

# THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRY DECEMBER 1997 VOL. 171

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Of course, Debbie would no more talk of the recently extended indication for Cipramil than its high selectivity<sup>1,2</sup>, good tolerability<sup>3</sup>, and low risk of drug interactions<sup>4,5,6</sup>. She just recognises the difference that Cipramil makes to the stability and quality of her life.



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cardiac arrhythmias. Do not use with or within 14 days of MAO inhibitors: leave a seven day gap before starting MAO inhibitor treatment. Use a low starting dose for panic disorder, to reduce the likelihood of an initial anxiogenic effect (experienced by some patients) when starting pharmacotherapy. **Drug Interactions:** MAO inhibitors (see Precautions). Use lithium and tryptophan with caution. Routine monitoring of lithium levels need not be adjusted. **Adverse Events:** Most commonly nausea, sweating, tremor, somnolence and dry mouth. With citalopram, adverse effects are in general mild and transient. When they occur, they are most prominent during the first two weeks of treatment and usually attenuate as the depressive state improves. **Overdosage:** Symptoms have included somnolence, coma, sinus tachycardia, occasional nodal rhythm, episode of grand mal convulsion, nausea, vomiting, sweating and hyperventilation. No specific antidote. Treatment is symptomatic and supportive. Early gastric lavage suggested. **Legal Category:** POM 24.1.95. Further information available upon request. Product licence holder: Lundbeck Ltd., Sunningdale House, Caldecotte Lake Business Park, Caldecotte, Milton Keynes, MK7 8LF. @ Cipramil' is a Registered Trade Mark. @ 1997 Lundbeck Ltd. Date:

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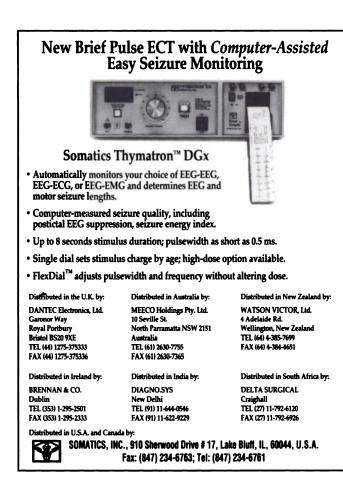
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This study tour represents a rare opportunity to observe Chinese psychiatric services. This is the first time a tour of this nature has been permitted to visit a range of mental health institutions in China. Mental Health in China allows participants to visit a range of psychiatric services in Beijing, Xian and Chongqing.



This unique opportunity is combined with the chance to experience the ancient culture of this country from the Great Wall to the Forbidden City, Summer Palace, Tiananmen Square and the Terracotta Warriors. The tour culminates in a four day cruise down the Yangtze river and through the huge Three Gorges, one of the wonders of the world

This may be the last opportunity to see the Three Gorges. When the new dam under construction is finished, the water level will rise flooding the Three Gorges.

Mental Health in China will be of interest to psychiatrists, psychologists and psychiatric nurses. Partners or non-medical participants are welcome.

The group will be escorted throughout the tour by Harry Field who has a wide understanding of both British and Chinese psychiatric services, together with an interpreter and local guides. This is an opportunity that should be taken before China changes forever. The fully inclusive price is £2,695.

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MENTAL HEALTH STUDY TOUR TO CHINA 1998
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## Another seizure-tree day

Wasn't late getting up

XX

Didn't let fish off hook

Didn't fall in water

Didn't have a seizure

# **TOPAMAX**

## At the end of the day, it works.

#### Adjunctive treatment for partial seizures with or without secondary generalisation

#### TOPAMAX Abbreviated Prescribing Information Please read the data sheet before prescribing

Presentation: Tablets each imprinted "TOP" on one side and strength on the other containing 25mg (white), 50mg (light yellow), 100mg (yellow), and 200mg (salmon) topiramate. Uses: Adjunctive therapy of partial seizures, with or without secondarily generalised seizures, in patients inadequately controlled on conventional first line antiepileptic drugs. Dosage and Administration: Adults and Elderly: Oral administration. Usual dose: 200mg - 400mg/day in two divided doses. Maximum recommended dose: 800mg/day. Initiate therapy at 50mg bd then titrate to an effective dose. See data sheet for titration. Do not break tablets. It is not necessary to monitor topiramate plasma concentrations. Patients with renal disease/haemodialysis may require a modified titration schedule. (See data sheet). Children: Not recommended Contra-indications: Hypersensitivity to any component of the product. Precautions and Warnings: Withdraw all antiepileptic drugs gradually. Maintain adequate hydration to reduce risk of nephrolithiasis (especially increased in those with a predisposition). Drowsiness likely. TOPAMAX may be more sedating than other antiepileptic drugs therefore caution in patients driving or operating machinery, particularly until patients' experience with the drug is established. Do not use in pregnancy unless potential benefit outweighs risk to foetus. Women of child bearing potential should use adequate contraception. Do not use if breastfeeding. Interactions: Other Antiepileptic Drugs: No clinically https://doilorg/10111192/\$0007125000349049 Published online by Cambridge University Pressentrations may increase. Phenytoin level monitoring is advised. Effects of other antiepileptic drugs: Phenytoin plasma concentrations on sodium valproate addition or withdrawal. Digoxin: A decrease in serum digoxin occurs. Monitor serum digoxin on addition or withdrawal of TOPAMAX. Oral Contraceptives: Should contain not less than 50µg of oestrogen. Ask patients to report any change in bleeding patterns. Others: Avoid agents predisposing to nephrolithiasis. **Side Effects:** In 5% or more: ataxia, impaired concentration, confusion, dizziness, fatigue, paraesthesia, sormolence and abnormal thinking. May cause agitation and emotional lability (which may manifest as abnormal behaviour) and depression. Less commonly: amnesia, anorexia, aphasia, diplopia, nausea, nystagmus, speech disorder, taste perversion, abnormal vision and weight decrease. Increased risk of nephrolithiasis. Venous thromboembolic events reported - causal association not established. **Overdosage**: If ingestion recent, empty stomach. Activated charcoal not recommended. Supportive treatment as appropriate. Haemodialysis is effective in removing topiramate. **Pharmaceutical Precautions:** Store in a dry place at or below 25°C. **Legal Category:** POM **Package Quantities and Prices:** Bottles of 60 tablets. 25mg (PL0242/0301) = £22.02; 50mg (PL0242/0302) = £36.17; 100mg (PL0242/0303) = £64.80; 200mg (PL0242/0304) = £125.83.

