What's New in Psychopharmacology

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Objectives:

Identify advances in clinical assessment and management of selected healthcare issues related to persons with developmental disabilities

Notes:
What’s New in Psychopharmacology

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The Right Door for Hope, Recovery and Wellness
Wedgwood Christian Services
Turning Leaf Behavioral Health Services
Community Mental Health Authority - CEI

Nuedexta

• A new medication for pseudobulbar affect (PBA)

• Pseudobulbar Affect:
  • Frequent, uncontrollable outbursts of crying or laughing in people with certain neurologic conditions or brain injuries
  • Episodes may occur several times per day and can last seconds to minutes
  • “emotional incontinence”
  • “pathological laughing and crying”

ADHD Medications

• Stimulants
  • Adzenys XR-ODT (amphetamine extended release oral dissolving tablet)
  • Quillichief XR (methylphenidate extended release liquid)
  • Daytrana (methylphenidate transdermal)

• Non-Stimulants
  • Clonidine (Catapres / Kapvay)
  • Guanfacine (Tenex / Intuniv)
  • Strattera (atomoxetine)

Antidepressants

• SSRIs
  • Brintellix (vortioxetine)
  • Viibryd (vilazodone)

• SNRIs
  • Fetzima (levomilnacipran)
  • Pristiq (desvenlafaxine)

Antipsychotics

• Abilify Maintena & Aristada (aripiprazole)
  • Every 4 weeks or Every 4-6 weeks

• Invega Sustenna & Invega Trinza (paliperidone)
  • Every 4 weeks or Every 3 months

• Rexulti (brexipiprazole)

Blood Pressure Medications

• What’s Old is New
  • Propranolol (Inderal)
    • Communication in ASD

• Prazosin (Minipress)
  • Reduction of trauma-related nightmares
**Back to Something New**

- Nuedexta for pseudobulbar affect (PBA)
  - (dextromethorphan/quinidine)
- Originally developed with goal of treating ALS
- Center for Neurologic Study – Lability Scale (CNS-LS) for pseudobulbar affect (PBA)

**CNS-LS for PBA**

- 7 Item Questionnaire
- Validated for ALS and MS
- 7 Items scored 1,2,3,4,5
  - 1 – Applies Never
  - 2 – Applies Rarely
  - 3 – Applies Occasionally
  - 4 – Applies Frequently
  - 5 – Applies Most of the Time
- Range is 7 to 35 with >13 suggesting PBA

**CNS-LS for PBA**

1. There are times when I feel fine 1 minute, and then I’ll become tearful the next over something small or for no reason at all.
   - 1 – Applies Never
   - 2 – Applies Rarely
   - 3 – Applies Occasionally
   - 4 – Applies Frequently
   - 5 – Applies Most of the Time

2. Others have told me that I seem to become amused very easily or that I seem to become amused about things that are really aren’t funny.
   - 1 – Applies Never
   - 2 – Applies Rarely
   - 3 – Applies Occasionally
   - 4 – Applies Frequently
   - 5 – Applies Most of the Time

3. I find myself crying very easily.
   - 1 – Applies Never
   - 2 – Applies Rarely
   - 3 – Applies Occasionally
   - 4 – Applies Frequently
   - 5 – Applies Most of the Time

4. I find that even when I try to control my laughter, I am often unable to do so.
   - 1 – Applies Never
   - 2 – Applies Rarely
   - 3 – Applies Occasionally
   - 4 – Applies Frequently
   - 5 – Applies Most of the Time
CNS-LS for PBA

• 5 – These are times when I won’t be thinking of anything happy or funny at all, but then I’ll suddenly be overcome by funny or happy thoughts.

• 1 – Applies Never
• 2 – Applies Rarely
• 3 – Applies Occasionally
• 4 – Applies Frequently
• 5 – Applies Most of the Time

• 6 – I find that even when I try to control my crying, I am often unable to do so.

• 1 – Applies Never
• 2 – Applies Rarely
• 3 – Applies Occasionally
• 4 – Applies Frequently
• 5 – Applies Most of the Time

CNS-LS for PBA

• 7 – I find that I am easily overcome by laughter.

• 1 – Applies Never
• 2 – Applies Rarely
• 3 – Applies Occasionally
• 4 – Applies Frequently
• 5 – Applies Most of the Time

PBA

• PBA: A condition to consider

• Nuedexta: A medication to consider

References


• https://www.nuedexta.com/do-i-have-pba-assessment