

Best Evidence Summaries of Topics in Mental Healthcare

BEST *in* **MH** *clinical question-answering service*

Question

In adults with dementia, how effective is cyproterone, compared to any other intervention, in reducing sexual disinhibition and/or aggression?

Clarification of question using *PICO* structure

Patients: Adults with dementia

Intervention: Cyproterone

Comparator: Any other intervention

Outcome: Reducing sexual disinhibition and/or aggression

Plain language summary

No relevant, high quality information was identified.

Clinical and research implications

N/A

What does the evidence say?

Number of included studies/reviews (number of participants)

N/A

Main findings

N/A

Authors conclusions

N/A

Reliability of conclusions/Strength of evidence

N/A

What do guidelines say?

NICE guidelines for dementia (CG42 , 2006) make the following recommendations regarding pharmacological interventions for behaviour that challenges:

“Behaviour that challenges’ encompasses a wide range of difficulties that are often experienced by people with dementia and that may have an effect on those who provide care. It may include aggression...sexual disinhibition, apathy...

People with dementia who develop non-cognitive symptoms or behaviour that challenges should be offered a pharmacological intervention in the first instance only if they are severely distressed or there is an immediate risk of harm to the person or others.

People with Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia or mixed dementias with mild-to-moderate non-cognitive symptoms should not be prescribed antipsychotic drugs because of the possible increased risk of cerebrovascular adverse events and death.

People with DLB with mild-to-moderate non-cognitive symptoms, should not be prescribed antipsychotic drugs, because those with DLB are at particular risk of severe adverse reactions.

People with moderate Alzheimer's disease who have non-cognitive symptoms and/or behaviour that challenges and are intolerant of or have a contraindication to acetylcholinesterase inhibitors, as well as people with severe Alzheimer's disease, may be offered memantine...provided:

- a non-pharmacological approach is inappropriate or has been ineffective, and antipsychotic drugs are inappropriate or have been ineffective.
- People with DLB who have non-cognitive symptoms causing significant distress to the individual, or leading to behaviour that challenges, should be offered an acetylcholinesterase inhibitor.” (pp.29-31)

Date question received: 24/02/2016
Date searches conducted: 08/03/2016
Date answer completed:

References

Guidelines

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (2006) Dementia: supporting people with dementia and their carers in health and social care. CG42. London: NICE.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg42/resources/dementia-supporting-people-with-dementia-and-their-carers-in-health-and-social-care-975443665093>

Search details

Source	Search Strategy	Number of hits	Relevant evidence identified
<i>Guidelines</i>			
NICE	Dementia	31	1
MEDLINE	1 *Cyproterone/ or *Cyproterone Acetate/ (1431) 2 (cyproterone or cyprostat).ab,ti. (2547) 3 "dement*".ab,ti. (79299) 4 *Dementia/ or *Dementia, Multi-Infarct/ or *Frontotemporal Dementia/ or *Dementia, Vascular/ (35628) 5 1 or 2 (2794) 6 3 or 4 (85671) 7 5 and 6 (8)	8	0
EMBASE	1 "dement*".ti,ab. (113435) 2 *semantic dementia/ or *dementia/ or *presenile dementia/ or *frontotemporal dementia/ or *senile dementia/ or *multiinfarct dementia/ (54962) 3 *cyproterone acetate/ or *cyproterone/ (4019) 4 (cyproterone or cyprostat).ti,ab. (3086) 5 1 or 2 (122001) 6 3 or 4 (5196) 7 5 and 6 (13)	13	0
PsycINFO/CINAHL	1 *Senile Dementia/ or *Dementia/ or *Semantic Dementia/ or *Dementia with Lewy Bodies/ or *Vascular Dementia/ (26435) 2 "dement*".ab,ti. (47622) 3 cyproterone.ab,ti. (88) 4 cyprostat.ab,ti. (0) 5 1 or 2 (48525) 6 3 or 4 (88) 7 5 and 6 (10)	10	0

CENTRAL	#1	MeSH descriptor: [Dementia] this term only	1614	0	0
	#2	dement*	12907		
	#3	#1 and #2	1614		
	#4	cyproterone	523		
	#5	cyprostat	4		
	#6	MeSH descriptor: [Cyproterone] 4 tree(s) exploded	303		
	#7	#4 and #5 and #6	1		
	#8	#3 and #7	0		

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