences of manic and depressive episodes, especially when taken in combination with a mood stabilizer (lithium or valproate); they may be more effective in preventing

hypomania than depression. Extended-release injectable second-generation antipsychotic drugs are generally used in patients with a history of relapse due to poor adherence to oral maintenance therapy; they are believed to reduce hospitalization and relapse rates.²

PHARMACOLOGY – Unlike with IM formulations of risperidone, absorption of risperidone is rapid following administration of *Uzed*y, eliminating the need to continue taking oral risperidone for the first several days or weeks after the first injection to maintain therapeutic levels of the drug. Serum concentrations of risperidone with *Uzed*y are maintained for 4-8 weeks post-injection. Serum concentrations of risperidone are maintained for 2-4 weeks with *Rykindo* and for 4-6 weeks with *Risperdal Consta*.

CLINICAL STUDIES – No new clinical efficacy trials were required for FDA approval of *Uzed*y for the new indication; approval was based on the results of earlier trials in patients with bipolar I disorder who were treated with long-acting formulations of risperidone that were given intramuscularly once every 2 weeks.

ADVERSE EFFECTS – Subcutaneously administered risperidone can cause injection-site reactions, akathisia, angioedema, dyslipidemia, tremor, parkinsonism, hyperglycemia, hyperprolactinemia, weight gain, and rarely priapism. Seizures can occur in patients with a history of seizure disorder.

CONCLUSION – *Uzed*y, an extended-release, subcutaneously administered formulation of risperidone approved for maintenance treatment of bipolar I disorder, extends the interval between injections from every 2 weeks with intramuscular risperidone formulations to once monthly. Unlike with intramuscular formulations of risperidone, *Uzed*y does not require concomitant administration of oral risperidone after the first injection to maintain therapeutic levels of the drug. *Uzed*y does not appear to offer any advantage in efficacy or safety over other injectable formulations of risperidone. ■

1. In brief: Three new injectable antipsychotic drugs. Med Lett Drugs Ther 2023; 65:207.
2. Drugs for bipolar disorder. Med Lett Drugs Ther 2024; 66:49.

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