

# **Bipolar Disorders: Therapeutic Options**

**James W. Jefferson, M.D.**

**Clinical Professor of Psychiatry  
University of Wisconsin School  
Of Medicine and Public Health  
Distinguished Senior Scientist  
Madison Institute of Medicine**

# **Part 1: Overview and Treatment of Acute Mania**

**Revised August 2007**

# Teaching Points

- 1. The concept of bipolar disorder extends beyond DSM-IV.**
- 2. Over time, most bipolar patients require combination therapy.**
- 3. Treatment guidelines and algorithms abound.**
- 4. There are 10 FDA-approved drugs for treating acute mania. There is no clear “winner”.**

# Outline

- I. DSM-IV Bipolar Disorders Classification**
- II. The Bipolar Spectrum Concept**
- III. General Treatment Principles**
  - A. Improving Adherence**
  - B. Role of Psychotherapies**
  - C. Choosing Medications**
  - D. Combination Therapies**
- IV. Guidelines and Algorithms**
- V. Pharmacotherapy of Acute Manic and Mixed Episodes**
  - A. FDA-Approved Drugs**
  - B. Supportive Data for Efficacy**
  - C. Texas Implication of Medication Algorithm (TIMA)**

# Pre-Lecture Exam

## Question 1

1. All of the following are FDA-approved for treating acute mania except:
  - a. Carbamazepine
  - b. Clorpromazine
  - c. Clonazepam
  - d. Divalproex
  - e. Aripiprazole

## Question 2

2. A patient with a history of hypomanic episodes and major depressive episodes would receive which DSM-IV diagnosis?
- a. Cyclothymic disorder
  - b. Bipolar NOS
  - c. Bipolar I
  - d. Bipolar II
  - e. Bipolar III

# Question 3

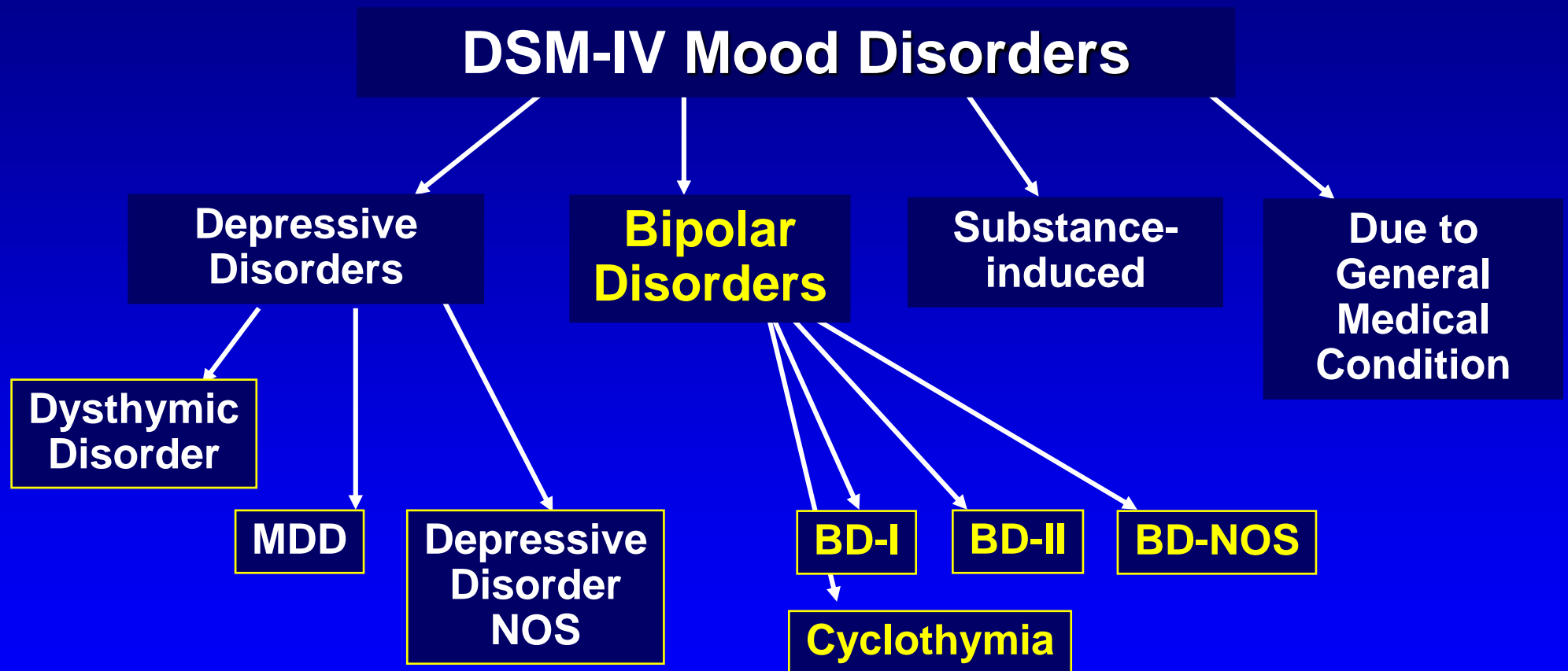
- 3. Which of the following drugs has a recommended starting dose for acute mania of 25 mg/kg/day?**
- a. Divalproex ER**
  - b. Carbamazepine ER**
  - c. Risperidone**
  - d. Divalproex**
  - e. Quetiapine**

## Question 4

4. Why is olanzapine not listed in Stage IA of the TIMA algorithm for acute mania monotherapy?
  - a. Issues about efficacy
  - b. Safety and tolerability
  - c. Cost
  - d. Complexity of use



# Mood Disorders: DSM-IV Classification



# **Bipolar Disorders: DSM-IV**

- **Bipolar I disorder**
  - Hypomanic, manic, mixed, depressed, unspecified
- **Bipolar II disorder**
- **Cyclothymic disorder**
- **Bipolar disorder NOS (not otherwise specified)**

# Bipolar Lifetime Prevalence Rates

Diagnosis	No. of Studies	Range of Rates (%)
BD-I	19	0.0-2.4
BD-II	10	0.3-2.0
Cyclothymia	5	0.5-2.8
Bipolar spectrum disorders	10	2.6-7.8

**BP-I: 0.8-1.6%, BP-II: 0.5-5.5%**

# Mixed Bipolar Episode (DSM-IV)

- Criteria for **both** a major depressive episode and a manic episode
- For at least 1 week

# Bipolar Spectrum Disorders

- **Bipolar I disorder: history of mania\***
- **Bipolar II disorder: history of hypomania and major depressive episodes\***
- **Cyclothymia\***
- **Hyperthymic temperament**
- **Secondary mania (to other illnesses or drugs)**
- **Antidepressant-induced mania and hypomania**

\*DSM-IV categories; American Psychiatric Association (1994), Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th ed. Washington, D.C.: American Psychiatric Publishing, Inc.

# Hyperthymic Temperament\*

- **Extroverted and people-seeking**
- **High energy level**
- **Extremely sociable to the point of intrusive**
- **Overconfident, boastful and grandiose**
- **Stimulus seeking**
- **Short sleeper (less than 6 hours per night)**

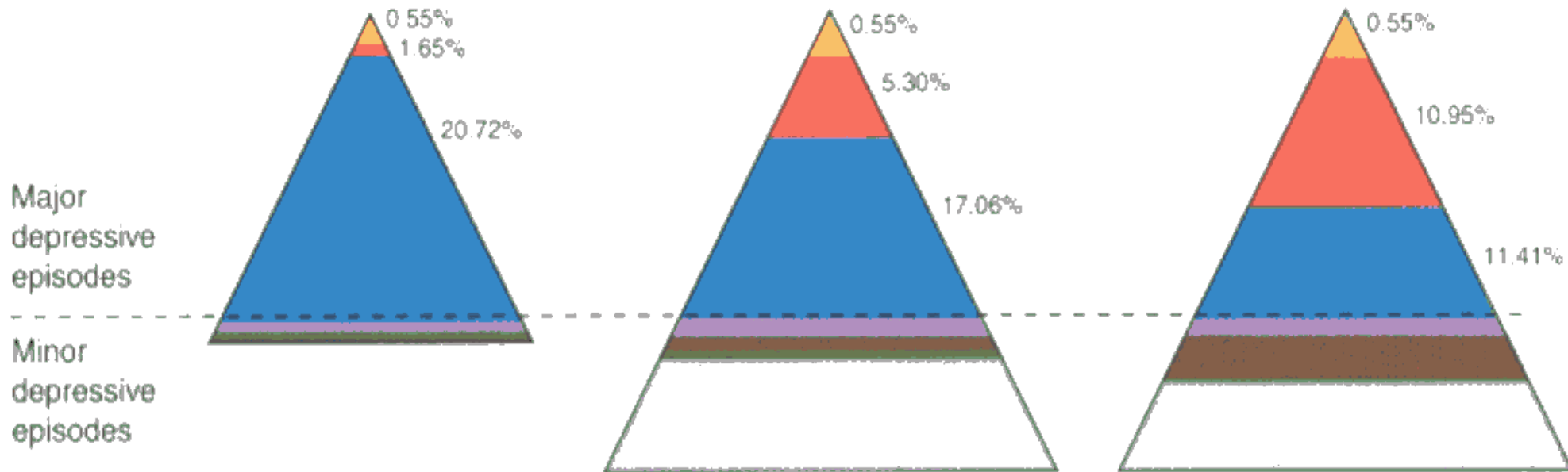
**\*Habitual long-term functioning of the individual;**