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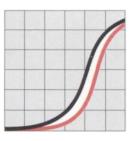
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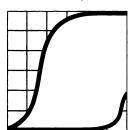


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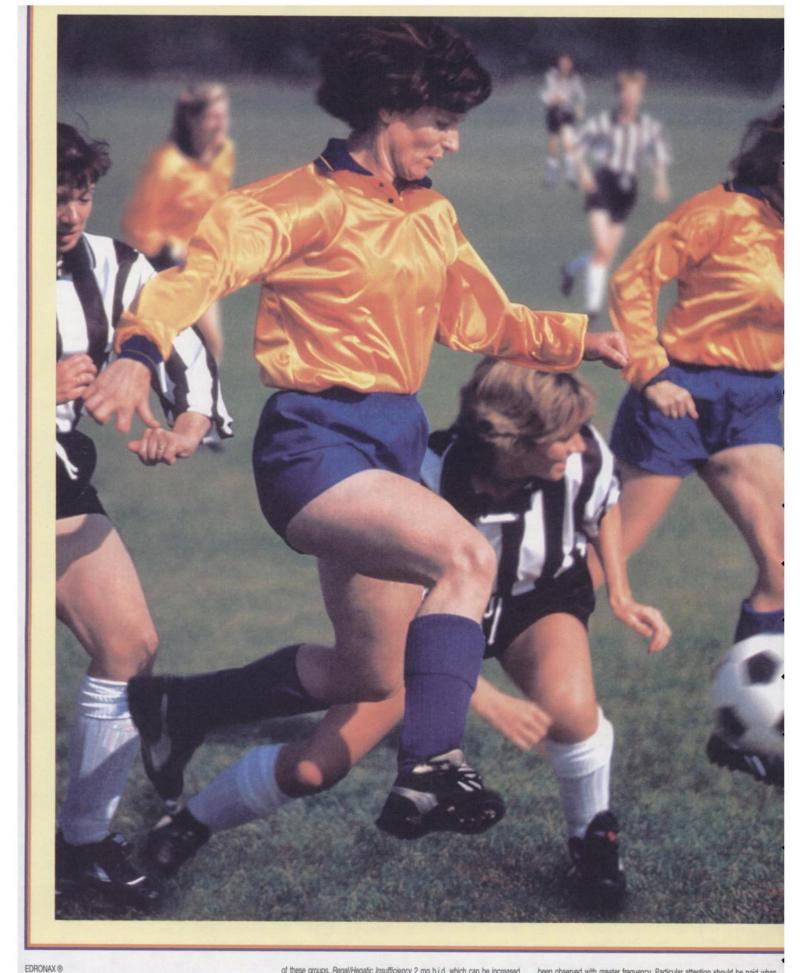
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dopamine should not be used (may exacerbate hypotension). Cardiovascular monitoring recommended. Administration of activated charcoal and laxative should be considered. **Package quantities and basic NHS price:** 4mg tablets, £36.63 for 30 tablet pack. 12mg tablets, £102.55 for 28 tablet calendar pack. 16mg tablets, £102.55 for 28 tablet calendar pack. 20mg tablets, £102.55 for 28 tablet calendar pack. **Legal category:** POM. **Product Licence numbers:** 4mg: 13761/0001. 12mg: 13761/0003. 16mg: 13761/0004. 20mg: 13761/0005. **Date of last review:** November 1996. Further information is available on request from Lundbeck Limited, Sunningdale House, Caldecotte Lake Business Park, Caldecotte, Milton Keynes, MK7 8LF. Serdolect<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of H. Lundbeck A/S.

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# When you next see your depressed patient, ask about her new sweeper.

Depression. It's not a game, but it can be viewed in two halves. Most antidepressants play a valuable part in the first half – they lift mood and relieve anxiety. But what of the second? Do they reduce fatigue, improve motivation and improve social functioning, so your patient can play a full part again, in the things they once enjoyed? Here's some information about new Edronax, you be the referee:

Edronax is a new selective NorAdrenaline Re-uptake Inhibitor (NARI). It not only lifts depressed mood,<sup>1</sup> but also significantly improves social interaction.<sup>2</sup>

These improvements in social functioning have been trial-proven by using the innovative SASS questionnaire (Social Adaptation Self-evaluation Scale).<sup>3</sup>

Edronax improves mood one week earlier than fluoxetine.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, when compared to fluoxetine, Edronax shows a significantly better outcome in terms of social functioning.<sup>2</sup>

Edronax helps restore patients' appreciation of friends, family, work and hobbies, and improves their self-perception.

Prescribe 4mg b.d. then make your usual assessments, to see the Edronax difference. The SASS questionnaire, which patients can complete in their own time, may also help.

### For free copies of the SASS questionnaire, please telephone 01908 603083.

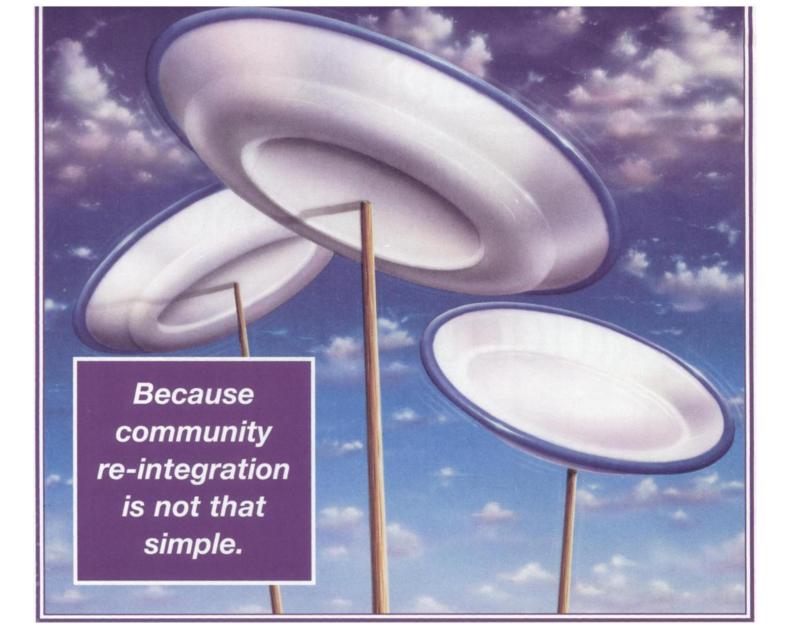
And the next time you see your depressed patient, ask them how they performed, in both halves.



