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SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

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What are serotonin modulators?

Serotonin is a neurotransmitter. Atypical antipsychotics are thought to have some affinity for serotonin 5-HT receptors, for example clozapine, quetiapine, and olanzapine, among others. This suggests a potential for the use of serotonin-specific medications in the treatment of schizophrenia.

What is the evidence for adjunctive serotonin modulators?

Moderate to low quality evidence finds a large effect of greater improvement in overall symptoms with adjunctive buspirone compared to placebo, with no differences in adverse effects apart from fewer extrapyramidal symptoms with buspirone. There were no significant effects of buspirone in the subgroup analyses of positive, negative and general symptoms or for cognition.

Moderate to low quality evidence also finds a large benefit for overall and negative symptoms with adjunctive granisetron, ondansetron, and tropisetron compared to placebo. There were no benefits of tandospirone for symptoms when compared to placebo.

For more information see the technical table



NeuRA

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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.

NeuRA (Neuroscience Research Australia) Foundation
T 1300 888 019 F +61 2 9399 1082
ABN 57 008 429 961

Margarete Ainsworth Building
Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031
PO Box 1165 Randwick Sydney NSW 2031 Australia

neura.edu.au