

Psychological issues in pharmacologic management*

- 30-70 % of all pediatric psychiatric prescriptions are not filled or are taken improperly (Joshi, 2006)
- Why is psychological management important?
- Parent issues:
 - Ambivalence re: need for meds or having "caused" the illness
 - Inadequate parental surveillance of adherence
 - misunderstanding of doses, serum levels, and onset of effects
 - Internet information and misinformation

Psychological issues in pharmacologic management*

- All of our actions have meaning to the patient and family
 - What language do we use to explain the theoretical nature of their child's illness?
- Many patients (esp teens) attach meaning to the medication itself
- Once taken, it b/c psychologically incorporated into the patient's view of himself/herself, and can change their sense of identity
- The meaning and significance of a drug can affect the way patients view the drug, the prescriber, and themselves (*Lieberman & Tasman, 2000*)

Conclusions

- ***Remember that all of our actions have potential meaning to the patient, from the pens we write with, to the language used to explain about mental illness, to the way we offer realistic hope for the future***

Question 1

- Which of the listed disorders is the most common co-morbidity with ADHD in children?
 - A-Learning disorders in Math
 - B-Learning disorders in expressive language
 - C-Oppositional defiant disorder
 - D-Separation anxiety disorder
 - E-Gender Identity Disorder of Childhood

Question 2

- Which of the following adverse events have been reported with atomoxetine in adults?
 - A-Sexual side effects
 - B-Stevens-Johnson syndrome
 - C-Bradycardia
 - D-Hypotension
 - E-None of the above

Question 3

- A diagnosis of ADHD in adults must include?
 - A- Retrospective history of ADHD symptoms before the age of 7-12 years
 - B- History of school failure
 - C- History of motor vehicle accidents
 - D- History of failed multiple marriages
 - E- History of substance abuse

Question 4

- Which of the following statements about bupropion is true?
 - A-It should not be used in youth with a history of seizure disorder
 - B-It should not be used in youth with a history of eating disorder
 - C-It can be associated with serum sickness
 - D-it has off-label use for ADHD
 - E-All of the above

Question 5

- Which 2 of the following instruments are useful in diagnosing adult ADHD?
 - A-CAARS
 - B-CARS
 - C-BAARS
 - D-WRAADS
 - E-CARBS

Answers

- 1-c
- 2-a
- 3-a
- 4-e
- 5-a, d

Resources:

- www.schwablearning.org
- www.chadd.org
- www.add.org
- Parents Helping Parents (www.php.com)
- NAMI (www.nami.org)
- www.whatmeds.com
- www.aacap.org (Amer Acad of Child & Adol Psychiatry: Facts for Families)
- www.parentsmedguide.org (antidepressants)

Resources

- Kaye DL, et al: Child and Adolescent Mental Health; 2003; Philadelphia: Lippincott
excellent guide for both medical and non-medical providers, about the cost and size of the Harriet Lane Handbook
- Wilens, Timothy: Straight Talk about Psychiatric Medications for Kids, revised edition, Guilford Press, 2004
well-written and recently revised; among the best medication resources for parents, teachers, nurses, and therapists
- Steiner, Hans (ed.): Handbook of Mental Health Interventions in Children and Adolescents: An Integrated Developmental Approach, 2004; SF, Jossey-Bass
excellent evidence-based text for working with children, families, & systems

Resources

- **Connors (CPRS, CAAARS) rating scales may be obtained through Multi-Health Systems (along with instructions for scoring): 908 Niagara Falls Blvd., North Tonawanda, NY 14120-2060, (800) 456-3003.**
- **Wender-Reimherr Adult ADD Scale can be obtained through <http://www.add-pediatrics.com/add/wender.html>**
 - **Ref- Ward MF, Wender PH, Reimherr FW: The Wender Utah Rating Scale: an aid in the retrospective diagnosis of childhood attention deficit hyperactivity disorder *Am J Psychiatry*. 1993 Jun;150(6):885-90.**
- **Golstein S & Ellison AT: Clinician's Guide to Adult ADHD, 2002; London, Academic Press**
- **Barkley RA: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: A Handbook for Diagnosis and Treatment, 3rd Ed. 2007; NY, Guilford**

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- Slides 21 and 22 are courtesy of H. Brent Solvason, MD, PhD
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 - **Revision and update of the above in Pliszka et al. : JAACAP. 2006 Jun;45(6):642-57**
- Pliszka SR, and the AACAP Work Grp on Quality Issues: Practice parameter for the assessment and treatment of children and adolescents with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder. *J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry*. 2007 Jul;46(7):894-921

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