



## What Is Clozapine?

Schizophrenia is a serious brain psychiatric illness where a person hears voices or sees things that are not really there, or becomes paranoid or has other false beliefs. There are several medications that can treat those symptoms.

In 25-30% of cases, the voices or the paranoid feelings do not go away despite using several antipsychotic drugs. Clozapine has been proven to work when other antipsychotics don't. It also helps reduce suicidal thoughts in people with schizophrenia.

When clozapine is used, blood is drawn weekly to check for any changes in white blood cells, which may occur in 1% of people. Measurement of the blood level of clozapine is also done.

Side effects may include increased appetite, sleepiness, low blood pressure, increased salivation, weight gain, increased blood glucose levels and constipation.

To make it easier for patients to try clozapine, CURESZ is a foundation that has arranged for a group of psychiatrists who are experts in clozapine, so that patients around the country can connect with one of those experts close to where they live.

CURESZ does not have any financial interest in promoting clozapine use since clozapine has been available in generic form for over 15 years. Our goal is to make this inexpensive but extremely effective medication available to more patients worldwide.

***For more information, check out [www.curesz.org](http://www.curesz.org). Thanks for visiting!***