#### A NEW SELECTIVE NARI. LIFTS DEPRESSION. HELPS RESTORE SOCIAL INTERACTION.

contraindicated in pregnancy and lactation. Effects on ability to drive and use machines: Reboxetine is not sedative per se. However, as with all psychoactive drugs, caution patients about operating machinery and driving. Undesirable effects: Adverse events occurring more frequently than placebo are: dry mouth, constipation, insomnia, paraesthesia, increased sweating, tachycardia, vertigo, urinary hesitancy/retention, impotence. Overdose: Monitor cardiac function and https://vitali.signs/.'General\_symptomatic supportive/and/orbérnetic/measures/pright.bb. required. Package and NHS Price: Pack of 60 tablets in bistors £19.80. Legal Davy Avenue, Miton Keynes, MK5 8PH, UK. Marketing Authorisation Number: PL 0032/0216, Date of Preparation: October 1997. References: 1. Montgomery SA. Journal of Psychopharmacology 1997 (in press). 2. Dubini A. et al. European Neuropsychopharmacol. 1997; 7 (Suppl 1): S57-S70. 3. Bosc M. et al. European Neuropsychopharmacol. 1997; 7 (Suppl 1): S57-S70. Further information is available from Pharmacia & Upjohn Limited, Davy Avenue, Knowthill, Miton gKelymeis;etMK5/8PH;etJK. Telephone: 01908 661101. @ Edronax is a registered trademark.





ABBREVIATED PRESCRIBING INFORMATION: Presentation: Coated tablets containing 5mg, 7.5mg or 10mg of olanzapine. The tablets also contain lactose. Uses: Schizophrenia, both as initial therapy and for maintenance of response. Further Information: In studies of patients with schizophrenia and associated depressive symptoms, mood score improved significantly more with olanzapine than with haloperidol. Pharmacodynamics: Olanzapine was associated with significantly greater improvements in both negative and positive schizophrenic symptoms than placebo or comparator in most studies. Dosage and Administration: 10mg/day orally, as a single

dose without regard to meals. Dosage may subsequently be adjusted within the range of 5-20mg daily. An increase to a dose greater than the routine therapeutic dose of 10mg/day is recommended only after clinical assessment. Children: Not recommended under 18 years of age. The elderly: A lower starting dose (5mg/day) is not routinely indicated but should be considered when clinical factors warrant. *Hepatic and/or renal impairment:* A lower starting dose (5mg) may be considered. When more than one factor is present which might result in slower metabolism (female gender, elderly age, non-smoking status), consideration should be given to decreasing the starting dose. Dose escalation should be conservative in such patients. Contra-indications: Known hypersensitivity to any ingredient of the product. Known risk for narrow-angle glaucoma. Warnings and Special Precautions: Caution in patients with prostatic hypertrophy, or paralytic ileus and related conditions. Caution in patients with elevated ALT and/or AST, signs and symptoms of hepatic impairment, pre-existing conditions associated with limited hepatic functional reserve, and in patients who are being treated with potentially hepatotoxic drugs. As with other neuroleptic drugs, caution in patients with low leucocyte and/or neutrophil counts for any reason, a history of drug-induced bone marrow depression/toxicity, bone marrow depression caused by concomitant illness, radiation therapy or chemotherapy and in patients with hypereosinophilic conditions or with myeloproliferative disease. Thirty-two patients with clozapine-related neutropenia or agranulocytosis histories received olanzapine without decreases in baseline neutrophil counts. Although, in clinical trials, there were no reported cases of NMS in patients receiving olanzapine, if such an event occurs, or if there is unexplained high fever, all antipsychotic drugs, including olanzapine, must be discontinued. Caution in patients who have a history of seizures or have conditions associated with seizures. If signs or symptoms of tardive dyskinesia appear a dose reduction or drug discontinuation should be considered. Caution when taken in combination with other centrally acting drugs and alcohol. Olanzapine may antagonise the effects of direct and https://dindirect/dopamine/agonists/Posturali-https://dindirect/dopamin

#### Antipsychotic Efficacy for First-line Use



elderly. However, blood pressure should be measured periodically in patients over 65 years, as with other antipsychotics. As with other antipsychotics, caution when prescribed with drugs known to increase QTc interval, especially in the elderly. In clinical trials, olanzapine was not associated with a persistent increase in absolute QT intervals. **Interactions:** Metabolism may be induced by concomitant smoking or carbamazepine therapy. **Pregnancy and Lactation:** Olanzapine had no teratogenic effects in

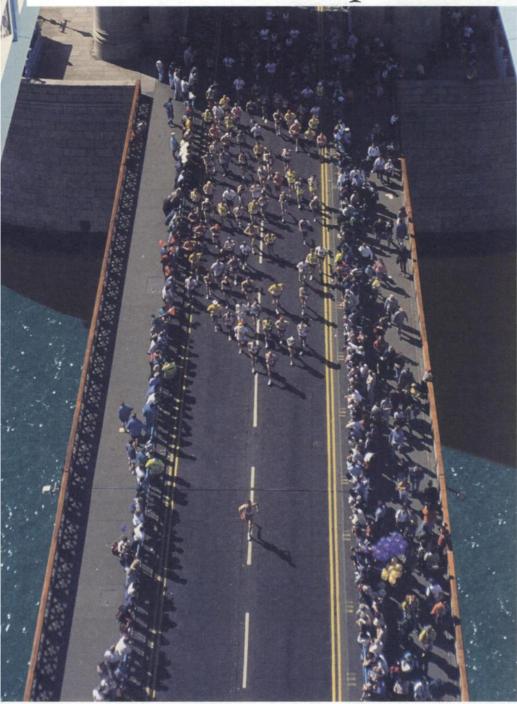
animals. Because human experience is limited, olanzapine should be used in pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the foetus. Olanzapine was excreted in the milk of treated rats but it is not known if it is excreted in human milk. Patients should be advised not to breast feed an infant if they are taking olanzapine. Driving, etc: Because olanzapine may cause somnolence, patients should be cautioned about operating hazardous machinery, including motor vehicles. Undesirable Effects: The only frequent (>10%) undesirable effects associated with the use of olanzapine in clinical trials were somnolence and weight gain. Occasional undesirable effects included dizziness, increased appetite, peripheral oedema, orthostatic hypotension, and mild, transient anticholinergic effects, including constipation and dry mouth. Transient, asymptomatic elevations of hepatic transaminases, ALT, AST have been seen occasionally. Olanzapine-treated patients had a lower incidence of parkinsonism, akathisia and dystonia in trials compared with titrated doses of haloperidol. Photosensitivity reaction or high creatinine phosphokinase were reported rarely. Plasma prolactin levels were sometimes elevated, but associated clinical manifestations were rare. Asymptomatic haematological variations were occasionally seen in trials. For further information see summary of product characteristics. Legal Category: POM. Marketing Authorisation Numbers: EU/1/96/022/004 EU/1/96/022/008 EU/1/96/022/008 EU/1/96/022/009 EU/1/96/022/010. Basic NHS Cost: £52.73 per pack of 28 x 5mg tablets. £105.47 per pack of 28 x 10mg tablets. £158.20 perpack of 56 x 7.5mg tablets. £210.93 per pack of 56 x 10mg tablets. Date of Preparation or Last Review: April 1997. Full Prescribing Information is Available From: Eli Lilly and Company Limited, Dextra

