

Long-acting injectable aripiprazole: sample of 26 outpatients treated with this antipsychotic in two Community Mental Health Services in Barcelona

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Introduction

Long-acting injectable (LAI) formulations of antipsychotics are treatment alternatives to oral agents (1). They offer a reliable option for reducing rehospitalisation or treatment failure (2). LAI aripiprazole is an alternative to the oral drug approved for the treatment of schizophrenia in 2013 (3).

Objectives

The aim of this study is to describe the clinical and sociodemographic characteristics of a sample of outpatients treated with LAI aripiprazole.

Methods

Retrospective study of patients treated with LAI aripiprazole in two Community Mental Health Services in May 2017. The following variables were studied: sociodemographic characteristics, diagnosis, years since diagnosis, LAI aripiprazole dose and concomitant oral treatment.

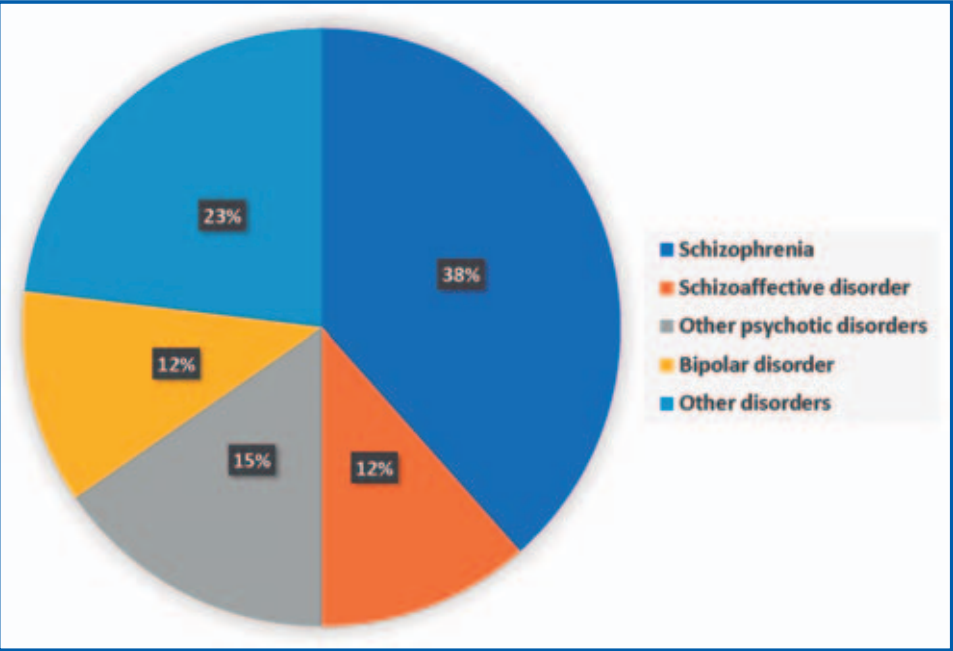
Results

A total of 26 patients were studied. The clinical and sociodemographic characteristics are shown in table 1. Figure 1 shows the different diagnostic groups. 61.5% were on antipsychotic monotherapy with aripiprazole.

Table 1. Clinical and sociodemographic characteristics

Variables	Results
Age (average)	36,23 years
Sex	
Men	18 (69.2%)
Women	8 (30.8%)
Years since diagnosis (average)	6,9 years
Monthly dose (average)	376,92 mg
Oral concomitant treatment	
Antipsychotics	10 (38.5%)
With other psychoactive drugs	15 (57.7%)

Figure 1. Classification according to diagnosis



Discussion

The clinical profile is characterized by young men with a recent diagnosis. In 62% of cases medication was prescribed for off-label purposes, mainly schizoaffective and bipolar I disorder. This could imply that indications for using LAI aripiprazole might be expanded to other diagnoses. Due to the small sample no statistical inferences can be made.

Bibliography

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