Akiskal HS (1996), J Clin Psychopharmacol 16(2 suppl 1):4S-14S

### DSM-IV

### Zurich strict criteria

### Zurich broad criteria



Total prevalence **25.7%**

**49.5%**

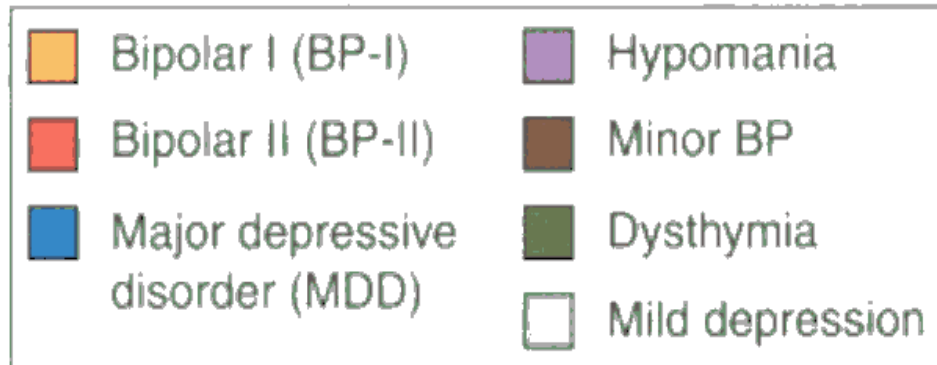
**49.5%**

Ratio of MDD vs BP-I or BP-II **9.4**

**2.9**

**1.0**

# Bipolar Spectrum



# Zurich Study Hypomania Criteria

## Strict

**3 or more DSM-IV criteria**

**Minimum duration 1 day**

**Consequences**

## Loose

**2 or more DSM-IV criteria**

**No minimum duration**

**No consequences**



# General Treatment Principles

- **Psychosocial interventions**
- **Pharmacologic interventions**
- **Promote education**
- **Enhance compliance**

# **Improving Treatment Adherence**

- **Therapeutic alliance**
- **Education**
- **Availability and support**
- **Psychotherapy**
- **Medication -- minimize side effects, complexity, cost**

# **Bipolar Psychotherapies**

- **Family Focused**
- **Interpersonal and Social Rhythm**
- **Cognitive-Behavioral**
- **Life Goals Program**

# Choice of Medication(s)

- **Phase of illness**
- **Prior response and tolerability**
- **Medical and psychiatric comorbidities**
- **Side effects**
- **Drug interactions**
- **Patient preferences**

# **Polypharmacy is Not a Bad Word**

- **Monotherapy is the exception**
- **Combination therapy is effective**
- **Increased risk of side effects and drug interactions**

# Algorithms and Guidelines

- **Synthesize current evidence**
- **Add expert consensus**
- **Balance with safety and tolerability**
- **Not written in stone**

# Bipolar Guidelines Abound

- **APA Practice Guidelines** 2002  
Am J Psychiatry 2002;159(suppl):1-50 (April)
- **Br Assoc Psychopharmacol** 2003  
J Psychopharmacol 2003;17:149-173
- **Expert Consensus Guidelines** 2004  
Postgrad Med Special Report 2004 (Dec)
- **WFSBP Guidelines** 2004  
World J Biol Psychiatry 2002, 2003, 2004
- **CANMAT Guidelines** 2005\*  
Bipolar Disorders 2005;7(suppl 3):5-69
- **TIMA Algorithms** 2005  
J Clin Psychiatry 2005;66:870-886 (July)

**“All guidelines have similar objectives, but they often reach different conclusions.”**

**Vieta et al., Bipolar Disord 2005;7(Suppl 3):73-76**



# **Acute Manic and Mixed Episodes**

# Opium

**“... it calms and soothes the Disorders and Perturbations of the animal Spirits; which, when lulled and charmed by this soporiferous Drug cease their Tumults, and settle into a State of Tranquility”**

