

# Alzheimer's New Jersey®

## FDA-Approved Medications for Alzheimer's

This brief summary does not include all information important for patient use and should not be used as a substitute for professional medical advice. Consult the prescribing doctor and read the package insert before using these or any other medications or supplements.

DRUG NAME	DRUG TYPE AND USE	HOW IT WORKS	POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS	FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SAFETY AND RECOMMENDED DOSAGE
<b>Leqembi®</b> (lecanemab – irmb)	Disease-modifying immunotherapy prescribed to treat mild cognitive impairment (MCI) or mild Alzheimer's. Administered as an intravenous infusion.	Removes abnormal beta-amyloid to help reduce the number of plaques in the brain.	Amyloid-related imaging abnormalities (ARIA), which can lead to fluid buildup or bleeding in the brain; also headache, confusion, dizziness, vision changes, nausea, difficulty walking, seizures.	For current information about the drug's safety and use, visit <a href="https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2023/761269Orig1s001lbl.pdf">https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2023/761269Orig1s001lbl.pdf</a>
<b>Kisunla™</b> (donanemab-azbt)	Disease-modifying immunotherapy prescribed to treat mild cognitive impairment (MCI) or early Alzheimer's. Administered as an intravenous infusion.	Removes abnormal beta-amyloid to help reduce the number of plaques in the brain. Once plaques are removed, treatment can stop.	Amyloid-related imaging abnormalities (ARIA), which can lead to fluid buildup or bleeding in the brain. Also headache and infusion-related reaction (IRR).	For current information about the drug's safety and use, visit <a href="http://www.kisunla.lilly.com">www.kisunla.lilly.com</a>
<b>*Aricept®</b> (donepezil)	Cholinesterase inhibitor prescribed to treat symptoms of mild, moderate, and severe Alzheimer's. Administered as a tablet	Prevents the breakdown of acetylcholine in the brain.	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, muscle cramps, fatigue, weight loss	For current information about this drug's safety and use, visit <a href="http://www.aricept.com/prescribingpatient">www.aricept.com/prescribingpatient</a>
<b>*Exelon®</b> (rivastigmine)	Cholinesterase inhibitor prescribed to treat symptoms of mild to moderate Alzheimer's. Administered as a capsule or a patch (for severe Alzheimer's).	Prevents the breakdown of acetylcholine and butyrylcholine (a brain chemical similar to acetylcholine) in the brain	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, weight loss, indigestion, muscle weakness	For current information about this drug's safety and use, visit <a href="https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2015/020823s032,021025s022lbl.pdf">https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2015/020823s032,021025s022lbl.pdf</a>

\*Available as a generic drug.

Source: <https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/alzheimers-treatment/how-alzheimers-disease-treated>

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<b>*Razadyne® (galantamine)</b>	Cholinesterase Inhibitor prescribed to treat symptoms of mild to moderate Alzheimer's. Administered as a tablet or extended-release capsule.	Prevents the breakdown of acetylcholine and stimulates nicotinic receptors to release more acetylcholine in the brain	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, decreased appetite, dizziness, headache	For current information about this drug's safety and use, visit <a href="https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2020/021169s033,021615s024lbl.pdf">https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2020/021169s033,021615s024lbl.pdf</a>
<b>*Namenda® (memantine)</b>	N-methyl D-aspartate (NMDA) antagonist prescribed to treat symptoms of moderate to severe Alzheimer's. Administered as an orally ingested tablet, oral solution, or extended-release capsule.	Blocks the toxic effects associated with excess glutamate and regulates glutamate activation	Dizziness, headache, diarrhea, constipation, confusion	For current information about this drug's safety and use, visit <a href="http://www.namenda.com">www.namenda.com</a>
<b>Namzaric® (memantine extended-release and donepezil)</b>	NMDA antagonist and cholinesterase inhibitor prescribed to treat symptoms of moderate to severe Alzheimer's. Administered as a capsule.	Blocks the toxic effects associated with excess glutamate and prevents the breakdown of acetylcholine in the brain	Headache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, dizziness	For current information about this drug's safety and use, visit <a href="http://www.namzaric.com">www.namzaric.com</a> . Click on "Prescribing Information" to see the drug label.
<b>*Rexulti® (brexpiprazole)</b>	Atypical antipsychotic to treat agitation associated with Alzheimer's. Administered as a daily tablet.	Adjusts the balance of neurotransmitters such as dopamine and serotonin in the brain	Common cold symptoms, dizziness, high blood sugar and stroke	For current information about this drug's safety and use, visit <a href="https://www.rexulti.com/aad">https://www.rexulti.com/aad</a>

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