

strategies. For total symptom reduction, 25 strategies augmenting antipsychotics and 5 strategies augmenting clozapine were eligible and examined. Eleven strategies were more efficacious than placebo, none of them augmenting clozapine. Significant effect sizes ranged between SMD -1.03 and -0.23 . Efficacy was not correlated with the quality of the meta-analyses. Only the meta-analysis for NSAIDs augmentation had a score greater than half of the possible points for content quality. Only antipsychotics, azapirones, antidepressants and lithium were less discontinued than placebo. Serotonin-3-receptor antagonists, lamotrigine, mirtazapine/mianserine, minocycline and estrogens had large effect sizes augmenting antipsychotics. However the quality of the content of most meta-analyses was low. The NSAIDs augmentation meta-analysis had the best content quality, yet with a low effect size for efficacy. The evidence for short-term augmentation strategies of antipsychotics in schizophrenia is inconclusive, due to the limited quality of the available trials.

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EV1048

California rocket fuel: And what about being a first line treatment?

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Introduction The association venlafaxine-mirtazapine is currently known as California Rocket Fuel (CRF). Studies show advantage in terms of efficacy and rapid control of depressive symptoms compared to other associations. Venlafaxine is a selective serotonin-noradrenalin reuptake inhibitor and mirtazapine is a noradrenergic-specific serotonergic antidepressant: the result is a potent noradrenergic and serotonergic effect. Studies say that CRF should be performed only for drug-resistant depression; however, there are case reports of its use as a first line treatment, in selected patients.

Objectives To summarize the latest literature about this field and to present a case report.

Aim To explore and critically review the controversies of venlafaxine-mirtazapine association as a first line antidepressant strategy.

Methods A brief review of the latest literature was performed, using PubMed and the keywords “venlafaxine-mirtazapine association”. A case report about a depressed woman is presented.

Results Despite most studies are referent to its utility in drug-resistant depression, there are recent pilot studies that recommend CRF as a first line option.

M., a 64-year-old woman, had her first psychiatric consultation. She had been depressed for 2 years, she lost 10 kg, had total insomnia and suicidal thoughts. CRF was started up to 150/15 mg, daily. An improvement was noticed after two weeks of treatment and the stabilization of depressive symptoms were achieved by the fourth month.

Conclusions CRF seems to be effective and useful. Patients with insomnia and weight loss may benefit from CRF as a first line option. However, more studies are needed.

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EV1049

The impact of tobacco smoking in patients taking long-action injection drugs – A retrospective comparative study between haloperidol and risperidone

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Introduction Smoking rate seems to be higher among patients with schizophrenia, comparing to other psychiatric entities, mainly in those who are on typical antipsychotics. Tobacco is known to have enzyme inducer properties, due to cytochrome P450 complex activity: CYP1A1, CYP1A2, CYP2E1 and CYP2D6. CYP2D6 and CYP1A2 play an important role in antipsychotics metabolism, mainly in the first generation ones, like haloperidol, despite its importance in risperidone metabolism.

Aim To analyze the importance of tobacco smoking in patients taking long-action injections.

Objectives To investigate how sexual dysfunction varies with tobacco smoking, in patients taking long-action injections.

Methods Individuals from both sexes, from 18 to 55 years old, taking antipsychotic long-action injections, answered the Arizona Sexual Experience Scale (ASEX).

Results In the studied population ($n = 44$), there were 20 individuals on haloperidol and 24 individuals on risperidone. In a total of 18 (40.9%) positive results for sexual dysfunction, 6 were on haloperidol (30%), 12 (50%) were on risperidone. Seventeen individuals of the 20 who were on haloperidol were smokers, but only 4 were considered to have sexual dysfunction, 35.3%; 12 of the 24 individuals who were on risperidone were smokers, but only 5 were considered to have sexual dysfunction, 41.7%.

Conclusions Patients treated with haloperidol smoke more, comparing to risperidone. Sexual dysfunction is more frequent in patients taking risperidone than in patients taking haloperidol. This data supports that CYP2D6-CYP1A2 induction by tobacco, mainly interacts with haloperidol, which may be helpful for patients to try less side effects.

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Interferon-induced psychosis: Myth or reality?

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Introduction Interferon combined with ribavirin is widely used to decrease the burden of Hepatitis C virus (HCV), but some serious side effects might limit its usefulness. There has been recently a growing awareness about neuropsychiatric complications of many drug treatments. Anecdotal case reports of HCV treatment induced psychosis were published but there seems to be no consensus about the causative relation and no systematic reviews were done to the date.

Objective To describe a paradigmatic case that was managed as an iatrogenic psychotic episode following interferon associated with ribavirin.

Aim Call attention to problems that interfere with the recognition, diagnosis and management of drugs induced psychosis.