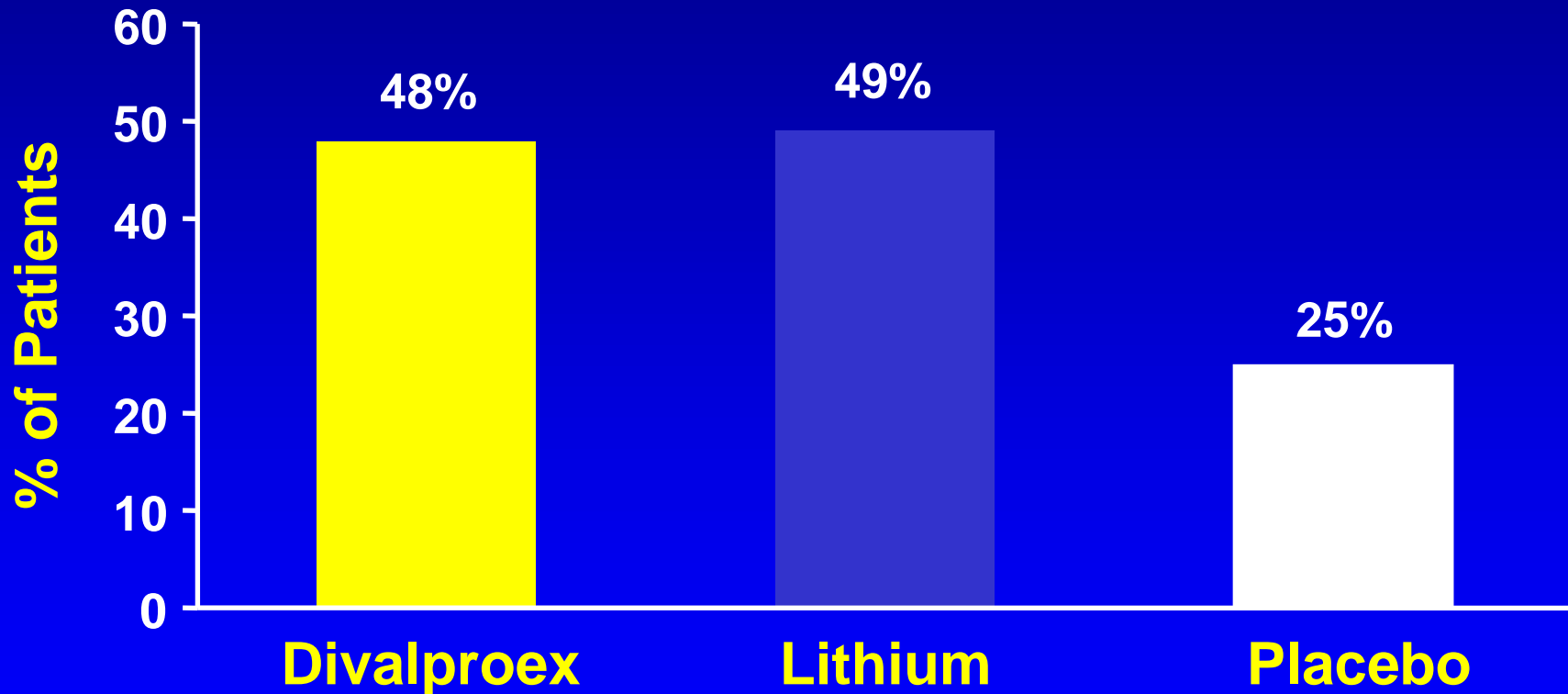
**Sir Richard Blackmore, 1725**

# Acute Mania: FDA-Approved

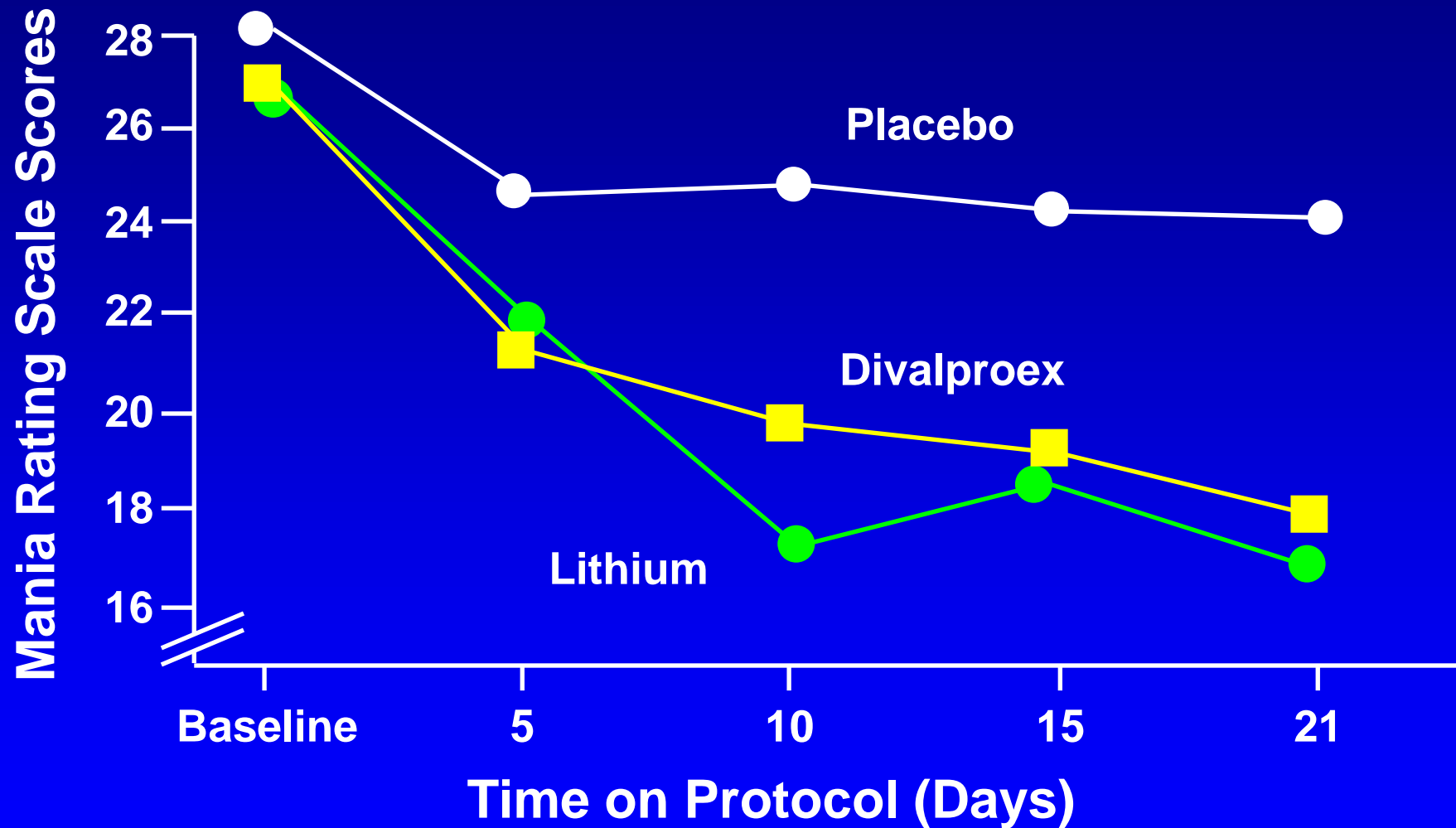
- **1970**      **Lithium**
- **1973**      **Chlorpromazine**
- **1995**      **Divalproex**
- **2000**      **Olanzapine**
- **2003**      **Risperidone**
- **2004**      **Quetiapine**
- **2004**      **Ziprasidone**
- **2004**      **Aripiprazole**
- **2004**      **Carbamazepine ER**
- **2005**      **Divalproex ER**

# Acute Mania: Divalproex vs Lithium

( $\geq 50\%$  ↓ in Mania Subscale)



# Divalproex vs. Lithium for Mania



Bowden et al. JAMA. 1994;271:918-924

**Note: Y-axis does not begin at zero**

# **Divalproex ER for Bipolar Disorder**

- **FDA-approved 12/05 for acute manic and mixed episodes**
- **Bioequivalent to divalproex at ER dose 8 to 20% higher**
- **Start 25 mg/kg/day (once daily)**
- **250 mg and 500 mg tablets**
- **Target: 85-125 mcg/mL**

# **Divalproex ER for Acute Mania (Manic and Mixed Episodes)**

**3-week, placebo-controlled, n=364**

- **Primary outcome: MRS change from baseline  
ER > Placebo at all points**

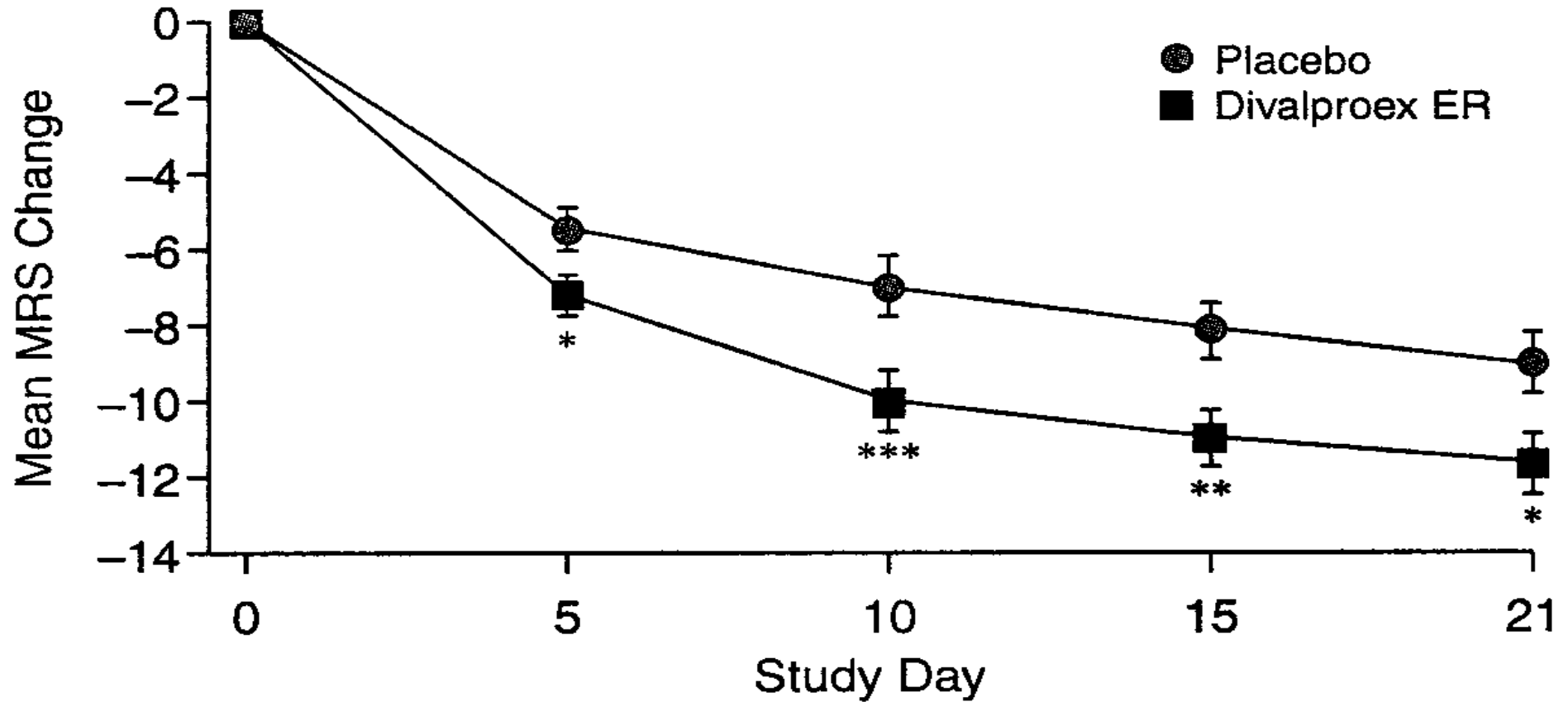
- **Response ( $\geq 50\%$  MRS improvement)**

<b>ER</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>(P=0.012)</b>
<b>Placebo</b>	<b>34%</b>	

- **Remission (MRS  $\leq 12$ )**

<b>ER</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>(P=0.015)</b>
<b>Placebo</b>	<b>35%</b>	

