

Timing for Administering Depot Injections

Depot antipsychotic injections should be administered at the interval prescribed, e.g. every 4 weeks.

On occasions this is not possible e.g. if the patient refuses.

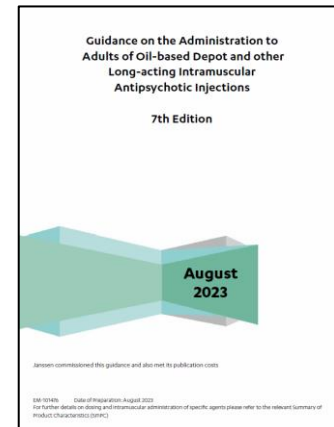
Where is it anticipated that the depot cannot be administered on the date on which it is due, it should be given on the nearest day in a planned manner.

Common Depot and Long-Acting Intramuscular Antipsychotic Injections		
Antipsychotic Brand and license	Standard dosing interval for adult maintenance	Guidance for slightly early or late doses
Aripiprazole Abilify Maintena ®	monthly	License advises: Can be given early, at least 26 days after the previous injection. If late, give as soon as possible. Continue monthly from there onwards.
Flupentixol decanoate e.g. Depixol ®	every 2-4 weeks	License does not specify. Recommend give on the nearest day to due date. If more than about 3 days late, or a change in clinical presentation, discuss with a prescriber.
Haloperidol decanoate Haldol ®	every 4 weeks	License does not specify. Recommend give on the nearest day to due date. If more than about 5 days late, or a change in clinical presentation, discuss with a prescriber.
Paliperidone palmitate (generic)	monthly	License advises: if up to 2 weeks late (6 weeks since the last injection was given), then give as soon as possible. Continue monthly from there onwards.
Paliperidone palmitate (Trevicta ®)	3-monthly	License advises: may be given up to 2 weeks before or after the 3-month due date.
Zuclopenthixol decanoate Clopixol ®	every 1–4 weeks	License does not specify. Recommend give on the nearest day to due date, but no earlier than 7 days from the previous dose. If more than about 3 days late, or a change in clinical presentation, discuss with a prescriber.

Refer to the license for the specific medication: [Home - electronic medicines compendium \(emc\)](#)

For other depots and long-acting antipsychotic injections and for further guidance and information refer to “Guidance on the Administration to Adults of Oil-based Depot and other Long-Acting Intramuscular Antipsychotic Injections.” Available via the intranet:

[Depot Guidelines from JC & Feetam 2023 update - Interact \(ghc.nhs.uk\)](https://ghc.nhs.uk)



Appendix 5: Guidance on Missed Doses of Long-acting Injectable Antipsychotics⁹⁵

It is always good practice to consult relevant product SmPC while dealing with missed doses.

Aripiprazole LAI (Abilify Maintena)¹⁴

If 2 nd or 3 rd dose is missed and time since last injection is:	Action
> 4 weeks and < 5 weeks	The injection should be administered as soon as possible and then resume monthly injection schedule.
> 5 weeks	Concomitant oral aripiprazole should be restarted for 14 days with next administered injection and then resume monthly injection schedule.
If 4 th or subsequent doses are missed (i.e., after attainment of steady state) and time since last injection is:	Action
> 4 weeks and < 6 weeks	The injection should be administered as soon as possible and then resume monthly injection schedule.
> 6 weeks	Concomitant oral aripiprazole should be restarted for 14 days with next administered injection and then resume monthly injection schedule.

Paliperidone 1-monthly Long-Acting Injection

2nd initiation dose (100mg) and time since last injection is:	Action
> 4 weeks	100mg should be injected into the deltoid muscle as soon as possible. A third paliperidone injection of 75 mg (deltoid or gluteal) should be administered 5 weeks after the first injection (regardless of the timing of the second injection). The normal monthly cycle of injections in either the deltoid or gluteal muscle of 50mg to 150mg based on patient tolerability and/or efficacy should be followed thereafter.
> 4 weeks and < 7 weeks	Day 1 - 100mg deltoid injection asap Day 8 - 100mg deltoid injection Day 36 - resume the normal monthly cycle of injections (deltoid or gluteal) based on patient tolerability and/or efficacy.
> 7 weeks	Day 1 - 50mg deltoid injection asap Day 8 - 100mg deltoid injection Day 36 - Resume the normal monthly cycle of injections (deltoid or gluteal) based on patient tolerability and/or efficacy.
Monthly maintenance dose and time since last injection is:	Action
> 6 weeks	Administer depot as soon as possible
> 6 weeks and < 6 months	50mg – 100mg: Day 1 - deltoid injection at same dose patient was previously stabilised on asap Day 8 - another deltoid injection (same dose) Day 36 - resume the normal monthly cycle of injections (deltoid or gluteal) based on individual patient tolerability and /or efficacy. 150mg: Day 1 - 100mg deltoid injection asap Day 8 - 100mg deltoid injection Day 36 - resume the normal monthly cycle of injections (deltoid or gluteal) based on individual patient tolerability and/or efficacy.
> 6 months	Day 1 - 150mg deltoid injection asap Day 8 - 100mg deltoid injection Day 36 - resume the normal monthly cycle of injections (deltoid or gluteal) based on individual patient tolerability and / or efficacy.