IS AN INJECTABLE ANTIPSYCHOTIC RIGHT FOR ME?

WHAT ARE ANTIPSYCHOTIC MEDICATIONS?
Antipsychotics are medications used to treat the symptoms of schizophrenia. Schizophrenia is a brain disorder with symptoms that include seeing or hearing things that are not there, misinterpreting events, or having trouble thinking clearly. Medications are typically needed to control symptoms.

WHAT ARE LONG-ACTING ANTIPSYCHOTICS?
There are several options for treatment of schizophrenia with medications. Pills taken by mouth must be taken every day, and it is important not to miss doses or your symptoms may come back. Another option is to receive your medication as a long-acting injection. You may receive an injection every two weeks or up to every three months, depending on the medication your doctor recommends.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I RECEIVE MY MEDICATION AS AN INJECTION?
Many patients may forget to take pills every day and as a result may miss some of their medication. This occurs commonly for people who take any kind of medication daily for a long time. A long-acting medication is given once and then is not needed again for a longer time. Getting an injection offers the convenience of not having to take a pill each day or order and pick up refills. In addition, an injection can be more private because you will not need to keep pill bottles. Often, you can receive your medication injection when you see your doctor for regular visits.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING YOUR MEDICATION AS AN INJECTION, YOU MAY WANT TO DISCUSS SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS WITH YOUR DOCTOR:

- WHERE WOULD I GO TO RECEIVE MY INJECTION?
- WILL I FEEL ANY DISCOMFORT FROM THE INJECTION?
- ARE THERE POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF MY MEDICATION?
- HOW WOULD I START ON MY INJECTABLE MEDICATION?
- HOW OFTEN WOULD I NEED TO RECEIVE MY MEDICATION?
- WHAT HAPPENS IF I MISS AN INJECTION OF MY MEDICATION?