# Divalproex ER for Acute Mania





# **Neuroleptics\* plus Valproate or Placebo for Acute Mania**

- **European Valproate Mania Study Group (10 sites, 3 weeks, n=136)**
- **VPA (20 mg/kg) > placebo**
  - **faster and better response (58% vs 30%)**
  - **lower neuroleptic dose**
  - **well tolerated**
- **What about VPA alone?**

**\*Haloperidol or perazine**

# **Atypical Antipsychotic + Mood Stabilizer (Lithium or Divalproex) for Acute Mania**

- **Effective vs. placebo (FDA-approved)**
  - **Olanzapine**
  - **Quetiapine**
  - **Risperidone**
- **Probably effective (pending studies)**
  - **Others**

# **Quetiapine vs. Placebo as Add-on to Lithium or Divalproex in Acute Mania (6-week, double-blind, n=211)**

- **Dose: Day 21 mean 423 mg/day**
- **Primary efficacy measure: YMRS change day 21**
- **Day 21: Quetiapine = placebo**
- **Day 42: Quetiapine = placebo**

# **Ziprasidone vs. Placebo as Adjunct to Lithium in Acute Mania (3-week, double-blind, n=205)**

- **Dose: 80 to 160 mg/day**
- **Day 4: Ziprasidone > placebo**
- **Day 14: Ziprasidone = placebo**

**All Antipsychotic Drugs Are Antimanic**

**Name one that isn't!**

# Divalproex vs. Olanzapine for Acute Mania

	<u>Tohen et al., 2002</u>	<u>Zajecka et al., 2002</u>
<b>Start</b>	OLZ 15 mg DVPX 750 mg	OLZ 10 mg DVPX 20mg/kg/day
<b>MRS</b>	OLZ -13.4 DVPX -10.4 (p=.028)	OLZ -17.2 DVPX -14.8 (n.s.)
<b>↑ Weight</b>	OLZ > DVPX	OLZ > DVPX

# Olanzapine for Acute Mania

## (pooled analysis – 2 studies)

	OLZ	PBO
• <b>Response (<math>\geq 50\%</math> <math>\downarrow</math> YMRS)</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>29.5%</b>
• <b>Euthymia (YMRS <math>\leq 12</math>)</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>27%</b>
• <b>Remission (YMRS <math>\leq 7</math>, etc.)</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>7%</b>

# **Olanzapine vs Risperidone for Manic or Mixed Episodes (3-week, double-blind, n=329)**

- **Similar improvements in mania (YMRS, response, remission)**
- **OLZ: better depression improvement (HAM-D but not MADRS) and study completion, but more weight gain and ↑LFTs**
- **RIS: more ↑prolactin, sexual dysfunction**



# **Olanzapine + Carbamazepine vs. Carbamazepine Alone for Acute Mania**

**6-week, double-blind, n=118**

- **No significant difference on any efficacy measure**
- **OLZ+CBZ: more weight gain, increased ALT and triglycerides**

Tohen et al. ACNP, poster 59, Dec 2006

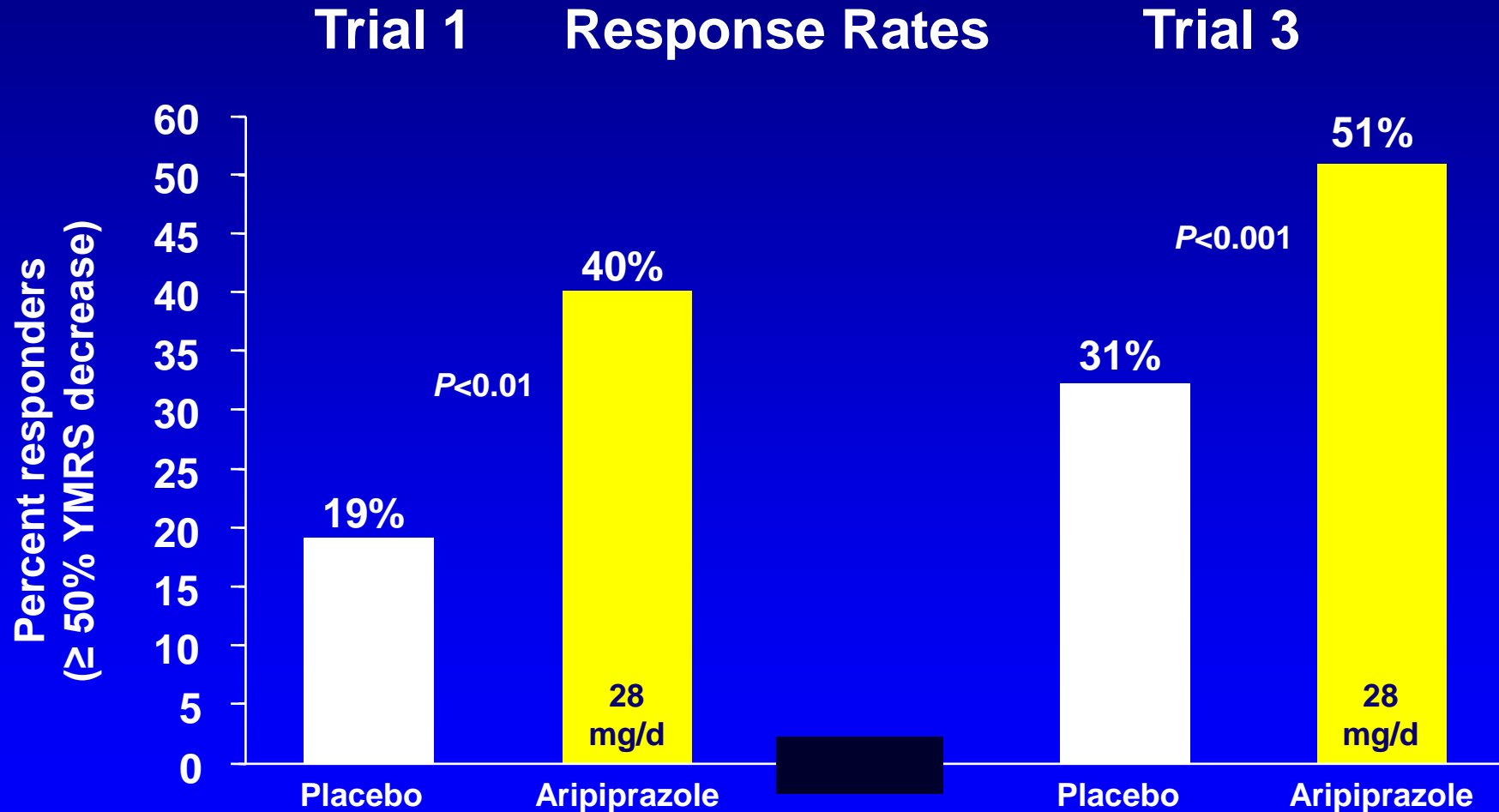
# Olanzapine for Acute Manic or Mixed Episodes in Adolescents

(3 week, double-blind)

	<u>OLZ (n=107)</u>	<u>PBO (n=54)</u>
Response	48.6%	22.2%
Remission	35.2%	11.1%
Weight Gain $\geq 7\%$	41.9%	1.9%
High Prolactin-female	25.7%	0%
High prolactin-male	62.5%	5%

# Aripiprazole in Acute Mania

(3-week, double-blind, start 30 mg)



