What is hypersalivation?

Antipsychotic medications such as clozapine and olanzapine, among others, may induce excessive (hyper) salivation, which can be uncomfortable and embarrassing as well as increasing the risk of aspiration pneumonia. Various pharmacological approaches have been used to try and alleviate this problem. Adjunctive medications prescribed to treat such side effects may contribute to increasing adherence to antipsychotic medications, which reduces the risk of psychotic relapse.

What is the evidence for treatments for hypersalivation?

Moderate to low quality evidence suggests antimuscarinic may be more effective than placebo for reducing clozapine-induced hypersalivation. Traditional Chinese medicine (SuoQuan Wan) and rice bran oil derivative (oryzanolum) may be more effective than doxepin (antimuscarinic) for reducing clozapine-induced hypersalivation and may cause less constipation.

For more information see the technical table

HOW YOUR SUPPORT HELPS

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