

## INFORMED CONSENT FOR MEDICATION

Dosage and / or Side Effect information last revised on 08/25/2020

Completion of this form is voluntary. If informed consent is not given, the medication cannot be administered without a court order unless in an emergency.

This consent is maintained in the client's record and is accessible to authorized users.

Name – Patient / Client (Last, First MI)	ID Number	Living Unit	Date of Birth
Name – Individual Preparing This Form	Name – Staff Contact	Name / Telephone Number – Institution	

MEDICATION CATEGORY	MEDICATION	RECOMMENDED DAILY TOTAL DOSAGE RANGE	ANTICIPATED DOSAGE RANGE
Antidepressant	Remeron; Remeron SolTab (mirtazapine)	15 mg – 45 mg	

The anticipated dosage range is to be individualized, may be above or below the recommended range but no medication will be administered without your informed and written consent.

Recommended daily total dosage range of manufacturer, as stated in *Physician's Desk Reference* (PDR) or another standard reference.

This medication will be administered ☐ Orally ☐ Injection ☐ Other – Specify:

### 1. Reason for Use of Psychotropic Medication and Benefits Expected (note if this is 'Off-Label' Use)

Include DSM-5 diagnosis or the diagnostic impression ("working hypothesis.")

### 2. Alternative mode(s) of treatment other than OR in addition to medications include

Note: Some of these would be applicable only in an inpatient environment.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment and/or staff changes           | <input type="checkbox"/> Rehabilitation treatments/therapy (OT, PT, AT)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Positive redirection and staff interaction | <input type="checkbox"/> Treatment programs and approaches (habilitation) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual and/or group therapy            | <input type="checkbox"/> Use of behavior intervention techniques          |

Other Alternatives:

### 3. Probable consequences of NOT receiving the proposed medication are

Impairment of ☐ Work Activities ☐ Family Relationships ☐ Social Functioning

#### Possible increase in symptoms leading to potential

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use of seclusion or restraint                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Limits on recreation and leisure activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Limits on access to possessions                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Intervention of law enforcement authorities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Limits on personal freedoms                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Risk of harm to self or others              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Limit participation in treatment and activities |  |

Other Consequences:

**Note:** These consequences may vary depending upon whether or not the individual is in an inpatient setting. It is also possible that in unusual situations, little or no adverse consequences may occur if the medications are not administered.

See Page 2

Client Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

4. Possible side effects, warnings, and cautions associated with this medication are listed below. This is not an all-inclusive list but is representative of items of potential clinical significance to you. For more information on this medication, you may consult further with your physician or refer to a standard text, such as the PDR. As part of monitoring some of these potential side effects, your physician may order laboratory or other tests. The treatment team will closely monitor individuals who are unable to readily communicate side effects in order to enhance care and treatment.

Continued – Possible side effects, warnings, and cautions associated with this medication.

**Most Common Side Effects:** constipation; dizziness; drowsiness; dry mouth; increased appetite; weight gain.

**Less Common Side Effects:** twitching or abnormal movement; mood or mental changes, including abnormal thinking, agitation, anxiety, confusion, and feelings of hopelessness; shortness of breath; skin rash; swelling, especially of the ankles/feet; abdominal pain; abnormal dreams; back pain; dizziness or fainting when getting up suddenly from a lying or sitting position; more frequent need to urinate; increased sensitivity to touch; increased thirst; low or high blood pressure; muscle pain; nausea; vertigo (feeling of moving when not); trembling or shaking; restlessness or feeling the need to constantly move; vomiting; weakness.

**Rare Side Effects:** Although rare, check with your physician as soon as possible if you experience the following: convulsions (seizures); mouth sores; sore throat, chills, or fever; decreased sexual ability; menstrual pain; missing periods; mood or mental changes, including anger, feelings of being outside the body, hallucinations (seeing, hearing, or feeling things that are not there), mood swings, and unusual excitement; anxiety; breast enlargement in both males and females; hair loss; inappropriate secretion of milk—in females; increased sensitivity to sunlight; irritability; muscle twitching; red or brownish spots on skin; ringing, buzzing, or other unexplained sounds in the ears; swelling of face and tongue; swelling of testicles (more common with amoxapine); trouble with teeth or gums (more common with clomipramine); weakness; yellow eyes or skin.

