

These are some notes that were taken during the rounds and lectures, hope they will benefit in the exam

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GOODLUCK



## Anti Psychotics

Q.1: Which drug is used in refractory schizophrenia?

A.1: Clozapine “atypical”

Q.2: What is the most important S.E of clozapine?

A.2: Agranulocytosis “that’s why we should check the WBC on a weekly basis and if the WBC drops below 3000 stop the drug immediately.

Q.3: What other S.Es clozapine cause?!

A.3: 1) Weight gain.

2) Decrease seizure threshold.

3) Hyper salivation.

4) Myocarditis.

Q.4: Which anti-psychotics can be given in an injectable form for a non-compliant patient?

A.4: 1) Haloperidol Decanoate. IM (typical)

2) Fluphenazine Decanoate. IM (typical)

3) Risperidone (atypical)

Q.5: What are the S.Es of typical anti-psychotics?

A.5: 1) Extrapyramidal:

a) Acute dystonia -----treated by-----> Benztropine (anticholinergic).

b) Akathisia -----treated by-----> Beta blockers.

c) Parkinsonism (mask face, rigidity, tremor).

d) Tardive dyskinesia (late) -----> switch to clozapine immediately since it is irreversible.

2) Hyperprolactinemia (amenorrhea, gynecomastia, impotence and decreased libido).

3) Neuro malignant syndrome ‘Emergency’

Can happen anytime after starting treatment.

Give: Dantrolene (muscle relaxant).

Bromocriptine (dopamine agonist).

Q.6: What are Olanzapine “atypical” S.Es?

A.6: 1) Weight gain.

2) Sedation.

3) Sexual dysfunction.

- there are other S.E's as dyslipidemia and glucose intolerance; that's why it contributes to metabolic syndrome (diabetes type II etc... so it is preferable to check for fasting glucose test).

Note: the only two atypical drugs that do not cause increase in weight are Ziprasidone and Aripiprazole; that's why we can use them in obese patients.

## Anti Depressants

- almost all anti-depressant are equal in effectiveness.

\* TCAs: (Imipramine and Amitryptaline)

- many side effects.

- contraindicated in glaucoma patient since they increase intraocular pressure.

- lethal in overdose (look for suicidal thoughts or attempts) “anti-dote: sodium bicarbonate IV”.

- S.Es: 1) Weight gain.

2) Sedation.

3) Dry mouth.

4) Blurred vision.

5) Constipation, etc....

- Imipramine can be used in children with nocturnal enuresis.

- Amitryptaline: due to high sedative effect can be used in agitated patients or any neuropathic pain.

- Avoid drug in patients with pre-existing cardiac conduction problem.

\* SSRIs: (memorize all 6 drugs).

- Less side effects.

- Safer than TCA's.

- Also used in OCD, Anorexia nervosa, premenstrual dysphoric disorder.

- S.Es: 1) Headache and dizziness.

2) Akathesia.

3) GI upset (common).

4) Insomnia.

5) Sexual dysfunction (late).

## 6) Anorexia, Weight loss.

- When switching from SSRIs to MAOIs; leave a gap of two weeks to avoid serotonin syndrome, in fluoxetine leave a gap of three to six weeks.

### \* MAOIs:

- Very effective in refractory depression and refractory panic disorder.
- Be careful with tyramine rich food (hypertensive crisis).
- Be careful with SSRI (serotonin syndrome).

### \* Atypical anti-depressants:

- SNRI -----> Venlafaxine
  - \* effective in refractory depression.
  - \* care must be taken in hypertensive patients (increase blood pressure).
- NRIs -----> Bupropion
  - \* used in aiding smoking cessation.
  - \* also used in ADHD as well as seasonal affective disorder.
  - \* lack of sexual S.E.
- NASA -----> Mirtazapine
  - \* used in refractory MDD especially patients that need to gain weight.
  - \* No sexual S.E.

Q: Patient with sexual dysfunction and you want to give him anti-depressant, what is the drug of choice?

A: Bupropion or Mirtazapine.

## Mood Stabilizers

- used to treat acute mania and prevent relapses of manic episodes.
- Anti-psychotics can be used as adjunct in the treatment of acute manic episodes if the patient showed psychotic features.

### \* Lithium Carbonate:

- drug of choice for treatment of acute mania and as a prophylaxis for both manic and depressive episodes in bipolar disorder.
- narrow therapeutic index 0.7-1.2
  - 1.5 (toxic)
  - 2 (lethal).

- S.Es: 1) Hypothyroidism (monitor TSH regularly).
- 2) Tremor.
- 3) Nephrogenic Diabetes Insipidus (polyurea, polydipsia).
- 4) Teratogenic (becareful if pregnant).
- 5) Gastric ulcer.

\* Carbamazepine (tegretol):

- anti-convulsant.
- used in treating mixed episodes and rapid cycling bipolar disorder.
- also used in trigeminal neuralgia.
- S.Es: 1) Slurred speech.
- 2) Leukopenia.
- 3) Ataxia (in high doses).
- 4) Drowsiness.
- 5) Skin rash (grey complexion).
- 6) Teratogenic.

\* Valproic Acid:

- anti-convulsant.
- not given in children.
- S.Es: 1) Hepatotoxic.
- 2) Thrombocytopenia.
- 3) Hemorrhagic pancreatitis.
- monitor LFT and CBC.

## Anxiolytics

- Used in treatment of anxiety and panic disorders.
- Depress the CNS causing a sedative effect.

\* Benzodiazepines:

- first line treatment of anxiety.
- used for a short duration because of dependence and tolerance.
- 3 groups: 1) long acting (e.g diazepam “valium”).
- 2) intermediate (e.g alprazolam “xanax”).
- 3) short acting (e.g oxazepam).
- benzodiazepines are used in patient with insomnia.
- advantage: safer at high doses than barbiturates.
- lethal if mixed with alcohol (respiratory depression).

- S.E: cause paradoxical effect in elderly patients (agitation, violence, irritability) that's why we give halidol with valium.
- contra-indicated in patient with neuromuscular problem (e.g myasthenia gravis).
- anti-dote: Flumazenide.

\* Buspirone:

- used in GAD "Generalised Anxiety Disorder".
- two to four weeks to have effect (slow action).
- lower potential for dependence and tolerance.
- can be given in alcoholics.

\* Beta Blockers:

- be careful in asthmatic patients.
- treat autonomic effect of panic attacks or performance anxiety such as palpitation, sweating, etc...
- also used in treatment of akathesia.

\* Zolpidem.

\* SNRIs (Venlafaxine).

\* SSRIs.

\* TCAs.

Wish you the best of luck ☺  
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