Court, Chapel Hill, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 5SY. Telephone: Basingstoke (01256) 315000.

'ZYPREXA' is a Lilly trademark.



# True leadership has to be earned.



'PROZAC' ABBREVIATED PRESCRIBING INFORMATION (FLUOXETINE HYDROCHLORIDE) Presentation Capsules containing 20mg or 60mg fluoxeti

Tresensent Captures containing 20mg 10000 fluxterine. as the hydrochloride, per Sml syrup. USES Depression: TREATMENT OF THE SYMPTOMS OF DEPRESSIVE ILLNESS. WITH OR WITHOUT ASSOCIATED ASXIETY SYMPTOMS Obsessive-compulsive disorder. Bulimia nervosa: For the reduction of binge-eating and purging activity. Dosage and Administration (for full information, see data sheet.) For oral administration to adults only. Depression, with or without associated anxiety symptoms - adults and the elderly: A dose of 20mg/day is recommended. Obsessive-compulsive disorder: 20mg/day to 60mg/day. A dose of 20mg/day is recommended. Obsessive-compulsive disorder: 20mg/day to 60mg/day. A dose of 20mg/day is recommended. Because of the long elimination half-lives of the parent drug (1-3 days after acute administration; may be prolonged to 4-6 days after chronic administration: See the commended. Recause of the long elimination is sectiane. Not recommended. Recause of the longet doying is stopped. The capsule and liquid dosage forms are bioequivalent. Children: Not recommended. Patients with recal and/or hepatic dyfunction: See 'Contra-indications' and 'Precautions' sections. Contra-indications' and 'Precautions' sections. Contra-indications and 'Precautions' sections. Contra-indications and 'Precautions' sections. Contra-indications and patients with rever enal failure (GFR <10ml/min). Usage in nursing mothers: Prozac should not be prescribed to nursing mothers. Monopmine adults infibitor: At least 14 days should elapse between discontinuation of an MAO' and initiation of recomment with probase between discontinuation of Prozac and two probases and the days there with the soft and probase infibitor: At least 14 days should elapse between discontinuation of Prozac and two probases and probase between discontinuation of Prozac and two probases and probase between discontinuation of Prozac and two probases and probases and probases and probases and probases and probases and probase and probase and probases and probases and probases and p

initiation of therapy with an MAOI. Serious, sometimes latal reactions (including hyperthermia, rigidity, myodotus, autonomic instability and mental status charges that include extreme agitation, progressing to definim and complex have been reported with concomitant use or when fluoxetine had been recently discontinued and an MAOI started. Some cases presented with features resembling neuroleptic malignant syndrome. **Warnings Rash and allergic reactions:** Angioneurotic odema, uritaaria and other allergic reactions have been reported. Upon appearance of rash, or of other allergic phenomena for which an allernative activology cannot be identified. Proza should be discontinued. *Pregnanoy:* Use of Prozac should be avoided unless there is no safer alternative. **Precautions** Prozac should be discontinued in any patient who develops seizures. Prozac should be avoided in patients with unstable epilepsy: patients with controlled epilepsy should be carefully monitored. There have been rare reports of prolonged seizures in patients on fluoxetine receiving ECT treatment. A lower dose of Prozac, egalients with controlled explicity should be carefully monitored. (GFR 10-50ml/min). Caution is advisable when Prozac is used in patients with acute cardiac disease. Prozac may cause weight loss which may be undesizable in underweight depressed patients. In diabetics, fluoxetine may alter glycaemic control. There have been reports of abnormal bleeding in several patients, but causal relationship to fluoxetine and chincal importance are uncless. *Prozated Dato* Divoxetine and chincal importance are uncless. *Prozated Dato* Divoxetine and chincal importance are uncless. *Prozated Dato Provestion ECT* there have been reports of abnormal bleeding in several patients, but causal relationship to Evoxetine and chincit importance are uncless. *Prozated Dato Provestion ECT Protection Protect*  cytochrome P450IID6 isoenzyme system, concomitant therapy with other drugs also metabolised by this system, and which have a narrow therapeutic index (eg. carbumazerine, tricyclic antidepressants), should be initiated at or adjusted to the low end of their dose range. Greater than 2-fold increases of previously stable plasma levels of cyclic antidepressants have been observed when Prozac has been administered in combination. Agitation, restlessness and gastro-intestinal symptoms have been reported in a small number of patients receiving fluoxetine in combination with tryptophan. Patients on stable phenytoin doses have developed elevated plasma concentrations and clinical phenytoin toxicity after starting fluoxetine. For further information, see data sheet. Adverse Effects Asthenia. fever, nausea, diarrhoea, dry mouth, appetit loss, dyspepsia, vomiting, rarely abormali LFTs, headache, nervousness, insomnia, drowsiness, anxiety, tremor, dizziness, latigue, decreased libido, scizures, hypomania or mania, dyskinesia, movement disorders, neuroleptic malignant syndrome-like events, pharyngitis, dyspnoea, pulmonary events (including inflammatory processes and/or fibrosis), rash, utricaria, vasculitis, excessive sweating, arthralgia, myalgia, serum sickness, anaphylactoid reactions, hair loss, sexual dysfunction. The following have been reported in association with fluoxetine but no causal relationship has been established: aplastic anaemia, cerebral vascular accident, confusion, ecchymoses, eosinophilic pneumonia, gastro-intestinal haemorthage, hyperprolactinaemia, immune-related haemolytic anaemia, pancreatitis, pancytopenia, suicidal haemolytic anaemia, pancreatitis, pancytopenia, suickati

## ASSOCIATED ANXIETY

Prozac has a proven record of efficacy in depression,<sup>1,2,3</sup> with a confirmed indication in depression with or without associated anxiety symptoms.<sup>4</sup>

A possible reason why Prozac has earned its status around the world.



