

The USF Psychiatry Department
in cooperation with
The Carter–Jenkins Center
presents



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HIV- Related Mood Disorders

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**PRESIDENT (2006-2007)
AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION**

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WORLD PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION**

Overview

- Mood disorders are the most frequent psychiatric complications associated with HIV disease
- Mood disorders may be secondary to HIV complications or its treatment
- Multiple effective therapeutic strategies are available to manage the psychiatric complications of HIV-mood disorders
- Suicide risk is elevated across the trajectory of HIV disease

Probable Risk Factors for Depression in HIV

- Personal history of prior mood disorders
- Personal history of alcoholism, substance use, suicide attempt, anxiety disorders
- Family history of the above conditions
- Current alcohol or drug use
- Inadequate social support

Probable Risk Factors for Depression in HIV (Cont'd)

- Non-disclosure of HIV status
- Multiple losses
- Advancing illness
- Treatment failure (or success)

Affective vs. Somatic Symptoms

AFFECTIVE

- Depressed mood
- Loss of interest
- Guilt, worthlessness
- Hopelessness
- Suicidal ideation

SOMATIC

- Appetite/Weight loss
- Sleep disturbances
- Agitation/retardation
- Fatigue
- Loss of concentration

Agents Used for Depression in Patients with HIV

- Antidepressants
 - Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs)
 - Novel antidepressants
 - Tricyclic Antidepressants (TCAs)
- Psychostimulants
- Hormonal treatment

Antidepressants

- SSRIs: All are equally effective, no change on CD4 count
 - Fluoxetine (10-60 mg/day)
 - Highly protein bound, long half-life, inhibits 2D6
 - Paroxetine (10-40 mg/day)
 - Highly protein bound, induces its own metabolism, most potent inhibitor of 2D6
 - Sertraline (25-200 mg/day)
 - High protein bound, shortest half life of all SSRIs
 - Citalopram (20-40 mg/day)
 - Least protein bound and least P-450 affinity of all SSRIs

Antidepressants (Cont'd)

- Novel antidepressants
 - Bupropion (75 - 150 mg bid)
 - Avoid in persons with advanced HIV or dementia
 - Nefazodone (50 - 200 mg bid)
 - Highly protein bound, 3A4 significant interactions (ketoconazole, protease inhibitors)
 - Venlafaxine (75 - 150 mg bid)
 - Low protein binding, low affinity for P-450
 - Mirtazapine (7.5 - 45 mg)
 - Low affinity for P-450, sedating, weight gain

Potential Useful Properties of Tricyclic Antidepressants

- Anti-diarrhea
- Weight gain
- Sedation
- Anti-nausea
- Anti-anxiety
- Anti-neuropathic pain
- Meaningful therapeutic blood levels

Psychostimulants

- Methylphenidate and dextroamphetamine
- Often useful in depression among medically ill patients (adult equivalent of failure to thrive)
- Ameliorates mild cognitive dysfunctions
- Use with caution in patients with seizures
- Avoid in psychotically ill patients
- Most helpful in patients with significant fatigue

Psychostimulants (Cont'd)

- Try antidepressants first
 - Early HIV disease
 - Previous history of depression
 - No cognitive impairment
 - History of substance abuse
- Try psychostimulants first
 - Mid to late HIV disease
 - Depression coexisting with cognitive impairment
 - Significant fatigue
 - Cognitive impairment whether or not depression is present

Hormonal Treatment

- Testosterone
- Dehydroandrosterone (DHEA)

Antidepressant Studies: Psychotherapy and Medication

- Interpersonal therapy (46% response)
- Cognitive behavioral therapy (30%)
- Supportive therapy + imipramine (50%)
- Supportive therapy (20%)
- Group + fluoxetine (64%) vs group + placebo (48%)

Psychotherapies

- Insight-oriented
- Interpersonal therapy
- Cognitive behavioral
- Supportive
- Group/family/couples
- Combination of the above

Common Themes in Psychotherapy with HIV Patients

- **Loss**
- **Anger**
- **Control issues (decision making)**
- **Death and dying**
- **Impact on partners, children, etc.**
- **Fear (rejection, dependency, dementia, pain)**
- **Disclosure of HIV**

