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SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

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What are calcium channel blockers?

A supplementary, or adjunctive, treatment is administered in conjunction with a patient's ongoing antipsychotic therapy. Adjunct medications may be prescribed to treat side effects of ongoing antipsychotic medication, and may contribute to increasing adherence to antipsychotic medications and reduce the risk of psychotic relapse. Calcium channel blockers are one such example. However, calcium channel blockers are prescribed with extreme caution due to their potential for extreme side effects, and the dopamine-blocking actions that may interfere or interact with neuroleptic medications.

What is the evidence for calcium channel blockers?

Low quality evidence is unclear of the effect of diltiazem or flunarizine over placebo for tardive dyskinesia.

For more information see the technical table



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NeuRA (Neuroscience Research Australia) is one of the largest independent medical and clinical research institutes in Australia and an international leader in neurological research.

Diseases of the brain and nervous system pose the greatest health, economic and social burden of any disease group because they are chronic, debilitating and have no known cures.

Medical research is the cornerstone of efforts to advance the health and wellbeing of families and the community. Our dedicated scientists are focussed on transforming their research into significant and practical benefits for all patients.

While we hope you find this information useful, it is always important to discuss any questions about schizophrenia or its treatment with your doctor or other health care provider.

HOW YOUR SUPPORT HELPS

We are able to make significant advances due to the generosity of countless people. Your donation allows us to continue to work towards transforming lives. For information on how you can support our research, phone **1300 888 019** or make a secure donation at neura.edu.au/donate/schizophrenia.