

115 An Experimental Study to Assess the Professional and Social Consequences of Mild-to-Moderate Tardive Dyskinesia

Rajeev Ayyagari, PhD¹; Debbie Goldschmidt, PhD²; Fan Mu, PhD³; Stanley N. Caroff, MD⁴; and Benjamin Carroll, PharmD⁵

¹Vice President, Analysis Group, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts

²Manager, Analysis Group, Inc., New York, New York

³Manager, Analysis Group, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts

⁴Corporal Michael J. Crescenz VA Medical Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA; Department of Psychiatry, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

⁵Director, Austedo® HEOR Lead, Teva Pharmaceuticals, Frazer, Pennsylvania

ABSTRACT: Study Objective: To Evaluate the impact of mild-to-moderate orofacial tardive dyskinesia (TD) symptoms on the people and social lives of people with TD.

BACKGROUND: TD, a movement disorder affecting the face and extremities, may arise in patients taking antipsychotics. The impact of stigma on the professional and social lives of people with moderate-to-severe TD was previously examined, but has not been investigated in those with mild-to-moderate TD.

METHODS: This study is an experimental, randomized digital survey of a general population sample. Three component surveys corresponding to employment, dating, and friendship domains were adopted from a prior study. For each domain, participants were randomized 1:1 into either a test group (who viewed a video of a scripted interview with an actor depicting mild-to-moderate TD movements) or a control group (who viewed the same actor but without TD movements) and asked about their impressions of the video subject. Actor simulations of the TD symptoms were validated by physicians familiar with TD and rehearsed to simulate orofacial movements with a total Abnormal Involuntary Movement Scale (AIMS) score of 3–6. Statistical comparison was made using Wilcoxon signed-rank or chi-squared tests for continuous and categorical variables.

RESULTS: A total of 800 respondents completed each survey. In all domains, respondents had more negative perceptions of actors portraying mild-to-moderate TD movements than of the same actors without movements. For employment, 41% fewer respondents in the test group versus the control group agreed that the actor would be suitable for client-facing jobs ($P < 0.001$). For dating, the proportions of respondents who agreed that they would like to continue talking to the actor and who

would be interested in meeting them for a coffee/drink were 23.2% and 26.0% lower, respectively, in the test group than in the control group ($P < 0.001$). For friendship, the proportions of respondents who rated the actor as interesting and who would be interested in friendship with them were 13.0% and 12.2% lower in the test group than in the control group ($P < 0.001$).

CONCLUSIONS: This study addresses the stigma faced by those with mild-to-moderate TD in professional and social situations. Consistent with previous results for moderate-to-severe TD, actors simulating mild-to-moderate orofacial TD movements were perceived to be less likely to move forward in a job interview, be considered as a potential romantic partner, or be a new friend. Funding Acknowledgements: This study was funded by Teva Pharmaceuticals, Petach Tikva, Israel.

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ABSTRACT: Study Objective: Evaluate the impact of orofacial tardive dyskinesia (TD) symptoms on the professional and social lives of patients with TD.

BACKGROUND: TD, a movement disorder affecting the face and extremities, may arise in patients taking antipsychotics. The impact of social stigma on the professional and social lives of patients with orofacial manifestations of TD has not been thoroughly examined.

METHODS: This study is an experimental, randomized digital survey of a general population sample. Three component surveys were developed, corresponding to employment, dating, and friendship domains. For each domain, participants were randomized 1:1 into either a test group (who viewed a video of a scripted interview with a standardized patient actor depicting TD movements) or a control group (who viewed the same actors but without TD movements), and asked about their impressions of the video subject. Actor simulations were