"My antidepressant worked hard.  
But sometimes I still struggled with my depression."
What is the most Important Information I should know about ABILIFY?

Serious side effects may happen when you take ABILIFY, Including:
• Increased risk of death in elderly patients with dementia-related psychosis:
  Medicines like ABILIFY can raise the risk of death in elderly people who have lost touch with reality (psychosis) due to confusion and memory loss (dementia). ABILIFY is not approved for the treatment of patients with dementia-related psychosis.

• Risk of suicidal thoughts or actions: Antidepressant medicines, depression and other serious mental illnesses, and suicidial thoughts or actions:
  Antidepressant medicines may increase suicidal thoughts or actions in some children, teenagers, and adults within the first few months of treatment. Depression and other serious mental illnesses are the most important causes of suicidal thoughts and actions. Some people may have a particularly high risk of having suicidal thoughts or actions Including people who have or have a family history of bipolar illness (also called manic-depressive illness) or suicidal thoughts or actions.

How can I watch for and try to prevent suicidal thoughts and actions in myself or a family member?
• Pay close attention to any changes, especially sudden changes, in mood, behavior, thoughts, or feelings. This is very important when an antidepressant medicine is started or when the dose is changed.
• Call the healthcare provider right away to report new or sudden changes in mood, behavior, thoughts, or feelings.
• Keep all follow-up visits with the healthcare provider as scheduled. Call the healthcare provider between visits as needed, especially if you have concerns about symptoms.

Call a healthcare provider right away if you or your family member has any of the following symptoms, especially if they are new, worsen, or worry you:
• Thoughts about suicide or dying, attempting to commit suicide, new or worse depression, new or worse anxiety, feeling very sad or hopeless, marked difficulty concentrating, trouble sleeping (insomnia), new or worse irritability, acting aggressive, being angry, or violent, acting on dangerous impulses, an extreme increase in activity and talking (mania), other unusual changes in behavior or mood.

What else do I need to know about antidepressant medicines?
• Never stop an antidepressant medicine without first talking to a healthcare provider. Stopping an antidepressant medicine suddenly can cause other symptoms.
• Antidepressants are medicines used to treat depression and other illnesses. It is important to discuss all the risks of treating depression and also the risks of not treating it. Patients and their families or other caregivers should discuss all treatment choices with the healthcare provider, not just the use of antidepressants.
• Antidepressant medicines have other side effects. Talk to the healthcare provider about the side effects of the medicine prescribed for you or your family member.
• Antidepressant medicines can interact with other medicines. Know all of the medicines that you or your family member takes. Keep a list of all medicines to show the healthcare provider. Do not start new medicines without first checking with your healthcare provider.
• Not all antidepressant medicines prescribed for children are FDA approved. Talk to your child’s healthcare provider for more information.

What is ABILIFY (aripiprazole)?
ABILIFY is a prescription medicine used to treat:
• Major depressive disorder in adults, as an add-on treatment, in an antidepressant medicine when you do not get better with an antidepressant alone.

The symptoms of major depressive disorder (MDD) include feeling of sadness and emptiness, loss of interest in activities that you once enjoyed, and loss of energy, problems focusing and making decisions, feeling of worthlessness or guilt, changes in sleep or eating patterns, and thoughts of death or suicide.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking ABILIFY?
Before taking ABILIFY, talk your healthcare provider if you have or had:
• Diabetes or high blood sugar in you or your family; your healthcare provider should check your blood sugar before you start ABILIFY and also during therapy.
• Seizures (convulsions).
• Low blood pressure.

What should I avoid while taking ABILIFY?
• Do not drink alcohol while taking ABILIFY.
• Do not drive, operate heavy machinery, or do other dangerous activities until you know how ABILIFY affects you.
• Avoid getting overheated or dehydrated.

What are the possible side effects of ABILIFY?
Serious side effects have been reported with ABILIFY including:
• Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS): Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have some or all of the following symptoms high fever, stiff muscles, confusion, sweating, changes in pupil, heart rate, and blood pressure.

These may be symptoms of a rare and serious condition that can lead to death. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any of these symptoms.
• High blood sugar (hyperglycemia): Increases in blood sugar can happen in some people who take ABILIFY (aripiprazole). Extremely high blood sugar can lead to coma or death. If you have diabetes or risk factors for diabetes (such as being overweight or a family history of diabetes), your healthcare provider should check your blood sugar before you start ABILIFY and during therapy.

Call your healthcare provider if you have any of these symptoms of high blood sugar while taking ABILIFY:
• Feel very thirsty, need to urinate more than usual, feel very hungry, feel weak or tired, feel sick to your stomach, feel confused, or your breath smells fruity.
• Increase in weight: Weight gain has been reported in patients taking medicines like ABILIFY, so you and your healthcare provider should check your weight regularly. For children and adolescent patients (10 to 17 years of age) weight gain should be compared against that expected with normal growth.

• Difficulty swallowing: may lead to aspiration and choking.
• Tardive dyskinesia: Call your healthcare provider about any movements you cannot control in your face, tongue, or other body parts. These may be signs of a serious condition. Tardive dyskinesia may not go away, even if you stop taking ABILIFY. Tardive dyskinesia may also start after you stop taking ABILIFY.
• Orthostatic hypotension (decreased blood pressure): Lightheadiness or fainting when rising too quickly from a sitting or lying position.
• Low white blood cell count.
• Seizures (convulsions).

Common side effects with ABILIFY in adults include:
• Nausea.
• Fever.
• Diaphoresis.
• Insomnia.
• Fatigue.
• Hot flashes.
• Anorexia.
• Tinnitus.
• Headache.
• Insomnia.
• Hot flashes.
• Fatigue.
• Tinnitus.
• Headache.

General Information about ABILIFY
• Store ABILIFY at room temperature, between 59°F to 86°F. Keep ABILIFY and all medicines out of the reach of children.