#### The World's No.1 prescribed antidepressant brand.<sup>1</sup>

Hyponatraemia (including serum sodium below 110mmol/l) has been rarely reported. This appears to be reversible upon discontinuation. Overdosage On the evidence available, fluoxetine has a wide margin of safety in overdose. Since introduction, reports of detath, attributed to overdosage of fluoxetine alone, have been extremely rare. One patient who reportedly took 3000mg of fluoxetine experienced 2 grand mal seizures that remitted spontaneously. Legal Category POM Product Licence Numbers 0006/0195 0006/0198 0006/0272 Basic NHS Cost (20.77per pack of 30 capsules (20mg). 66/3.15 per pack of 98 capsules (20mg). 66/3.15 per pack of 30 capsules (60mg). £19.39 per 70ml bottle. Date of Preparation or Last Review October 1996. Full Prescribing Information is Available From Dist Products Limited. Dettra Court, Chapel Hill, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 55Y. Telephone: Basingstoke (01256) 52011 'PR02AC' is Dista trademark

References:1. Data on file, Dista Products Ltd. 2. Tignol J. J Clin Psychopharm 1993; 13 (6, suppl. 2): 185-225. 3. Bennie EH, Mullin JM, Martindale JJ. J Clin Psychiatry 1995; 56: 229-237. 4. Prozac Data Sheet 24M.



### **Books from Gaskell**

## The Psychotherapy of Psychosis

Edited by Chris Mace and Frank Margison

This book provides an unusually comprehensive survey of the current state and prospects of psychological methods of treatment for people with schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses. It will be an invaluable resource for mental health professionals and clinical managers involved in their care, and essential reading for psychiatrists at all levels of experience.

The three traditions of psychotherapy and integrated approaches are covered. Recent research in the process and outcome of psychotherapy is reviewed and summarised. Clear advice is also given on treatment techniques and settings with reference to national policies.

As with other titles in the series, there is frequent use of boxes, tables and figures to set out important points and key information.

1997, 296pp, ISBN 1 901242 04 8, £25.00

Gaskell books are available from the Publications Department, Royal College of Psychiatrists, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG (Tel. +44(0)171 235 2351, extension 146). The latest information on College publications is available on the INTERNET at: http://www.demon.co.uk/rcpsych/



#### RISPERDAL™ ABBREVIATED PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

Please refer to Summary of Product Characteristics before prescribing Risperdal (risperidone). USES The treatment of acute and chronic schizophrenia, and other psychotic conditions, in which positive and/or negative symptoms are prominent. Risperdal also alleviates affective symptoms associated with schizophrenia. DOSAGE Where medically appropriate, gradual discontinuation of previous antipsychotic treatment while Risperdal therapy is initiated is recommended. Where medically appropriate, when switching patients from depot antipsychotics, consider initiating Risperdal therapy in place of the next scheduled injection. The need for continuing existing antiparkinson medication should be re-evaluated periodically. Adults: Risperdal may be given once or twice daily. All patients, whether acute or chronic, should start with 2 mg/day. This should be increased to 4 mg/day on the second day and 6 mg/day on the third day. However, some patients such as first-episode psychotic patients may benefit from a slower rate of titration. From then on the dosage can be maintained unchanged, or further individualised if needed. The usual effective dosage is 4 to 8 mg/day although in some patients an optimal response may be obtained at lower doses. Doses above 10 mg/day may increase the risk of extrapyramidal symptoms and should only be used if the benefit is considered to outweigh the risk. Doses above 16 mg/day should not be used. Elderly, renal and liver disease: A starting dose of 0.5 mg bd is recommended. This can be individually adjusted with 0.5 mg bd increments to 1 to 2 mg bd. Risperdal is well tolerated by the elderly. Use with caution in patients with renal and liver disease. Not recommended in children aged less than 15 years. CONTRAINDICATIONS, WARNINGS, ETC. Contraindications: Known hypersensitivity to Risperdal. Preca Orthostatic hypotension can occur (alpha-blocking effect). Use with caution in patients with known cardiovascular disease. Consider dose reduction if hypotension occurs. For further sedation, give an additional drug (such as a benzodiazepine) rather than increasing the dose of Risperdal. Drugs with dopamine antagonistic properties have been associated with tardive dyskinesia. If signs and symptoms of tardive dyskinesia appear, the discontinuation of all antipsychotic drugs should be considered. Caution should be exercised when treating patients with Parkinson's disease or epilepsy. Patients should be advised of the potential for weight gain. Risperdal may interfere with activities requiring mental alertness. Patients should be advised not to drive or operate machinery until their individual susceptibility is known. Pregnancy and lactation: Use during pregnancy only if the benefits outweigh the risks. Women receiving Risperdal should not breast feed. Interactions: Use with caution in combination with other centrally acting drugs. Risperdal may antagonise the effect of levodopa and other dopamine agonists. On initiation of carbamazepine or other hepatic enzyme-inducing drugs, the dosage of Risperdal should be re-evaluated and increased if necessary. On discontinuation of such drugs, the dosage of Risperdal should be re-evaluated and decreased if necessary. Side effects: Risperdal is generally well tolerated and in many instances it has been difficult to differentiate adverse events from symptoms of the underlying disease. Common adverse events include: insomnia, agitation, anxiety, headache. Less common adverse events include: somnolence, fatigue, dizziness, impaired concentration, constipation, dyspepsia, nausea/vomiting, abdominal pain, blurred vision, priapism, erectile dysfunction, ejaculatory dysfunction, orgasmic dysfunction, urinary incontinence, rhinitis, rash and other allergic reactions. The incidence and severity of extrapyramidal symptoms are significantly less than with haloperidol. However, the following may occur: tremor, rigidity, hypersalivation, bradykinesia, akathisia, acute dystonia. If acute, these symptoms are usually mild and reversible upon dose reduction and/or administration of antiparkinson medication. Rare cases of Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome have been reported. In such an event, all antipsychotic drugs should be discontinued. Occasionally, orthostatic dizziness, hypotension (including orthostatic), tachycardia (including reflex) and hypertension have been observed. An increase in plasma prolactin concentration can occur which may be associated with galactorrhoea, gynaecomastia and disturbances of the menstrual cycle. Oedema and increased hepatic enzyme levels have been observed. A mild fall in neutrophil and/or thrombocyte count has been reported. Rare cases of water intoxication with hyponatraemia, tardive dyskinesia, body temperature dysregulation and seizures have been reported. Overdosage: Reported signs and symptoms include drowsiness and sedation, tachycardia and hypotension, and extrapyramidal symptoms. A prolonged QT interval was reported in a patient with concomitant hypokalaemia who had ingested 360mg. Establish and maintain a clear airway, and ensure adequate oxygenation and ventilation. Gastric lavage and activated charcoal plus a laxative should be considered. Commence cardiovascular monitoring immediately, including continuous electrocardiographic monitoring to detect possible arrhythmias. There is no specific antidote, so institute appropriate supportive measures. Treat hypotension and circulatory collapse with appropriate measures. In case of severe extrapyramidal symptoms, give anticholinergic medication. Continue close medical supervision and monitoring until the patient recovers. PHARMACEUTICAL PRECAUTIONS Tablets: Store below 30°C. Liquid: Store between 15°C and 30°C and protect from freezing. LEGAL CATEGORY POM. PRESENTATIONS, PACK SIZES, PRODUCT LICENCE NUMBERS & BASIC NHS COSTS White, oblong tablets containing 1 mg risperidone in packs of 20. PL 0242/0186 £13.45. Pale orange, oblong tablets containing 2 mg risperidone in packs of 60. PL 0242/0187 £79.56. Yellow, oblong tablets containing 3 mg risperidone in packs of 60. PL 0242/0188 £117.00. Green, oblong tablets containing 4 mg risperidone in packs of 60. PL 0242/0189 £154.44. Starter packs containing 6 Risperdal 1 mg tablets are also available £4.15. Clear, colourless solution containing 1 mg risperidone per ml in bottles containing 100 ml. PL 0242/0199 £65.00. FURTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE FROM THE PRODUCT LICENCE HOLDER: Janssen-Cilag Ltd, Saunderton, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP14 4HJ. Date of preparation: April 1997

