OFFERING PATIENTS THERAPEUTIC INFORMATION MEDICATION ALTERNATIVES (OPTIMA) ©

Person's Name:

BENEFITS AND REASONS TO CHOOSE MONTHLY MEDICATION			NO
When you take monthly medication rather than daily medication, you may get along at home better, be able to	Is it important to you to get along better with family and friends?		
go to school or work, have a better social life and be more satisfied with treatment.	Is it important to you to be able to go to school or work?		
People who switch to monthly medication say their symptoms, ability to function in their daily life, and satisfaction with treatment are much better with monthly medication. ^{2,3}	Is it important to you to have a better social life?		
	Is it important to you to be satisfied with your treatment?		
Over two years, more people stay on treatment with monthly medication than daily medication.4	Is it important to you to stay on medication?		
If you need to be hospitalized with symptoms, you may spend much less time in hospital with monthly medication than with daily medication, about two-thirds less time. ⁵	Is it important to you to spend less time in hospital?		
People who forget to take their medication daily are more likely to have symptoms and more likely to be hospitalized than people taking monthly medication. ⁶ Over a one-year period, people taking daily medication	Is it important to you to avoid being hospitalized with symptoms?		
are three times more likely to be hospitalized with symptoms than people taking monthly medication.			
Relapses make it harder for you to recover. Usually, fewer relapses happen with monthly than with daily medication. Long-term treatment results are better with monthly medication. ⁷	Is it important to you to have better long term treatment result and fewer relapses?		
Some monthly medication begins to work fast.8 This means you may be able to recover faster and leave hospital sooner.	Is it important to you to recover faster and leave hospital sooner?		
When you take monthly medication, you have more steady and even levels of medication in the body and may have fewer side effects, such as sleepiness and weight gain, than with daily medication.9	Is it important to you to have fewer side effects?		
You receive less medication with monthly than with daily medication.	Is it important to you to receive less medication?		
When you take medication monthly, you do not need to worry about remembering to take medication daily.	Is it important to you not to worry about remembering to take medication?		
Taking monthly treatment may be simpler for you than taking daily.	Is it important to you to simplify your medication plan?		
If you forget to go for your monthly medication, we will reschedule your appointment with your treatment team to maintain your medication's effectiveness.	Is it important to you to stay connected to your treatment team?		
People taking monthly medication better protect their brain from additional illness than people taking daily medication. ¹⁰	Is it important to you to protect your brain from the illness?		

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Person's Name:

RISKS AND REASONS TO AVOID MONTHLY MEDICATION	ON	YES	NO
You may experience minimal discomfort with receiving your monthly medication by injection, but no more than with a vaccine. Most patients tolerate this very well.	Are you able to tolerate some discomfort with monthly medication?		

DECISION			
Which option do you prefer?	☐ Take monthly medication	☐ Do not take monthly medication	☐ Unsure

WHAT ARE YOUR DECISION-MAKING NEEDS?		YES	NO
Sure of myself	Do you feel sure about the best choice for you?		
Understand information	Do you know the benefits and risks of taking or not taking monthly medication?		
Risk-benefit ratio	Are you clear about which benefits and risks matter most to you?		
Encouragement	Do you have enough support and advice to make a choice?		

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