



BIPOLAR DISORDERS Factsheet

July 2020

What is cariprazine?

The treatment of bipolar disorder is complex due to the presence of varying configurations of symptoms in patients. The primary treatments for bipolar disorder are pharmacological, and often involve second generation antipsychotic drugs, such as cariprazine. Based on its high affinity for dopamine receptors, cariprazine has been proposed as a treatment for bipolar disorder.

What is the evidence for cariprazine as treatment for bipolar disorder?

High quality evidence suggests cariprazine is associated with greater improvements in mania and depression than placebo, but is associated with more adverse effects including akathisia, tremor, restlessness, and weight gain.

Moderate quality evidence suggests similar improvement in depression symptoms with low (0.75-1.5 mg) and high (3 mg) dose cariprazine.

Moderate quality evidence finds a medium-sized effect of greater improvement in mania symptoms with cariprazine than with topiramate, but less improvement when compared to tamoxefin.

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 bipolar disorder or its treatment with your doctor or other health care provider.

HOW YOUR SUPPORT HELPS

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