



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 1.¹
 - 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 10.²
- **2016 systematic review concluded that antipsychotics did not change length of delirium or hospitalization⁶**
- **RCT comparing haloperidol, risperidone, and placebo for delirium treatment in palliative care and hospice patients found more severe delirium in patients receiving antipsychotics vs placebo⁷**
- **Side effects**
 - Increased risk of extrapyramidal symptoms⁶⁻⁸
 - Increased risk of aspiration pneumonia⁹
- **Use of atypical antipsychotics in elderly patients with dementia is associated with increased mortality¹⁰**