

Medications Commonly Used to Treat Tourette's Disorder in Children and Adolescents

Medication	Pharmacologic Class / FDA Indication for Treatment of TD	Dosing	Typical Titration Schedule for a Prepubertal Child
Antipsychotics			
Aripiprazole (Abilify)	Second-generation (atypical) antipsychotic FDA approved	1.0 mg–15.0 mg	Start with 1 mg daily, titrating by 1 mg no more often than every few weeks.
Risperidone (Risperdal)	Second-generation (atypical) antipsychotic Not FDA approved	0.125 mg–3.0 mg	Start with 0.125 mg once or twice a day, titrating by 0.125 mg alternating bedtime and morning at similar rate to aripiprazole.
Haloperidol (Haldol)	First-generation (typical) antipsychotic FDA approved	0.25 mg–4.0 mg	Start with 0.25 mg once or twice a day, titrating by 0.25 mg alternating bedtime and morning at similar rate to aripiprazole.
Pimozide (Orap)	First-generation (typical) antipsychotic FDA approved	0.5 mg–8 mg	Start with 0.5 mg once or twice a day, titrating by 0.5 mg alternating bedtime and morning at similar rate to aripiprazole.
Alpha-adrenergic agonists			
Clonidine (Catapres)	Alpha-agonist Not FDA approved	0.025 mg–0.4 mg	Start with 0.025 mg twice daily, increasing every 4–7 days as tolerated to 0.025 mg three times a day, and then 0.025 mg morning and afternoon and 0.05 mg at bedtime. Wait several weeks at this dosage and reevaluate the tics.
Guanfacine (Tenex)	Alpha-agonist Not FDA approved	0.25 mg–4.0 mg	Start with 0.25 mg twice daily, increasing every 4–7 days as tolerated to 0.25 mg three times a day, and then 0.25 mg morning and afternoon and 0.5 mg at bedtime. Wait several weeks at this dosage and reevaluate the tics.