P01-110 - **A NATURALISTIC TRIAL IN GERMANY WITH ESCITALOPRAM IN DEPRESSED OUTPATIENTS AGED AT LEAST 65 YEARS**

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Objective: To assess the efficacy and tolerability profile of treatment with escitalopram under naturalistic conditions, in elderly outpatients (≥65 years and above) with depression.

Methods: 2050 patients completed 8 weeks of treatment with escitalopram in a multi-centre naturalistic study. Rating scales included a short version of the Montgomery-Åsberg Depression Rating Scale (svMADRS) for the assessment of response.

Results: Most patients improved in their general state of health and showed a decrease in the severity of their depression. The majority (83.8%) of patients received 10mg/day escitalopram. The mean svMADRS total score decreased from 31.9 (SD=7.9) at baseline to 14.2 (SD=8.5) at Week 8. On completion, 63.9% of the patients were responders (≥50% decrease of svMADRS from baseline) and 48.6% were remitters (svMADRS≤12). Statistically significant more patients aged ≤75 years responded to treatment and achieved remission than those aged >75 years. Logistic regression was used to model response to treatment. Statistically significant positive factors were having a current episode of less than 1 month and duration of illness of less than 1 year. The diagnosis showed increasing responder rates from affective disorder (F31 or F34; odds ratio=1.00) over involutional depression (F03; odds ratio=1.68) and depressive episode (F32; odds ratio=2.21) to recurrent depressive episode (F33; odds ratio=2.32). The differences between affective disorders and involutional depression were significant, while F32 and F33 showed no relevant differences in the responder rates.

Conclusion: The results from this observational study corroborate the effectiveness and tolerability of escitalopram treatment of elderly patients in a naturalistic treatment setting.

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