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BIPOLAR DISORDERS Factsheet

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What is ziprasidone?

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 antipsychotic drugs such as the second-generation antipsychotic, ziprasidone.

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

Symptoms

Moderate quality evidence suggests small to medium-sized effects of better improvement in acute mania symptoms with ziprasidone than with placebo or topiramate, although there was better improvement in mania symptoms with tamoxefin than with ziprasidone.

Moderate quality evidence suggests no differences in depression symptoms, response or remission between low (40-80 mg) and high (120-160 mg) dose ziprasidone.

Moderate quality evidence suggests greater improvement in clinical global impression, depression symptoms, response to treatment, and remission with lurasidone than with ziprasidone.

Side effects

Compared to placebo, moderate quality evidence suggests an increased risk of more prolactin, hyperkinesia, akathisia, muscle weakness, somnolence and sedation with ziprasidone, with no differences in insomnia, agitation or weight gain.

Moderate to low quality evidence suggests lower risk of switching to mania with ziprasidone than with aripiprazole or lamotrigine. There are no differences in rates of switching to depression between ziprasidone and haloperidol.

Moderate quality evidence suggests more somnolence with ziprasidone than with lurasidone.

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.