

We decided to maintain the Clozapine treatment due to the great improvement of the patients quality of life.
Currently he is taking Clozapine 75mg a day and remains stable.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPV1607

Long-acting injectable antipsychotics vs schizophrenia: a descriptive study in a Greek university hospital

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Introduction: Antipsychotics' adverse effects in combination with patients' anosognosia, which is frequent among individuals with schizophrenia, lead to high rates of medication nonadherence. However, long-acting injectable (LAI) antipsychotics represent a veritable ally to the eyes of patients suffering from schizophrenia. Instead of the daily pill-taking required with oral antipsychotics, LAI antipsychotics are administered by injection at two- to four-week intervals, permitting patients to feel more independent, self-secure and free.

Objectives: To explore the sociodemographic profile of patients receiving LAIs and to highlight the positive and the negative impact this treatment had on their health.

Methods: The study sample consisted of 44 patients followed-up in the Depot Outpatient Department of Papageorgiou General Hospital in Greece. The research was conducted between 2023 and March 2024. The sample was divided into subgroups according to gender, diagnoses - according to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10)-, and type of long-acting antipsychotic treatment. A bivariate analysis was performed to examine relationships between variables, such as: (a.) age; (b.) family status (c.) BMI; (d.) number of lifetime hospitalizations; (e.) lifetime suicide attempts.

Results: 63.6% of patients were men, 36.4% were females.

90.9% were diagnosed with Schizophrenia (F20).

31% were between 31 - 40 years old, while 26.2% were between 51 - 60 years old.

61.4% were unmarried, while 13.6% were married and 13.6% were divorced.

81.8% were unemployed/receiving welfare benefits.

68.2% lived with a relative.

56.8% claimed not suffering from physical diseases. However, when physical disorders were reported, they mainly included dyslipidaemia, diabetes and hypertension.

Based on their BMI, 37.2% were in the 2nd degree of obesity, 25.6% were in the 1st degree of obesity and 30.2% had normal weight.

47.7% were on olanzapine, 22.7% were on paliperidone and 11.4% were on haloperidol or aripiprazole.

The average value of years on LAI treatment was 3.5 years, with a minimum of 1 month and a maximum of 12 years.

Prior LAI treatment, the average value of hospitalizations was 3.5, with a minimum of 1 hospitalization and a maximum of

21 hospitalizations. After receiving treatment, 95.5% of patients were never hospitalized.

Prior LAI treatment, 88.6% of patients had no history of suicide attempts, while 11.4% had one or two suicide attempts. After receiving treatment, no participant had any suicide attempt.

Conclusions: Long-acting injectable antipsychotics help patients to live their lives outside of a psychiatric ward, by drastically diminishing the number of hospitalizations as well as the number of suicide attempts. But when it comes to their physical health, patients face many adverse effects, such as obesity. Clinicians must stay vigilant to ensure the quality of physical health of their patients.

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EPV1609

Pre-acceptance study of bi-monthly Aripiprazole in clinically stable patients

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Introduction: Aripiprazole monthly (Ar1M) has been the first long-acting injectable (LAI) partial agonist antipsychotic. The benefits of long-acting injectables in terms of relapse reduction are well known.

Objectives: The aim of this study is to assess the level of acceptance and the doubts presented by patients before switching to 2-monthly Aripiprazole (Ar2M).

Methods: 25 patients diagnosed with schizophrenia and related disorders in symptomatic remission were asked consecutively whether they would switch to the new bimonthly formulation of aripiprazole and the doubts expressed were collected.

Results: The sample is composed of 25 patients (12 women and 13 men). The mean age is 52.64 years. All are being treated with Ar1M with a mean dose of 408 mg/monthly. Most of the patients present a diagnosis of affective psychosis (N=12 (42%)), 36% a non-affective psychosis (N=9) and 16% a delusional disorder (N=4). Presenting an average of 3.8 previous admissions.

Acceptance was mostly positive, with an initial acceptance rate of 76 % (N=19). Twelve percent (N=3) did not initially want the treatment. Another 12% had doubts and preferred to postpone the decision. 20% of the patients had doubts, related to possible appearance of side effects. 75% of the patients who do not want the treatment have doubts, as do the patients who prefer to wait. Of the patients who initially accepted the treatment, only 1 expressed doubts about it.

Conclusions: The level of acceptance of Ar2M is very high, exceeding 75%. Of the doubts expressed about the possible change, the appearance of side effects is a matter of concern. Given the high level of acceptance, the treatment proposal is important given the wide-ranging benefits it can bring to patients. The clarification of doubts and the successive proposals of the treatment can contribute to a greater acceptance.

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