FAIRVIEW PHARMACY — EST. 1978

Getting Invega Sustenna safely

paliperidone palmitate · monthly injection given by your care team

3 MISTAKES TO AVOID

1 Missing an injection
Stay inside your window. More than 6 weeks late? Call your clinic right away.

2 Keeping side effects to yourself
Report prolactin effects, blood sugar changes and new movements.

3 Alcohol, or new medicines without checking
Avoid alcohol. Some medicines lower paliperidone levels. Ask us first.

Your injection schedule (mistake #1)

- **Shots 1 and 2:** about one week apart, give or take 4 days.
- **Then once a month**, up to 7 days before or after the due date.
- **More than 6 weeks since your last shot?** Call your clinic right away. You may need 2 shoulder shots, one week apart.

Check with us first (mistake #3)

- **Avoid alcohol** during treatment.
- **Lower paliperidone levels:** carbamazepine, rifampin, St. John's wort.
- **Heart rhythm medicines** may need to be avoided. Tell us about every prescription, OTC medicine, vitamin and herbal product.

EMERGENCY: CALL 911
High fever, severe muscle stiffness, confusion, breathing, heartbeat or blood pressure changes (possible NMS), or **an erection lasting more than 4 hours**: go to the nearest emergency room.

Call your provider if you notice

- Fainting, feeling like you will faint, or a pounding or skipping heartbeat (right away)
- Missed periods, milk leaking from the breasts, breast growth in men, or erection problems
- Movements of your face or tongue that you can't control

Every day

Don't drive until you know how it affects you. **Avoid getting overheated or dehydrated**; drink plenty of water. Stand up slowly.

IMPORTANT
Boxed warning: not for older adults with dementia-related psychosis. In them, antipsychotics raise the risk of stroke and death.

Pregnant, planning to be, or breastfeeding? Talk with your provider. Babies exposed late in pregnancy can have shaking, stiffness, sleepiness, or trouble breathing or feeding.

Questions? Ask Dr. Mike at fairviewpharm.com/medications

Leave a message: 601-640-4671 · 500 Katie Ave, Hattiesburg, MS

Medically reviewed by Dr. Mike Acheampong, Pharmacist, Fairview Pharmacy · October 2026

This handout is for education only and is not medical advice. Talk with your doctor or pharmacist about your medicines.
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