Methods Bibliographic research was conducted through the PubMed in the Medline library and clinical information was

obtained through medical records and clinical interviews with the patient.

Results A 50-year-old Brazilian woman, with a previous episode of postpartum depression, presented with paranoid psychosis six months after initiating HCV antiviral therapy. Psychotic symptoms consisted of persecutory delusions and auditory hallucinations and developed together with agitation and aggressive behavior. Psychiatric hospitalization was required and psychosis resolved with discontinuation of therapy and initiation of risperidone. Laboratory tests and brain images were of no help in the etiologic investigation.

Conclusions There are many drugs known to possibly cause neuropsychiatric symptoms. It is the job of every physician to be aware of this hypothesis especially in cases with acute onset and atypical presentations.

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EV1051

Use of cannabis components in the treatment of mental disorders

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Introduction There is evidence that supports the increased risk of developing psychosis or psychotic like symptoms in vulnerable populations after use of cannabis. Cannabis' main psychoactive component, Δ 9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), induces acute psychotic effects and cognitive impairment. But there is also evidence to suggest that molecules in the cannabis plant could have an antipsychotic affect.

Aims In this review we are trying to explore the possibilities of cannabis use as a therapeutic agent in mental disorders.

Methods Thorough research of the main databases, and web search engines for relevant studies, using appropriate keywords. We scrutinize them independently, before reaching consensus about appropriateness.

Results In animal models repeated treatment with cannabis constituent cannabidiol CBD or the atypical antipsychotic clozapine attenuates or reverses the schizophrenia-like behavioral disruption.

In humans there are data that CBD counteracts psychotic symptoms and cognitive impairment associated with cannabis use. Also CBD may lower the risk for developing cannabis use associated psychosis. There are opposite effects of CBD and THC on brain activity patterns in key regions implicated in the pathophysiology of schizophrenia, such as the striatum, hippocampus and prefrontal cortex.

Conclusions The possible mechanism of action of CBD is not fully clarified, as it may involve anti-inflammatory or neuroprotective properties. These initial clinical studies with CBD treatment of psychotic symptoms argument the potential of CBD as an effective antipsychotic compound. Mechanisms responsible for these effects need to be further investigated.

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EV1052

Nicotine as therapeutic agent in treatment of mood disorders

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Introduction The plant that has as active ingredient nicotine was chewed or smoked for many years from American natives, for its therapeutic properties. Nowadays after the extensive negative attitude towards smoking, the main provider of nicotine, researchers are now pointing out the therapeutic possibilities of nicotine in mood disorders, as a substance that is acting in the acetylcholine receptors in the brain.

Aims In this review we are trying to explore the possibilities of nicotine use as a therapeutic agent.

Methods We did a detailed research of the main medical databases, and web search engines for relevant studies. We scrutinize them independently, before reaching consensus about appropriateness for inclusion in the study.

Results Diadermal administration of nicotine has a positive effect in depressive disorder in 3–8 days, an effect that in one study was reversed after cessation of nicotine. Patients with depression and/or healthy subjects show improvement of attention and working memory after diadermal use of nicotine. Research is not conclusive in the sustainability of these positive affects as other researchers emphasize their short effect in mood.

Conclusion Nicotine presents as part of novel and promising therapeutic agents with complex interactions with other neurotransmitters in the brain. Before condemning nicotine along with smoking we should acknowledge the potential use of nicotine as a therapeutic compound since research shows that some of these positive effects appear not only to smokers after abstinence but also to non-smokers.

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EV1053

Awkward movements: Extrapyramidal symptoms in a group of patients treated with aripiprazole long acting injectable

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Introduction Extrapyramidal symptoms are well known as side effects in therapy with antipsychotics. Explore this side effects is mandatory because they normally are a cause of treatment discontinuation or assess a change in medication. Some studies notice how long acting injectable antipsychotic cause less extrapyramidal symptoms than oral treatment, others does not find differences.

Objective The aim of this study is to analyze the extrapyramidal symptoms presented on a group of patients treated with aripiprazole long acting injectable (ALAI) follow-up in a mental health care center.

Methods Descriptive study of a group of patients treated with ALAI. To assess the possible extrapyramidal symptoms due to treatment we have used the Simpson-Angus Scale (SAS). The follow up was 3 months after initiation of treatment.

Results Six patients were included in the study, 2 women (33.3%) and 4 men (66.7%). The mean age of the sample was 37 years old. The different diagnoses of the group were 4 patients with psychotic disorder (66.7%; 2 schizophrenia, 1 schizoaffective disorder and 1 delusional chronic disorder) and the other 2 had an affective disorder (33.3%; both bipolar disorder). The average score for the SAS was 1.2 meaning normal results and therefore no significant extrapyramidal symptoms.