

Methods: Reporting the case of a patient suffering a major depressive disorder, that presented a mydriasis after adjusting her antidepressant medication. Then, we conducted a literature review using “PubMed” database and keywords “Mydriasis”, “escitalopram”, “SSRI”, “side effects”.

Results: A 29-year-old female with no past clinical history, presented in May 2021 a severe depression requiring an antidepressant treatment. Under 10 mg per day of escitalopram there was a partial remission of the symptoms, leading to increase the dose by another 10 mg. One month after taking 20 mg/day, she consults before the appointment suffering from a blurry vision and photophobia. Ophthalmologic examination showed a bilateral reactive half-mydriasis, eye pressure was 14 mmHg and fundus examination was normal. Iatrogenic origin of mydriasis was suspected. A gradual interruption of the medication lead to disappearance of the latter. A pharmacological investigation concluded to the suspension of escitalopram and to be vigilant if antidepressant medication would be needed.

Conclusions: Mydriasis is an uncommon side effect caused by SSRI that needs to be kept in mind by clinicians. Therapeutic patient education can help to detect abnormal side effects and treat them if needed.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: mydriasis; escitalopram; Side effects; SSRI

EPV1196

The cognitive effects of esketamine: what do we know so far?

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Introduction: Esketamine is an S-enantiomer of ketamine approved by the EMA for treatment-resistant depression (TRD). As an NMDA receptor antagonist, its administration results in increase of glutamate release and AMPA receptor activation, supporting both rapid-onset and long-term antidepressant effects. Short-term tolerability seems acceptable but major concerns remain regarding long-term safety, specifically regarding potential neurocognitive toxicity.

Objectives: To clarify the potential short and long-term cognitive beneficial-effects and side-effects of esketamine.

Methods: Research was made using the Medline database, through the Pubmed search engine, using the keywords: “esketamine”, “cognition”. Only randomized-controlled trials were considered.

Results: One study focused on the effects of intranasal esketamine (INE) on cognitive functioning in 24 healthy individuals, who were evaluated pre- and postdose (40 min, 2h, 4h and 6h). The results showed a decline in cognitive performance at 40 min postdose, returning to comparable levels as placebo by 2h postdose. Another study, with a follow-up of 1 year, involving 802 TRD patients, accessed the long-term safety of INE. In patients aged <65 years-old, performance on all cognitive tests remained stable or slightly improved from baseline during long-term treatment. In patients ≥ 65 years-old, the mean performance on all tests improved or remained stable, while the simple and choice reaction time began slowing at week 20.

Conclusions: Esketamine has proven to be a promising new option for the treatment of TRD and available studies have shown

promising results regarding patients’ cognitive function. Larger clinical trials are needed to further evaluate its short-term and long-term cognitive effects.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: esketamine; cognition

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Employment status of patients with schizophrenia spectrum disorder treated with long acting injectable paliperidone palmitate: Real world mirror image study

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Introduction: Schizophrenia spectrum disorders may severely limit ability to achieve and maintain gainful employment of affected working-age individuals.

Objectives: Assess the employment status in patients with schizophrenia spectrum disorders treated with long acting injectable paliperidone palmitate after the switch from oral antipsychotics.

Methods: A single centre mirror image design study of 115 patients with schizophrenia spectrum disorder was conducted in a tertiary level psychiatric hospital. Data were collected for period of 12 months prior to and 12 months after switching from oral antipsychotic to long acting injectable paliperidone. Employment status for 6 enrolled patients was missing.

Results: Mean age of enrolled patients was $38,4 \pm 11,6$ years. Of the 109 patients analyzed for employment status, 44,4% remained employed for 12 months after switching to long acting injectable paliperidone while 4,6% patients changed their employment status from unemployed to employed after the switch. No patient changed their employment status from employed to unemployed after the switch. 9,2% patients were already retired at the beginning of study period and 5,5% of patients maintained their student status. 36,7% patients remained unemployed for the whole study period. The correlation between employment status of employed and unemployed patients and duration of illness was borderline significant with $p=0,049$.

Conclusions: The data from this study suggest that use of long acting injectable paliperidone contributed to preservation of working ability of working-age patients suffering from schizophrenia spectrum disorders.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: long acting injectable antipsychotic; Paliperidone palmitate; Employment; schizophrenia spectrum

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Valproic acid-induced hyperammonemic encephalopathy: a clinical case

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