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# Patient with schizophrenia exercises *self* esteem by going downhill



The SDA effect of Risperdal can mean a huge difference to the lives of patients with schizophrenia.

Because SDA is the action of Serotonin and Dopamine Antagonism in a single drug. In positive and negative symptoms. In first episode and acute presentations, and in chronic patients. Risperdal continues to provide this SDA effect to give high efficacy, with low levels of extrapyramidal side-effects, to more and more patients. Helping them keep out of hospitals while enhancing their appreciation of, and participation in, community and family life. The word is on the street.





CLOZARIL ABBREVIATED PRESCRIBING INFORMATION. The use of CLOZARIL is restricted to patients registered with the CLOZARIL Patient Monitoring Service. Indication Treatmentresistant schizophrenia (patients non-responsive to, or intolerant of, conventional neuroleptics). Presentations 25mg and 100 mg clozapine tablets. Dosage and Administration Initiation must be in hospital inpatients and is restricted to patients with normal white blood cell and differential counts. Initially, 12.5 mg once or twice on the first day, followed by one or two 25 mg tablets on the second day. Increase dose slowly, by increments to reach a therapeutic dose within the range of 200 - 450mg daily (see data sheet). The total daily dose should be divided and a larger portion of the dose may be given at night. Once control is achieved a maintenance dose of 150 to 300 mg daily may suffice. At daily doses not exceeding 200mg, a single administration in the evening may be appropriate. Exceptionally, doses up to 900 mg daily may be used. Patients with a history of epilepsy should be closely monitored during CLOZARIL therapy since dose-related convulsions have been reported. Patients with a history of seizures, as well as those suffering from cardiovascular, renal or hepatic disorders, together with the elderly need lower doses (12.5 mg given once on the first day) and more gradual titration. Contra-Indications Allergy to any constituents of the formulation. History of drug-induced neutropenia/agranulocytosis, myeloproliferative disorders, uncontrolled epilepsy, alcoholic and toxic psychoses, drug intoxication, comatose conditions, circulatory collapse and/or CNS depression of any cause, severe renal or cardiac failure, active liver disease, progressive liver disease or hepatic failure. Warning CLOZARIL can cause agranulocytosis. A fatality rate of up to 1 in 300 has been estimated when CLOZARIL was used prior to recognition of this risk. Since that time strict haematological monitoring of patients has been demonstrated to be effective in markedly reducing the risk of fatality. Therefore, because of this risk its use is limited to treatment-resistant schizophrenic patients:- 1. who have normal leucocyte findings and 2. in whom regular leucocyte counts can be performed weekly during the first 18 weeks and at least every two weeks thereafter for the first year of therapy. After one year's treatment, monitoring may be changed to four weekly intervals in patients with stable neutrophil counts. Monitoring must continue throughout treatment and for four weeks after complete discontinuation of CLOZARIL Patients must be under specialist supervision and CLOZARIL supply is restricted to pharmacies registered with the CLOZARIL Patient Monitoring Service. Prescribing physicians must register themselves, their patients and a nominated pharmacist with the CLOZARIL Patient Monitoring Service. This service provides for the required leucocyte counts as well as a drug supply audit so that CLOZARIL treatment is promptly withdrawn from any patient who develops abnormal leucocyte findings. Each time CLOZARIL is prescribed, patients should be reminded to contact the treating physician immediately if any kind of infection begins to develop, especially any flu-like symptoms. Precautions CLOZARIL can cause agranulocytosis. Perform pre-treatment white blood cell count and differential count to ensure only patients with normal findings receive CLOZARIL. Monitor white blood cell count weekly for the first 18 weeks and at least two-weekly for the first year of therapy. After one year's treatment, monitoring may change to four weekly intervals in patients with stable neutrophil counts. Monitoring must continue throughout treatment and for four weeks after complete discontinuation. If signs or symptoms of infection develop an immediate differential count is necessary. If the white blood count falls below  $3.0 \times 10^9$ /L and/or the absolute neutrophil count drops below  $1.5 \times 10^9$ /L, withdraw CLOZARIL immediately and monitor the patient closely, paying particular attention to symptoms suggestive of infection. Re-evaluate any patient developing an infection, or when a routine white blood count is between 3.0 and 3.5 x 109/L and/or a neutrophil count between 1.5 and 2.0 x 10%/L, with a view to discontinuing CLOZARIL. Any further fall in white blood/neutrophil count below 1.0 x 109/L and/or 0.5 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L respectively, after drug withdrawal requires immediate specialised care, where protective isolation and administration of GM-CSF or G-CSF and broad spectrum antibiotics may be indicated. Colony stimulating factor therapy should be discontinued when the neutrophil count returns above  $1.0 \times 10^{\circ}/L$ . CLOZARIL lowers the seizure threshold. Orthostatic hypotension can occur therefore close medical supervision is required during initial dose titration. Patients affected by the sedative action of CLOZARIL should not drive or