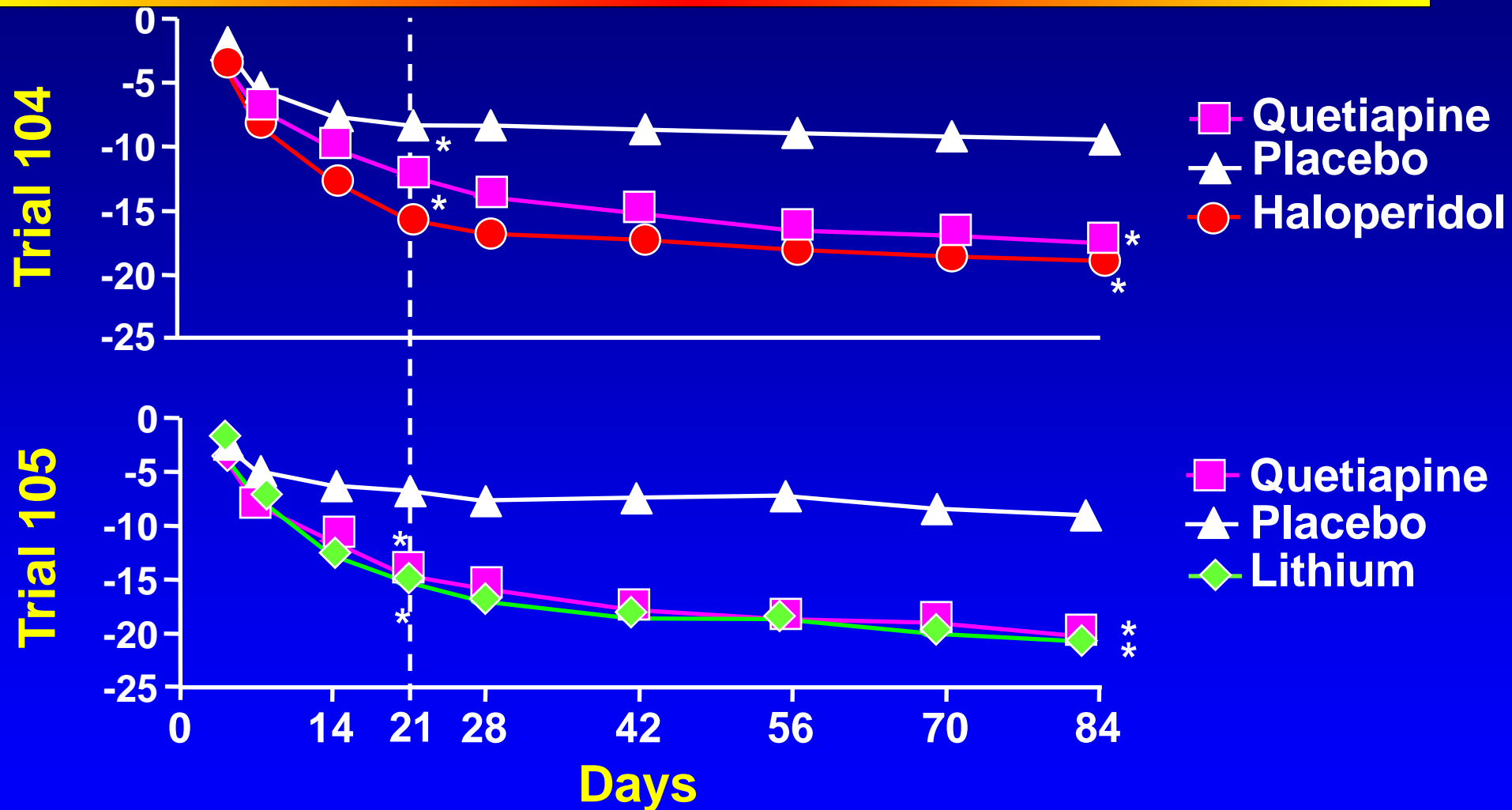
Keck et al. *AJP* 160:1651-1658, Sep 2003.

Data on file, Bristol-Myers Squibb  
Company and Otsuka  
Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.

# **Aripiprazole vs. Lithium and Placebo for Acute Bipolar Mania (n=472)**

- **3-week, double-blind (ARI 15-30 mg,  
Li<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> 900-1500 mg):  
Aripiprazole=Lithium >Placebo**
- **Additional 9 weeks double-blind (placebo  
patients got aripiprazole)  
Aripiprazole=Lithium**

# Quetiapine for Acute Mania



Jones M et al. APA New Research Abstracts, 2003

Trial 105-McIntyre et al., Eur Neuropsychopharmacol 15:573-585, 2005

Trial 105-Bowden et al., J Clin Psychiatry 66:111-121, 2005

# Quetiapine vs. Divalproex in Adolescent Mania (4-week, double-blind, n=50)

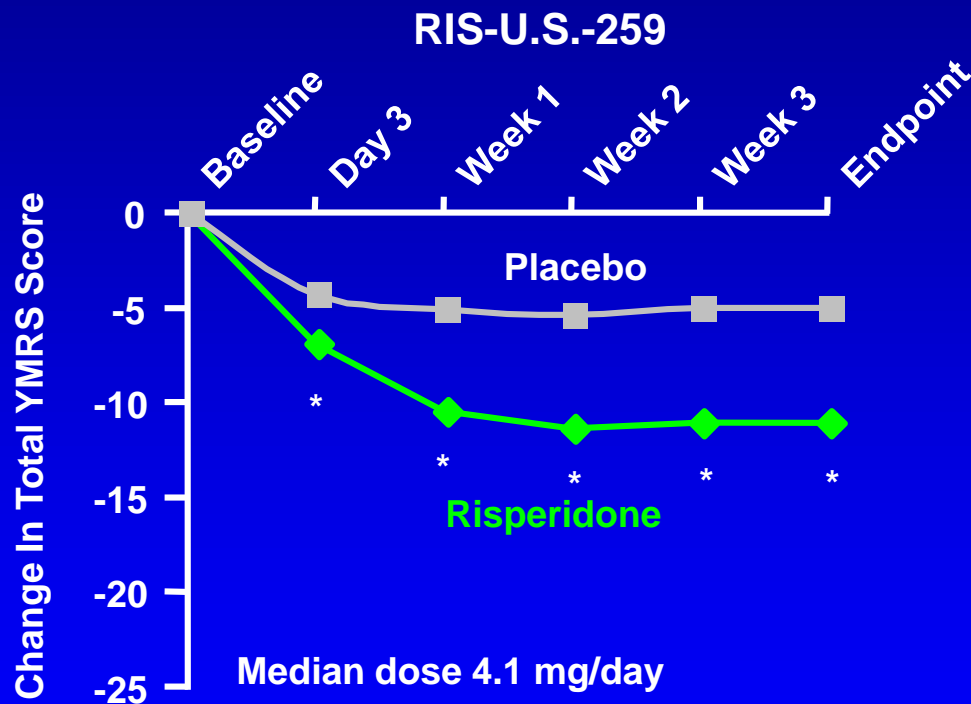
- **QTP: 400-600 mg/day (mean 412 mg)**  
**DVPX: mean serum level 101 mcg/ml**
- **YMRS change (primary outcome)**

<b>QTP</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>(n.s.)</b>
<b>DVPX</b>	<b>19</b>	
- **Response (CGI-I-mania 1 or 2)**

<b>QTP</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>(p=0.02)</b>
<b>DVPX</b>	<b>40%</b>	
- **Remission: QTP 60%, DVPX 28% (p=0.02)**

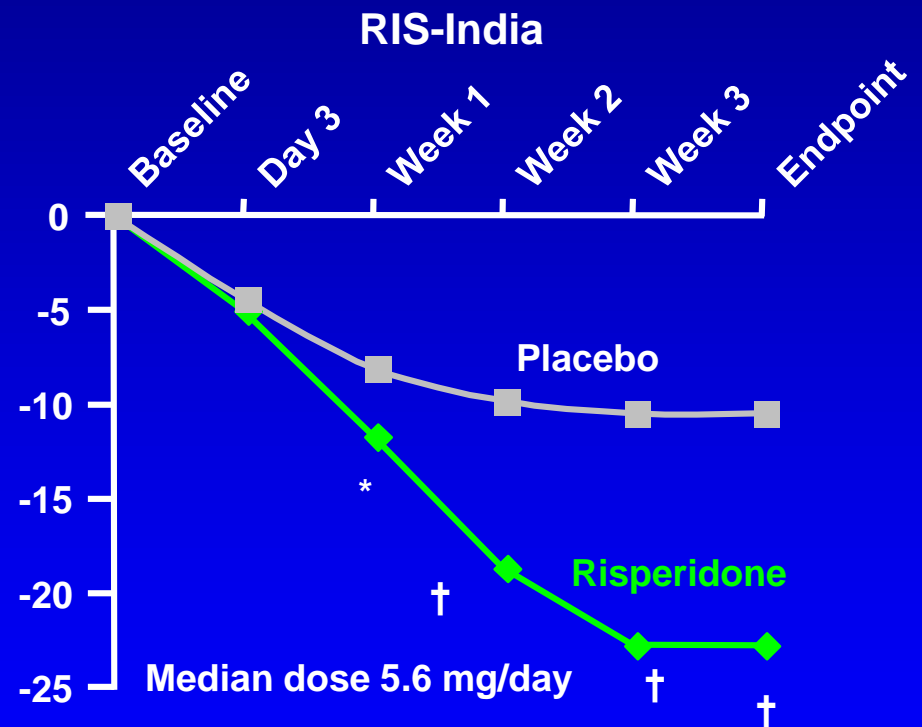
# Risperidone in Acute Bipolar Mania

## Change From Baseline in Total YMRS (Primary Efficacy Variable)



LOCF analysis. \* $P < .001$  risperidone vs placebo.

Hirschfeld RM et al. *Am J Psychiatry* 2004;161:1057-1065  
(excluded mixed)



LOCF analysis. \* $P < .01$ ; † $P < .001$  risperidone vs placebo.

