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BIPOLAR DISORDERS Factsheet

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What is clozapine?

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 clozapine. Based on its high affinity for both serotonin and dopamine receptors, clozapine has been proposed as a treatment for bipolar disorder.

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

Moderate to low quality evidence suggests improved symptoms and reduced hospitalisation, suicidal ideation, and aggressive behaviour, and also improved social functioning with clozapine in people with treatment-resistant bipolar disorder.

There were no differences in efficacy for mania symptoms between clozapine and olanzapine or quetiapine.

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

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.