

EPP0955

Does risperidone seem safe in patients with antipsychotic-induced leukoneutropenia? Case report

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Introduction: Antipsychotic-related hematological abnormalities have been reported in the literature, but remain a rare complication of some second-generation antipsychotic drugs. It has been suggested that risperidone is the preferred alternative when adverse hematological effects have been induced by conventional antipsychotic drugs. Blood dyscrasia adverse reactions have been reported rarely with risperidone.

Objectives: We aim to call attention to leukopenia as a potential side effect of during treatment with risperidone.

Methods: We report a case in which a patient developed leukoneutropenia during treatment with risperidone

Results: A 46-year-old man was admitted to psychiatric department for aggressive behavior. The patient had a history of right bundle branch block and has been diagnosed with schizophrenia at age of 36 years. This patient had only one psychiatric hospitalization in 2021 where he developed persistent leuko-neutropenia. A viral cause was retained. The patient was discharged on risperidone 4 mg and had been poorly compliant with his antipsychotic medication for the last year.

Currently, the patient was excited, very talkative and refused medication. He received an intramuscular injection of haloperidol 10 mg and chlorpromazine 50 mg. Under these doses, the patient became sedated and his balance sheet showed a leukoneutropenia amounting to 1960 cells/mm³. Then, it was decided to stop chlorpromazine and Haloperidol and put the patient on Diazepam. A complete blood count was done the next day showing that his white Blood Cells (WBC) count went up to 4360 cells/mm³ (neutrophils rate = 62,4 %). The reintroduction of haloperidol with diazepam caused the WBC to fall back to 2000. Haloperidol stopped as a possible cause of the leucopenia. The patient started taking risperidone orally 1 mg daily, which was gradually up titrated to 4 mg daily. Two weeks later the WBC went up to 4680 cells/mm³ (neutrophil rate = 60,4%) three week after stopping haloperidol. However, three days after increasing the dose of risperidone to 5 mg the leukoneutropenia recurred, (WBC = 2960 cells/mm³, neutrophil rate = 41%). When risperidone was reduced to 4 mg, his WBC count remained stable for two weeks (WBC = 2970, neutrophil rate = 48,9%). Clinically, the patient is no longer excited.

Conclusions: Risperidone-induced leuko-neutropenia (RILN) is very unusual and its incidence rate is unknown. Currently, there are no evidence-based alternative antipsychotic recommendations for RILN. For the case presented here, we achieved stabilisation of RILN by dose reduction.

Routine monitoring of the WBC level of patients on risperidone treatment, regardless of their hematological baseline, might be good practice for all psychiatrists. We recommend extending this practice to inpatient and outpatient services.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

COVID-19 and related topics 08

EPP0957

Consultation trends in patients admitted to a Psychiatric Emergency Service before and during COVID-19 pandemic

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Introduction: The COVID-19 outbreak had significant implications worldwide, including mental health. Consultations in the Emergency Service of the Hospital Clinic of Barcelona varied in terms of reasons for consultations, psychopathology, and other aspects, before and during the pandemic.

Objectives: This study aims to assess differences in the profile of patients admitted within the last three years to the Psychiatric Emergency Service of a third-level hospital, in order to analyze variations in the number of patients visited, diagnoses and admissions throughout the different seasons.

Methods: All adults admitted from 2019 to 2021 to the Psychiatric Emergency Service of Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, Spain, were retrospectively included for analysis and divided into three groups depending on the year they attended the Emergency Service. SPSS v25.0 and R statistics were used in order to compare differences between groups.

Results: A total of 13677 adult individuals who attended the psychiatric emergency service of Hospital Clinic of Barcelona between 2019 and 2021 were included in the analysis. 4814 patients were visited in 2019, 4007 in 2020 and 4856 in 2021. The majority of patients were male (50.1%), with a mean age of 40.47 years (SD 15.83). In terms of acute admission rates, 24.6% of the total sample were hospitalized in an acute psychiatric unit, whereas in the spring of 2020, 34.3% of patients attending the Emergency Service were hospitalized. This revealed significant differences when compared with spring of 2019 and 2021 and with the rest of seasons ($p < 0.05$). With regard to suicide attempts and intentional poisonings, significant differences were only observed between winter of 2019, with the lowest rate, and autumn of 2020, with the highest proportion. In spring of 2019, the lowest rate of patients attending with suicidal ideation was observed,

which showed significant differences compared to winter of 2020, spring of 2021, summer of 2021 and autumn of 2021 ($p < 0.05$). Also, statistically significant differences between winter of 2019 and summer of 2021 and also between summer of 2019 and summer of 2021 were observed, with the highest rate in the last one. No significant differences were observed in rates of patients with severe mental disorders visited.