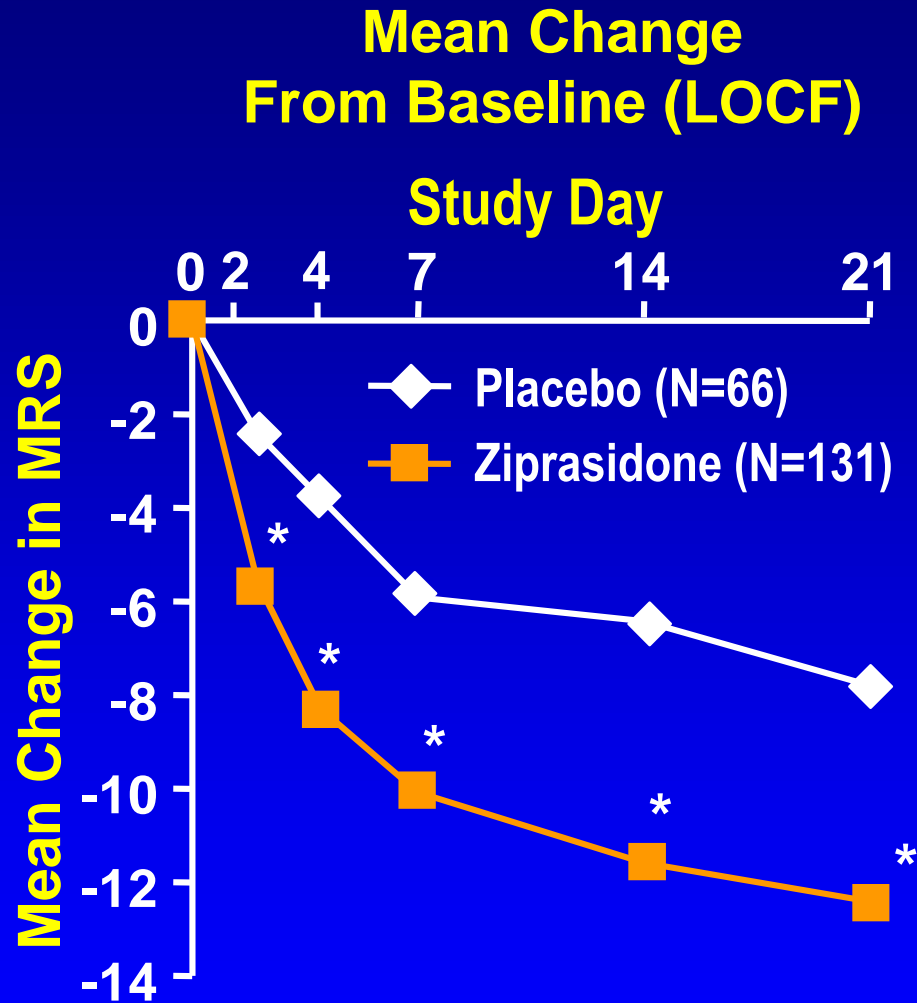
Khanna S et al. *Br J Psychiatry* 2005;187:229-234 (Sept)  
(included mixed)

# **Risperidone for Pediatric Bipolar Mania**

- **Aug 20, 2007: FDA-approved for bipolar I manic and mixed episodes , ages 10-17**
- **Based on one 3-week, placebo-controlled trial**
- **Doses above 2.5 mg/day-no trend towards greater efficacy**

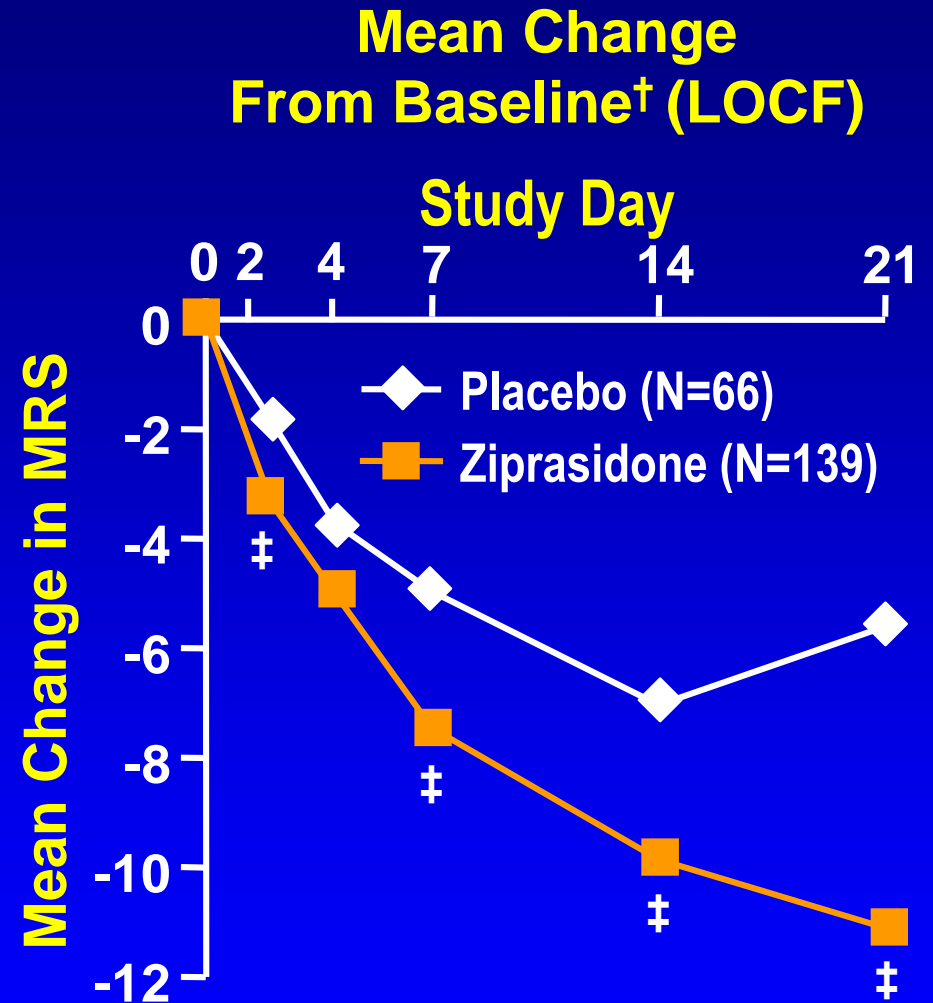


# Ziprasidone: Efficacy in Acute Mania



\*p<0.01;

Keck et al., Am J Psychiatry 2003;160:741-748



‡ziprasidone = 26.19; placebo = 26.49; ‡p<0.05;

