Question

In older adults with a diagnosis of depression and a history of cavernous cranial hemangioma, what evidence is there around the efficacy, safety and optimum dosage of mirtazapine when compared to other antidepressants with the aim of aiding recovery from depression?

Clarification of question using PICO structure (PICTRO for diagnostic questions)

Patients: Older adults with depression and a history of cavernous cranial hemangioma
Intervention (Index Test): Mirtazapine
Comparator (Comparative test(s)): Other antidepressants
(Target Condition): n/a
(Reference Standard): n/a
Outcome: Recovery from depression

Clinical and research implications

No directly relevant studies were found to answer this question. There may be evidence about the efficacy of mirtazapine in comparison to other antidepressants for the treatment of depression.

What does the evidence say?

Number of included studies/reviews (number of participants): No directly relevant studies were identified.

Main Findings: n/a

Authors Conclusions: n/a

Reliability of conclusions/Strength of evidence: n/a

What do guidelines say?

No directly relevant UK based guidelines were identified.
### Search Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Search Strategy</th>
<th>Number of hits</th>
<th>Relevant evidence identified</th>
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**Summary**

- **NA**  
- **NA**

Database: Medline 1950 to present

Search Strategy:

1. `exp Hemangioma, Cavernous/` (5741)
2. `(cavernous adj3 h?emangioma$).tw.` (2911)
3. `((cranial or brain) adj3 h?emangioma$).tw.` (97)
4. `mirtazepine.tw.` (27)
5. `mirtazapine.tw.` (1053)
6. `Mianserin/` (2116)
7. `zispin.tw.` (2)
8. `Remeron.tw.` (29)
9. `or/1-3` (6412)
Database: Embase <1980 to 2011 Week 45>
Search Strategy:
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1 exp brain hemangioma/ (2105)
2 cavernous hemangioma/ (5697)
3 (cavernous adj3 h?emangioma$).tw. (3350)
4 ((cranial or brain) adj3 h?emangioma$).tw. (98)
5 or/1-4 (8399)
6 mirtazapine/ (6974)
7 mirtazapine.tw. (1561)
8 mirtazepine.tw. (53)
9 zispin.tw. (21)
10 Remeron.tw. (719)
11 or/6-10 (7052)
12 5 and 11 (1)
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Database: PsycINFO <1806 to November Week 2 2011>
Search Strategy:
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1 (cavernous adj3 h?emangioma$).tw. (25)
2 ((cranial or brain) adj3 h?emangioma$).tw. (3)
3 mirtazepine.tw. (21)
4 mirtazapine.tw. (784)
5 zispin.tw. (0)
6 Remeron.tw. (13)
7 1 or 2 (26)
8 or/3-6 (802)
9 7 and 8 (0)
The Cochrane Library (CENTRAL)
Successful ECT in a patient with an orbital cavernous hemangioma.
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