Conclusions: The COVID-19 pandemic and the situation of lockdown lead to an overall reduction in the overall consultations to the Emergency Service, being this reduction non-significant in patients with severe mental disorders, such as psychotic disorders. In addition, our study shows a decrease in consultations with suicidal ideation in summer of 2019 and a significant increase in summer of 2021. In contrast, an increased tendency in suicide attempts was not observed.

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EPP0958

COVID-19-related stress in Italy: a comparison between patients with mental disorders and the general population

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Introduction: Following the surge of the COVID-19 pandemic, some people have been experiencing severe mental health consequences related to pandemic stress, fear of contagion, lockdown, and measures to avoid contagion and virus spread. These aspects contributed to an increase in anxious-depressive symptoms in the general population (Asmundson *et al.* J Anx Dis 2020; 70 102196).

Objectives: The study aims at verifying the hypothesis that Italian patients with a diagnosis of a mental disorder showed more severe depressive, anxiety and stress-related symptoms compared to the general Italian population in the context of the current pandemic.

Methods: Nine hundred sixty-one volunteer subjects (542 females, 415 males; mean age 39.42, SD = 14.5) completed the Covid-Stress-Scale (CSS) (Taylor *et al.* J Anx Dis 2020; 72 102232) and the Depression-Anxiety-Stress Scales-21 (DASS-21) (Bottesi *et al.* Compr Psych 2015; 60 170-81) through a self-report survey. Participants have been assessed for between-group differences through the chi-square test for categoric variables and one-way ANOVA for continuous variables.

Results: One hundred and thirty subjects (13.53% of the whole sample) reported a diagnosis of a mental disorder for which they received medications. Among these subjects, 47.8% reported a diagnosis of anxiety disorder, 29% major depressive disorder, 2.7% bipolar disorder, and 20.4% other mental disorders. Among patients, there was a prevalence of females (chi-square = 15.84; $p < 0.001$), more severe depressive ($F = 34.25$; $p < 0.001$), anxiety ($F = 46.15$; $p < 0.001$), and stress-related symptoms ($F = 39.38$; $p < 0.001$) at the DASS-21 scale. The patient group also showed a tendency to more severe traumatic stress related to the pandemic

($F = 3.64$; $p = 0.057$) at factor IV of the CSS, without significant differences in the other factors of the CSS.

Conclusions: The hypothesis is partially confirmed, considering that patients showed more severe depressive, anxiety and stress-related symptoms and a tendency to more severe pandemic traumatic stress. Nevertheless, in all other pandemic-related symptoms we analyzed (i.e., xenophobia, increase of medical assessments, fear of contagion), there were no differences between the group of patients and the general population. In this sense, in the current scenario in Italy, symptoms directly related to pandemic stress are almost the same in both the general population and patients with mental disorders.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPP0959

Assessment of COVID-19 Anxiety Levels and Attitudes to COVID-19 Vaccine Among Pregnant Women in Poland

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Introduction: Approximately 15% of all pregnant women experience emotional changes that increase the risk of anxiety and depression, which can in turn adversely affect their health and their developing fetuses. There are literature reports indicating a significantly higher prevalence of anxiety and depressive symptoms in pregnant women during the COVID-19 pandemic than before the pandemic; however, their exact prevalence is currently unknown.

Objectives: The aim of this study was to analyse and assess the prevalence of COVID-19 anxiety symptoms and to investigate the attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccination among pregnant women in Poland.

Methods: The study included 288 women at different stages of pregnancy as the study group and 307 women of reproductive age (18-49 years) as the control group. A total of 595 women participated in the study. The study used a diagnostic survey method with a web-based questionnaire consisting of the author's survey questionnaire and the following standardised tools: the Scale to Measure the Perception of SARS-CoV-2 Vaccines Acceptance (VAC-COVID-19 SCALE), the Fear of COVID-19 Scale (FCV-19S), the Drivers of COVID-19 Vaccination Acceptance Scale (DrVac-COVID19S) and the Coronavirus Anxiety Scale (CAS).

Results: According to 25% of the study group and 42% of the control group, vaccination was safe and necessary, while 10% of pregnant women and 8% of women of reproductive age believed that the vaccine was dangerous. We found statistically significant differences between the groups for CAS ($p = 0.025$), DrVac-COVID19S ($p = 0.00$) or VAC-COVID-19 ($p = 0.00$). From the results, it can be seen that pregnant women scored significantly lower. Furthermore, both pregnant women and controls showed a high level of vaccine acceptance and positive attitudes towards it. The mean VAC-COVID-19 score was 44.26 in the control group