Common Themes in Psychotherapy with HIV Patients (Cont'd)

- **Sexuality**
- **Spirituality**
- **Guilt, regret**
- **Low self-esteem, self-criticism**
- **Stigma and discrimination**
- **Suicide**
 - **Rational vs impulsive**
 - **Physician assisted**

Inpatient Care

- **Suicide risk**
- **Inability to care for self at home**
- **Need to start pharmacotherapy in a controlled environment**
- **Medically frail person**
- **History of bipolar disease with rapid cycling**

Electroconvulsive Treatment

- Used successfully in HIV infected individuals
- May be especially useful for patients who are too medically ill to tolerate antidepressants, severely suicidal patients, psychotic patients or treatment resistance patients
- May be associated with increased confusion
- Worse in the presence of coexisting CNS diseases

Treatment of HIV Related Mania

- **Lithium carbonate**
 - **Poorly tolerated**
 - **Monitor closely for neurotoxicity and GI side-effects**
 - **Serum levels may easily change due to diarrhea or poor fluid intake**
 - **HIV nephropathy**

Treatment of HIV Related Mania (Cont'd)

- **Valproic acid**
 - **Effective**
 - **Edged out lithium in patients with organic mania**
 - **Fewer GI side effects**
 - **May need to monitor liver functions more often**
 - **Co-administration with zidovudine will raise zidovudine levels**
 - **Recent reports of increase viral replication worrisome**

Treatment of HIV Related Mania (Cont'd)

- Carbamazepine
 - Elevated risk of pancytopenia in HIV infected patients receiving marrow toxic therapies
 - Must check CBC weekly when given concomitantly with zidovudine
 - Induces its own metabolism via induction of hepatic enzyme system
 - May decrease its own levels as well as that of other drugs

Treatment of HIV Related Mania (Cont'd)

- **Clonazepam**
 - Often effective as second or third agent for added stabilization
 - Relatively safe
 - Caution with protease inhibitors
 - May decrease its effectiveness
 - Good adjuvant for sleep disturbance in acute mania

Treatment of HIV Related Mania (Cont'd)

- **Gabapentin**
 - Up to 900 mg bid (1800/day maximum)
 - Effective as other agents
 - Excellent with patients who also suffer from neuropathy
- **Lamotrogine and topiramate**
 - No reports

Treatment of HIV Related Mania (Cont'd)

- Neuroleptics
 - Caution is warranted with traditional neuroleptics
 - HIV patients extremely sensitive to side effects
 - Severe Parkinsonism (in some cases irreversible)
 - Low potency neuroleptics: anticholinergic effects may worsen cognitive dysfunction
 - High potency neuroleptics: increased incidence of neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
 - Atypicals (olanzepine, risperidone)
 - All tried with good results

Risk Factors

- Prior attempt
- African American, Hispanic Men
- Ages 25-54
- Personal/Family history of suicide attempts
- Family history of psychiatric disorders
- History of psychiatric disorders
- History of drug/alcohol abuse or dependence
- Higher levels of distress, hopelessness

Suicide Risk Factors (Cont'd)

- Presence of more HIV symptoms
- Multiple losses
 - Including loss of employment and insurance
- Lack of social support
- Conflicts around sexual orientation
- Poorly controlled pain
- Stage of HIV disease
- Presence of cognitive dysfunction

Completed Suicide

- There is a increased rate of completed suicides in AIDS patients compared to other populations
- Studies have demonstrated 3-6 fold increase in this population
- Since development of antiretroviral treatment, suicide rates are only moderately elevated and comparable to other medical illnesses

Summary

- Mood disorders are the most frequent psychiatric complication associated with HIV disease
- Mood disorders may be secondary to HIV complications or its treatment
- Suicide risk could be elevated across the trajectory of HIV disease

Summary (Cont'd)

- Multiple effective therapeutic strategies are available to manage the psychiatric complications of HIV-mood disorders
- Timely treatment of mood disorders may slow progression of cognitive impairments and enhance the quality of life
- Aggressive treatment of any mood disorder or other psychiatric conditions should be offered to the patient as psychiatric disorders profoundly impact patients' decisions regarding treatment

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