Potkin et al., J Clin Psychopharmacol 2005;25:301-310

# Texas Implementation of Medication Algorithms (TIMA)-Bipolar I Update

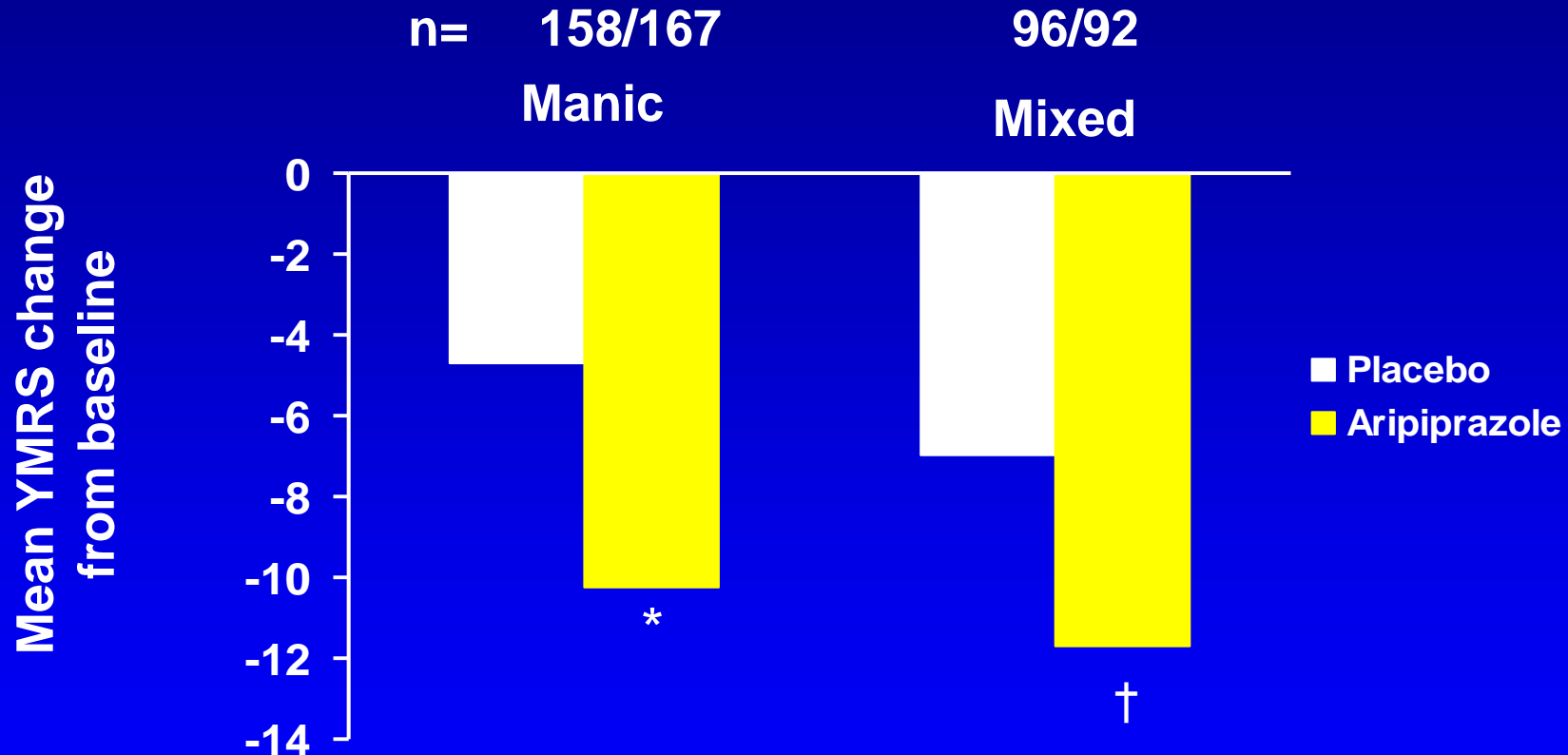
## Acute Mania: Monotherapy Stage IA

- **Euphoric:** lithium, divalproex, aripiprazole, quetiapine, risperidone, ziprasidone
- **Mixed:** divalproex, aripiprazole, risperidone, ziprasidone **(not lithium or quetiapine)**

# **Why Not Lithium or Quetiapine for Mixed Episodes?**

- **Lithium-May be less effective for mixed**
- **Quetiapine: Mixed excluded from pivotal trials, so not FDA-approved**
- **Divalproex ER, but not divalproex: FDA-approved for mixed**

# Aripiprazole in Acute Manic and Mixed Episodes



\* $P \leq 0.001$ , † $P = 0.002$ ; Pooled analysis of 2 pivotal studies.

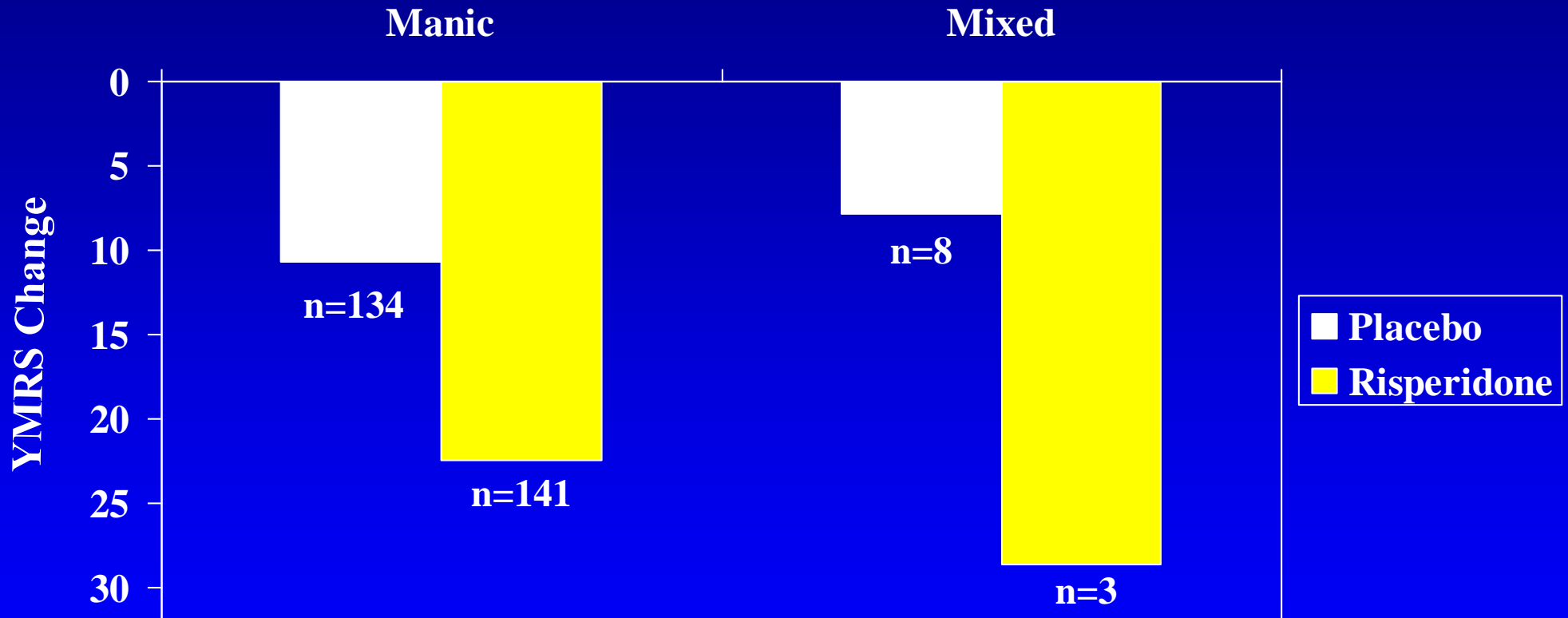
Keck et al. *Am J Psychiatry*. 2003;160:1651.

Sachs et al. *J Pharmacology* 2006;20:536-546

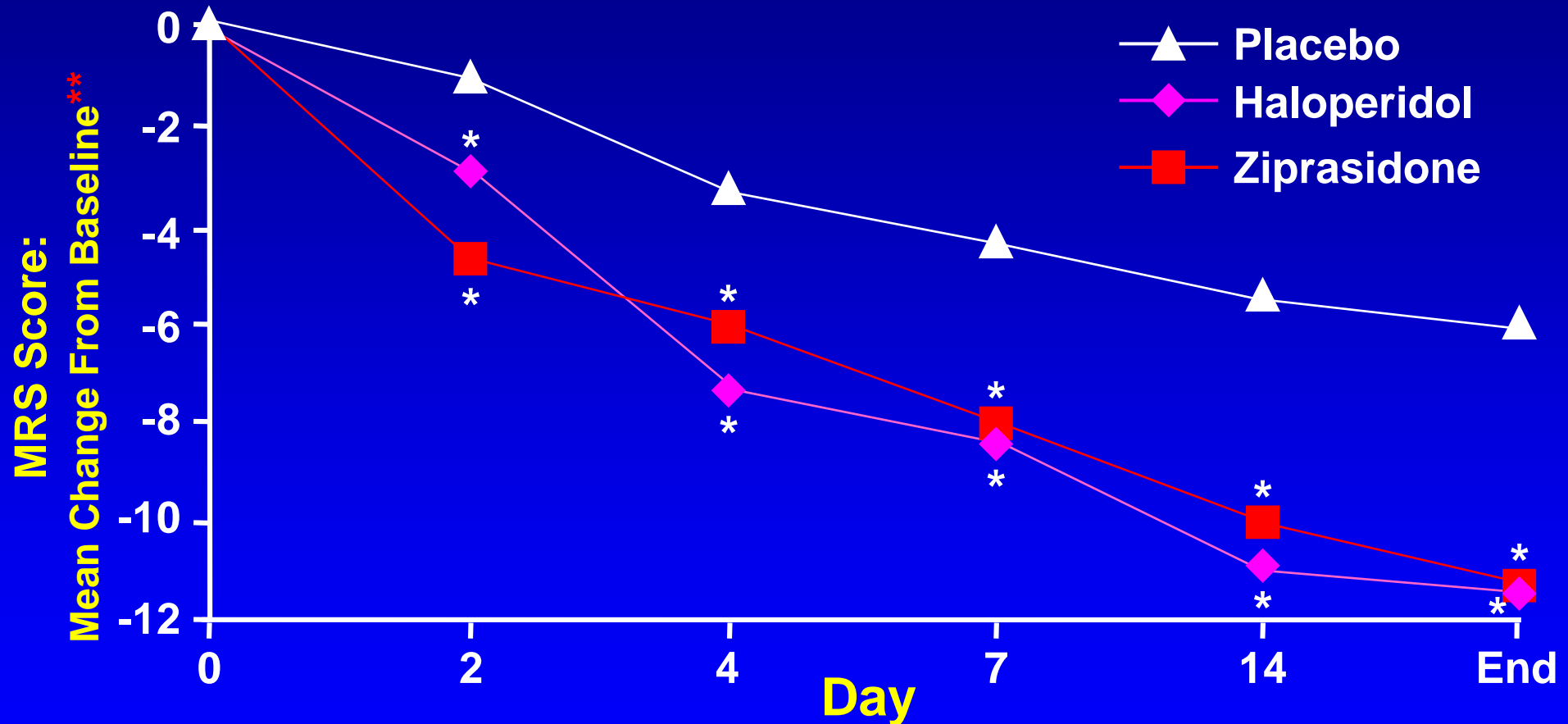
Data on file, Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc.

