



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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*****PRESS RELEASE*****

Advocates Recognize Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week May 2-8

The week aims to bring greater awareness and reduce stigma of the condition

WASHINGTON—The Movement Disorders Policy Coalition and other members of the movement disorders and mental health community will recognize May 2-8 as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week to raise awareness about the condition and to reduce stigma. The week's [activities](#) include a Twitter chat and virtual event.

Tardive dyskinesia, or TD, is a movement disorder that can develop after the use of medications such as antipsychotics, commonly prescribed to treat bipolar disorder, schizophrenia or depression. More than 500,000 Americans are affected by TD.

Those with TD experience involuntary, repetitive movements of their face, limbs or torso – movements that can be uncomfortable or painful. People living with TD also face stigma, which can worsen mental health symptoms and cause embarrassment or withdrawal from society. Sixty-eight percent of people living with TD reported a moderate to extreme effect on their self-esteem.

Despite its prevalence, the condition is still widely unknown or misunderstood due to a lack of public awareness. TD Awareness Week will help promote greater awareness about the impact of TD to support those living with TD, their caregivers and their communities.

Toolkit: [Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week](#)

Graphic: [Understanding Tardive Dyskinesia](#)

Video: [Understanding Tardive Dyskinesia](#)

STATEMENT FROM JOSIE COOPER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MOVEMENT DISORDERS POLICY COALITION:

"Greater awareness about tardive dyskinesia is critical for those living with this condition. We are honored to join with advocates to promote greater recognition about the impact and burden of TD, both for the public and those who may be at risk of developing the condition."

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About the Movement Disorders Policy Coalition

The Movement Disorders Policy Coalition brings together advocacy groups, health care providers, patients and other stakeholders to inform policy impacting patient-centered care for people living with movement disorders. www.movementdisorderspolicy.org