#### Caution

- **Driving and operating heavy machinery**  
Mirtazapine may cause drowsiness or dizziness, which could make driving, operating heavy machinery, or participating in other activities requiring alertness dangerous. Be sure to know how this medication affects you before participating in these activities.
- **Blood disorder**  
Check with your doctor immediately if you develop fever, chills, sore throat, or sores in the mouth. These may be signs of a very serious blood problem that has occurred rarely in patients taking mirtazapine.
- **Orthostatic hypotension**  
Orthostatic hypotension is when one feels dizzy while getting up from a lying or sitting position. Getting up slowly may help. If this problem continues or gets worse, check with your doctor.
- **QT prolongation**  
This drug has the potential to affect the QT interval of the heart, which, in rare cases, can lead to a fatal arrhythmia. This medication should be used with caution in those have a history of QT prolongation, as well as those who have multiple QT prolonging risk factors.
- **Fractures**  
Bone fractures have been associated with antidepressant treatment.
- **Anticholinergic effects**  
May cause anticholinergic effects (constipation, dry mouth, blurred vision, urinary retention).
- **Weight gain**  
This medication has been associated with increased appetite and weight gain.
- **Serotonin syndrome**  
Potentially life-threatening serotonin syndrome (SS) has occurred with serotonergic agents (eg, SSRIs, SNRIs), particularly when used in combination with other serotonergic agents (eg, triptans, TCAs, fentanyl, lithium, tramadol, buspirone, St John's wort, tryptophan) or agents that impair metabolism of serotonin (eg, MAO inhibitors intended to treat psychiatric disorders, other MAO inhibitors [ie, linezolid and intravenous methylene blue]).
- **Seizures**  
This medication has the potential, in rare cases, cause individuals to experience a seizure. Caution should be exercised in those who have a history of seizures.
- **Withdrawal**  
This medication should not be suddenly stopped, as this could cause an individual to experience symptoms of withdrawal. Please speak with your physician before stopping this medication.

Before having any kind of surgery, dental treatment, or emergency treatment, tell the medical doctor or dentist that you are using this medicine.

Medication : Remeron;  
Remeron SolTab - (mirtazapine)

**Warning: [BLACK BOX WARNING]: Antidepressants and Suicidality:**

Antidepressants increased the risk compared to placebo of suicidal thinking and behavior (suicidality) in short term studies in children, adolescents, and young adults with major depressive disorder (MDD) and other psychiatric disorders. Anyone considering the use of this drug or any other antidepressant in a child, adolescent, or young adult must balance this risk with the clinical need. Short-term studies did not show an increase in the risk of suicidality with antidepressants compared to placebo in adults beyond age 24; there was a reduction in risk with antidepressants compared to placebo in adults aged 65 and older. Depression and certain other psychiatric disorders are themselves associated with increases in the risk of suicide. Patients of all ages who are started on therapy should be monitored appropriately and observed closely for clinical worsening, suicidality, or unusual changes in behavior. Families and caregivers should be advised of the need for close observation and communication with the prescriber. This drug is not approved for use in pediatric patients.

**MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO BLACK BOX DATA**—Close observation for suicidal thinking or unusual changes in behavior.

See standard reference text for an all-inclusive list of side effects.

**By my signature below, I GIVE consent for the named medication on Page 1 and anticipated dosage range. My signature also indicates that I understand the following:**

1. I can refuse to give consent or can withdraw my consent at any time with written notification to the institution director or designee. This will not affect my right to change my decision at a later date. If I withdraw consent after a medication is started, I realize that the medication may not be discontinued immediately. Rather, it will be tapered as rapidly as medically safe and then discontinued so as to prevent an adverse medical consequence, such as seizures, due to rapid medication withdrawal.
2. Questions regarding this medication can be discussed with the Interdisciplinary Team, including the physician. The staff contact person can assist in making any necessary arrangements.
3. Questions regarding any behavior support plan or behavior intervention plan, which correspond with the use of the medication, can be directed to the client's social worker, case manager, or psychologist.
4. I have the right to request a review at any time of my record, pursuant to § 51.30(4)(d) or § 51.30(5)(b).
5. I have a legal right to file a complaint if I feel that client rights have been inappropriately restricted. The client's social worker, case manager, or agency/facility client rights specialist may be contacted for assistance.
6. My consent permits the dose to be changed within the **anticipated dosage range** without signing another consent.
7. I understand the reasons for the use of the medication, its potential risks and benefits, other alternative treatment(s), and the probable consequences that may occur if the proposed medication is not given. I have been given adequate time to study the information and find the information to be specific, accurate, and complete.
8. This medication consent is for a period effective immediately and not to exceed fifteen (15) months from the date of my signature. The need for and continued use of this medication will be reviewed at least quarterly by the Interdisciplinary Team. The goal, on behalf of the client, will be to arrive at and maintain the client at the minimum effective dose.

**SIGNATURES****DATE SIGNED**

Client – If Presumed Competent to Consent/Parent of Minor/Guardian (POA-HC)	Relationship to Client <input type="checkbox"/> Self <input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian (POA-HC)	
Staff Present at Oral Discussion	Title	
Client / Parent of Minor / Guardian (POA-HC) Comments		

**As parent/guardian (POA-HC) was not available for signature, he/she was verbally informed of the information in this consent.**

**Verbal Consent**

Obtained by – PRINT – Staff Name	Date Obtained	Written Consent Received <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Obtained from – PRINT – Parent / Guardian (POA-HC) Name	Date Expires	Date Received