



## Why This Is Unnecessary and Potentially Harmful

- **Positive published studies actually have mixed results**
  - Haloperidol PPX did not actually decrease incidence of delirium on post-op day 1.<sup>1</sup>
  - RCT of quetiapine not actually powered for the primary outcome of lower DRS-R-98 scores and there was no significant difference in severity of delirium on days 1, 3, or 10.<sup>2</sup>
- **2016 systematic review concluded that antipsychotics did not change length of delirium or hospitalization<sup>6</sup>**
- **RCT comparing haloperidol, risperidone, and placebo for delirium treatment in palliative care and hospice patients found more severe delirium in patients receiving antipsychotics vs placebo<sup>7</sup>**
- **Side effects**
  - Increased risk of extrapyramidal symptoms<sup>6-8</sup>
  - Increased risk of aspiration pneumonia<sup>9</sup>
- **Use of atypical antipsychotics in elderly patients with dementia is associated with increased mortality<sup>10</sup>**

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