

APPA 2021 Spring Meeting Medical Student/Resident Poster Presentation

Abstract 21-1-11

Title: A Case of Clozapine-associated Myoclonus and Seizure, in a patient with schizoaffective disorder

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Summary: Clozapine is an atypical antipsychotic that is indicated for partially or fully treatment-resistant schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder.¹ Clozapine is arguably the most efficacious treatment option for treatment-resistant cases; however, this medication is associated with a wide variety of serious side effects including agranulocytosis², myocarditis³, decreased GI motility⁴, and hypersalivation⁵, among others.

With this presentation, we will discuss a case of a 34-year-old female patient with clozapine-associated myoclonus and seizures. This patient carried a past medical history of schizoaffective disorder, bipolar type and an unspecified seizure disorder. She had been trialed on various antipsychotic regimens in the past, including changes in route, dose, and medication. With these trials, she experienced only mild improvement of psychotic symptoms, but continued to have persistent auditory hallucinations, delusions, and prominent negative symptoms.

Prior treatment records displayed no previous trial of clozapine. After consideration of the increased risk of seizure versus potential improvement in psychotic symptoms, a trial of clozapine was agreed upon. Over the course of approximately 10 weeks, clozapine was slowly titrated with simultaneous tapering of other daily antipsychotics. With this medication titration and change, aforementioned side effects began to arise. This case report will further discuss this titration of clozapine, patient's seizure presentation, and the eventual treatment regimen that resulted in optimal control of seizure activity and schizoaffective disorder.

References:

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