operate machinery, administer with caution to patients who participate in activities requiring complete mental alertness. Monitor hepatic function regularly in liver disease. Investigate any signs of liver disease immediately with a view to drug discontinuation. Resume only if LFTs return to normal, then closely monitor patient. Use with care in prostatic enlargement, narrow-angle glaucoma and paralytic ileus. Patients with fever should be carefully evaluated to rule out the possibility of an underlying infection or the development of agranulocytosis. Avoid immobilisation of patients due to increased risk of thromboembolism. Do not give CLOZARIL with other drugs with a substantial potential to depress bone marrow function. CLOZARIL may enhance the effects of alcohol, MAO inhibitors, CNS depressants and drugs with anticholinergic, hypotensive or respiratory depressant effects. Caution is advised when CLOZARIL therapy is initiated in patients who are receiving (or have recently received) a benzodiazepine or any other psychotropic drug as these patients may have an increased risk of circulatory collapse, which, on rare occasions, can be profound and may lead to cardiac and/or respiratory arrest. Caution is advised with concomitant administration of therapeutic agents which are highly bound to plasma proteins. Clozapine binds to and is partially metabolised by the isoenzymes cytochrome P450 1A2 and P450 2D6. Caution is advised with drugs which posses affinity for these isoenzymes. Concomitant cimetidine and high dose CLOZARIL was associated with increased plasma clozapine levels and the occurrence of adverse effects. Concomitant fluoxetine and fluvoxamine have been associated with elevated clozapine levels. Discontinuation of concomitant carbamazepine resulted in increased clozapine levels. Phenytoin decreases clozapine levels resulting in reduced effectiveness of CLOZARIL. No clinically relevant interactions have been noted with antidepressants, phenothiazines and type Ic antiarrhythmics, to date. Concomitant use of lithium or other CNS-active agents may increase the risk of neuroleptic malignant syndrome. The hypertensive effect of adrenaline and its derivatives may be reversed by CLOZARIL. Do not use in pregnant or nursing women. Use adequate contraceptive measures in women of child bearing potential. Side-Effects Neutropenia leading to agranulocytosis (See Warning and Precautions). Rare reports of leucocytosis including eosinophilia. Isolated cases of leukaemia and thrombocytopenia have been reported but there is no evidence to suggest a causal relationship with the drug. Most commonly fatigue, drowsiness, sedation. Dizziness or headache may also occur. CLOZARIL lowers the seizure threshold and may cause EEG changes and delirium. Myoclonic jerks or convulsions may be precipitated in individuals who have epileptogenic potential but no previous history of epilepsy. Rarely it may cause confusion, restlessness, agitation and delirium. Extrapyramidal symptoms are limited mainly to tremor, akathisia and rigidity. Tardive dyskinesia reported very rarely. Neuroleptic malignant syndrome has been reported. Transient autonomic effects eg dry mouth, disturbances of accommodation and disturbances in sweating and temperature regulation. Hypersalivation. Tachycardia and postural hypotension, with or without syncope, and less commonly hypertension may occur. In rare cases profound circulatory collapse has occurred. ECG changes, arrhythmias, pericarditis and myocarditis (with or without eosinophilia) have een reported, some of which have been fatal. Rare reports of thromboembolism. Isolated cases of respiratory depression or arrest, with or without circulatory collapse. Rarely aspiration may occur in patients presenting with dysphagia or as a consequence of acute overdosage. Nausea, vomiting and usually mild constipation have been reported. Occasionally obstipation and paralytic ileus have occurred. Asymptomatic elevations in liver enzymes occur commonly and usually resolve. Rarely hepatitis and cholestatic jaundice may occur. Very rarely fulminant hepatic necrosis reported. Discontinue CLOZARIL if jaundice develops. Rare cases of acute pancreatitis have been reported. Both urinary incontinence and retention and priapism have been reported. Isolated cases of interstitial nephritis have occurred. Benign hyperthermia may occur and isolated reports of skin reactions have been received. Rarely hyperglycaemia has been reported. Rarely increases in CPK values have occurred. With prolonged treatment considerable weight gain has been observed. Sudden unexplained deaths have been reported in patients receiving CLOZARIL. Package Quantities and Price Community pharmacies only 28 x 25mg tablets: £12.52 (Basic NHS) 28 x 100mg tablets: £50.05 (Basic NHS) Hospital pharmacies only 84 x 25 mg tablets: £37.54 (Basic NHS) 84 x 100 mg tablets: £150.15 (Basic NHS) Supply of CLOZARIL is restricted to pharmacies registered with the CLOZARIL Patient Monitoring Service. Product Licence Numbers 25 mg tablets: PL 0101/0228 100 mg tablets: PL 0101/0229 Legal Category: POM. CLOZARIL is a registered Trade Mark. Date of preparation, August 1997. Full prescribing information, including Product Data Sheet is available from Novartis Pharmaceuticals UK Ltd. Trading as: SANDOZ PHARMACEUTICALS, Frimley Business Park, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 5SG.