# Risperidone in Mania

## Manic vs. Mixed Episodes



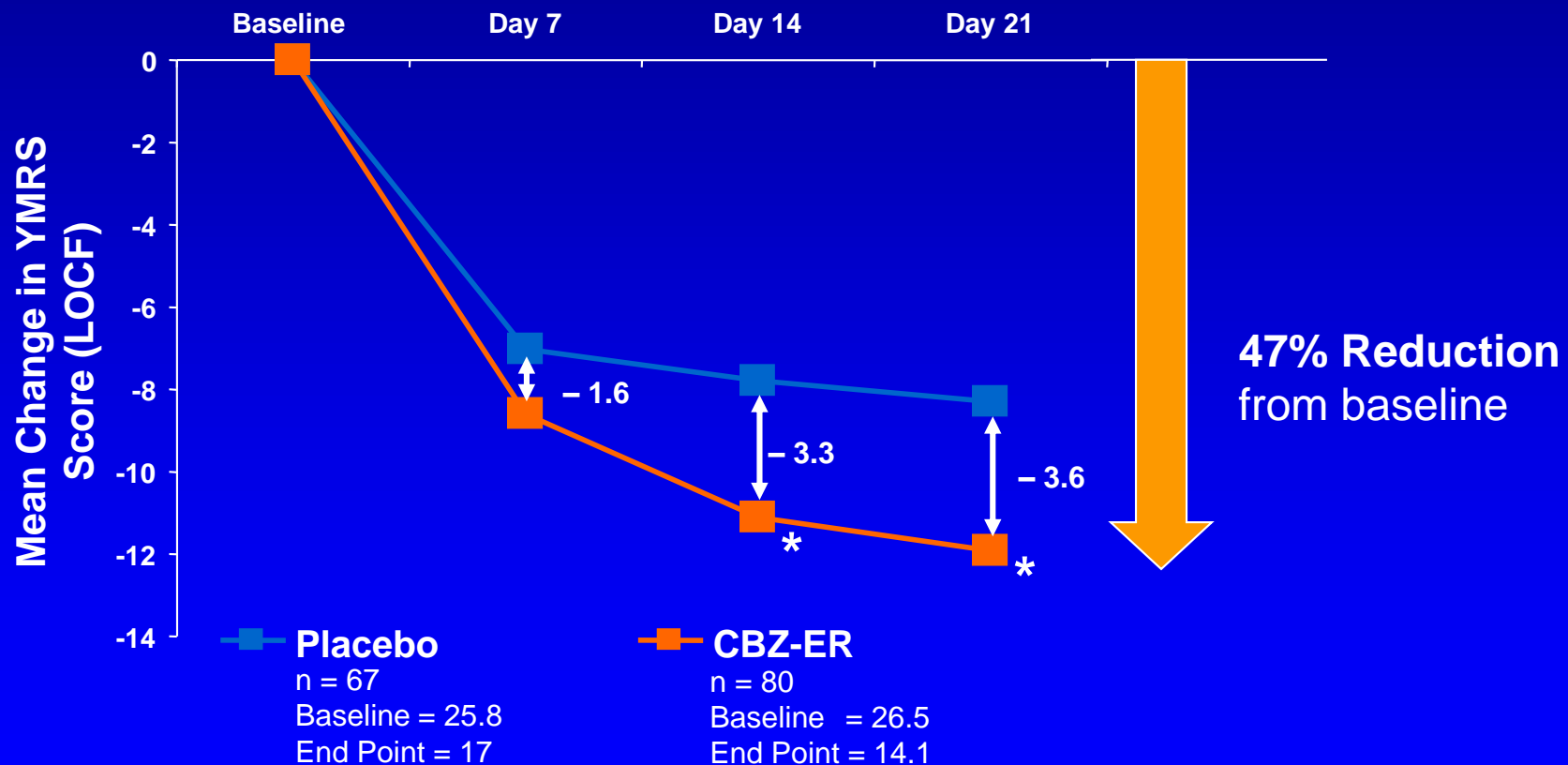
# Ziprasidone in Dysphoric Mania: Mania Rating Scale Score



\*\*The placebo line represents pooled placebo data; *P* values for haloperidol were calculated in comparison to placebo data only from 1 of 3 pooled studies; \**p*<0.001; Zajecka J et al. (2005), Presented at the 158th Annual Meeting of the APA. Atlanta, Georgia; May 2005

# Carbamazepine ER Reduces Manic Symptoms of Mixed Episodes

Pooled Analysis of YMRS Change (Mixed Episodes)<sup>1</sup>



\* $P < .01$  compared to placebo following analysis of covariance with baseline score as covariate.

1. Weisler RH, et al. 17th Annual US Psychiatric & Mental Health Congress; November 18-21, 2004; San Diego, Calif. (Abstract 24).

# **Acute Mania: Monotherapy TIMA Stage IB**

- **Euphoric and mixed**
  - **Olanzapine, carbamazepine ER**
- **Both FDA-approved, why not Stage 1A?**
  - **Complexity of use and/or safety/tolerability**



# **Consensus Development Conference (Weight Gain, Diabetes, Dyslipidemia)**

- **Clozapine, olanzapine**  
**--Increased risk**
- **Quetiapine, risperidone**  
**--Some risk**
- **Aripiprazole, ziprasidone**  
**--Little or no risk**
- **Diabetes Care 2004;27:596-601; J Clin Psychiatry 2004;65:267-272;  
Obesity Research 2004;12:362-368**

# **Carbamazepine-Drug Interactions**

## **An Incomplete Listing**

- **CBZ decreases levels of:**
  - Clonazepam, clozapine, olanzapine, haloperidol, alprazolam, bupropion, oral contraceptives
- **CBZ levels increased by:**
  - Cimetidine, macrolides, fluoxetine, valproate, isoniazid, verapamil, ketoconazole

# Acute Mania: 2-Drug Combos

## TIMA Stage 2

- Lithium, valproate, atypical antipsychotics
- But **not** aripiprazole, clozapine, 2 atypical antipsychotics
- Why not aripiprazole?
  - No combination trials yet
- Why not start at Stage 2?
  - Many clinicians do

# Acute Mania: TIMA

- **Stage 3:** less established 2-drug combinations
- **Stage 4:** ECT, clozapine, 3+ drug combinations, etc.

# **Clozapine for Bipolar Disorder**

- **The ace in the hole**
- **Open label reports of benefit for mania, maintenance, and possibly depression**
- **No double-blind studies**

# Tamoxifen for Acute Mania

**3-week, double-blind, placebo-controlled, n=16**

- **Relatively selective protein kinase C inhibitor**
- **Dose: Start 20 mg/day, range 20 to 140 mg/day**
- **Tamoxifen > placebo on ↓ YMRS from day 5 on.**
- **Response:**

<b>Tamoxifen</b>	<b>63%</b>
<b>Placebo</b>	<b>13%</b>

# Post-Lecture Exam

## Question 1

1. All of the following are FDA-approved for treating acute mania except:
  - a. Carbamazepine
  - b. Clorpromazine
  - c. Clonazepam
  - d. Divalproex
  - e. Aripiprazole

## Question 2

2. A patient with a history of hypomanic episodes and major depressive episodes would receive which DSM-IV diagnosis?
- a. Cyclothymic disorder
  - b. Bipolar NOS
  - c. Bipolar I
  - d. Bipolar II
  - e. Bipolar III



# Question 3

- 3. Which of the following drugs has a recommended starting dose for acute mania of 25 mg/kg/day?**
- a. Divalproex ER**
  - b. Carbamazepine ER**
  - c. Risperidone**
  - d. Divalproex**
  - e. Quetiapine**

## Question 4

4. Why is olanzapine not listed in Stage IA of the TIMA algorithm for acute mania monotherapy?
  - a. Issues about efficacy
  - b. Safety and tolerability
  - c. Cost
  - d. Complexity of use

# Answers to Pre & Post Lecture Exams

1. c

2. d

3. a

4. b