# **U**NOVARTIS

AUG'97 CLZ 97/13

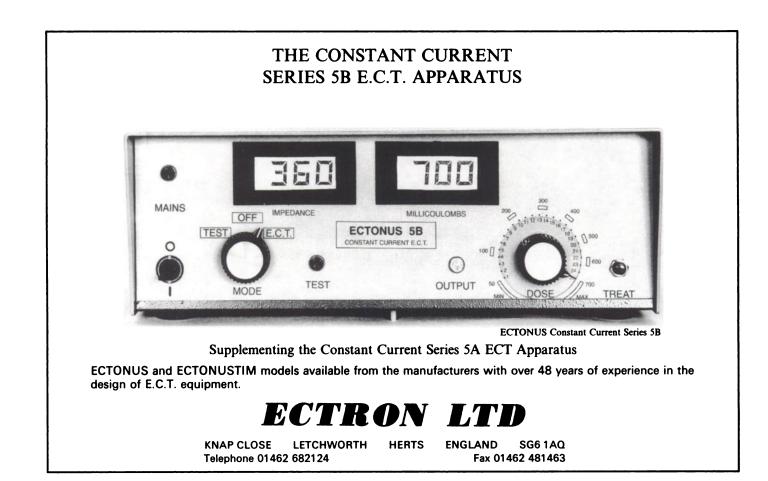
As the list of antipsychotic agents grows... ...isn't it time to consider one in a different class?





Proven efficacy in treatment resistant schizophrenia

For proceeriting information cas adjacant page



#### The Chinese University of Hong Kong

#### **Faculty of Medicine**

The University (founded 1963) offers comprehensive programmes up to PhD level, with student enrolment over 12,000. The Faculty of Medicine offers undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in Medicine, Nursing and Pharmacy. The MBChB programme admits 160 students annually. Clinical courses are taught at the Faculty's 1,450-bed teaching hospital, the Prince of Wales Hospital (which is one of the regional hospitals in Hong Kong) and at the Lek Yuen Health Centre.

Applications are invited for the following post:

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Applicants should have a medical qualification, preferably approved for full registration with the Hong Kong Medical Council; and the FHKAM (Psychiatry) qualification, or the Fellowship or Membership of one of the Royal Colleges of Psychiatrists or their equivalent; as well as ample teaching, clinical and research experience. Ability to conduct clinical work in Cantonese will be an advantage. Appointment will be made on fixed-term contract basis. The appointee is expected to assume duty in July 1998 or as soon as possible thereafter.

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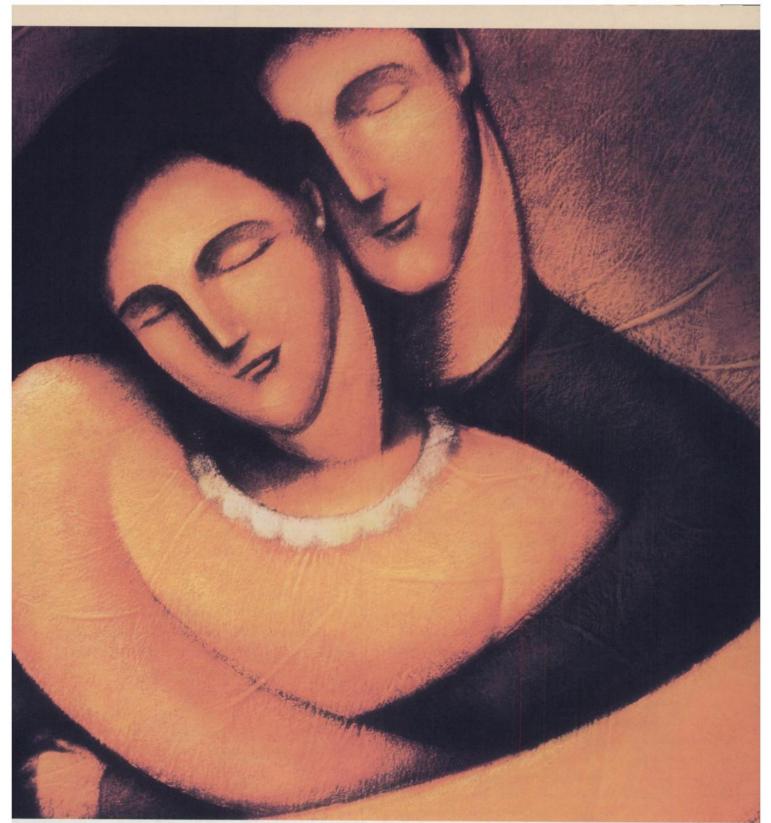
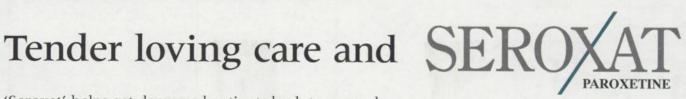


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# Changing thinking schizophrenia?

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htt **Precautions:** Caution in patients with cardiovascular disease.

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not associated with a persistent increase).

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**Product licence numbers:** 

25 mg tablet: 12619/0112 100 mg tablet: 12619/0113 200 mg tablet: 12619/0114

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#### 'SEROQUEL' (quetiapine) Prescribing Notes. **Consult Summary of Product** Characteristics before prescribing. Special reporting to the CSM required.

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systemic ketoconazole or erythromycin. If signs and symptoms of tardive dyskinesia appear, consider dosage reduction or discontinuation of 'Seroquel'. In cases of neuroleptic malignant syndrome, discontinue 'Seroquel' and give appropriate medical treatment. 'Seroquel' should only be used during pregnancy if benefits justify the potential risks. Avoid breastfeeding whilst taking 'Seroquel'. Patients should be cautioned about operating hazardous machines, including motor vehicles.

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5 Effective in positive and negative symptoms<sup>1-4</sup> and improving mood\*5 in patients with schizophrenia

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Changing thinking in schizophrenia.

\* Defined as the BPRS item scores of depressive mood, anxiety, guilt feelings and tension

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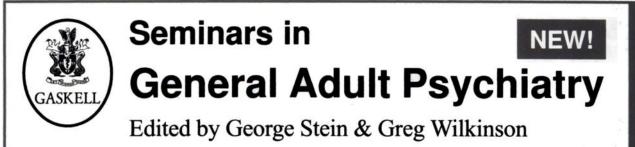
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- J Clin Psychopharmacol 1996; 16 (2):158-169. 5. Data on File, Zenaca Pharmaceuticals.
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- 7. 'Seroquel' Summary of Product Characteristics.



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