TITLE: Short-Acting Intramuscular Olanzapine for Acute Agitation: Clinical and Cost-Effectiveness and Guidelines

DATE: April 24, 2014

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of short-acting intramuscular olanzapine for the treatment of acute agitation associated with bipolar disorder or schizophrenia?

2. What is the cost-effectiveness of short-acting intramuscular olanzapine for the treatment of acute agitation associated with bipolar disorder or schizophrenia?

3. What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding the use of short-acting intramuscular olanzapine for the treatment of acute agitation associated with bipolar disorder or schizophrenia?

KEY MESSAGE

Three non-randomized studies were identified regarding the clinical effectiveness of short-acting intramuscular olanzapine for the treatment of acute agitation associated with bipolar disorder or schizophrenia; no evidence-based guidelines were identified.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, MEDLINE, EMBASE, PsycINFO, The Cochrane Library (2014, Issue 3), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2009 and April 11, 2014. Internet links were provided, where available.
The summary of findings was prepared from the abstracts of the relevant information. Please note that data contained in abstracts may not always be an accurate reflection of the data contained within the full article.

RESULTS

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, economic evaluations, and evidence-based guidelines.

Three non-randomized studies were identified regarding the clinical effectiveness of short-acting intramuscular olanzapine for the treatment of acute agitation associated with bipolar disorder or schizophrenia; one study mentioned cost. No health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, economic evaluations, or evidence-based guidelines were identified.

Additional references of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

OVERALL SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Three non-randomized studies were identified regarding the clinical effectiveness of short-acting intramuscular (SAIM) olanzapine for the treatment of acute agitation associated with bipolar disorder or schizophrenia.

One study\(^1\) comprised only patients with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder. Compared with ziprasidone, patients taking olanzapine had a greater length of hospital stay. The authors reported that second generation SAIM antipsychotics were not associated with a shorter length of stay than treatment with haloperidol, required more injections than haloperidol, and were more costly.

Two studies\(^2,3\) included patients with schizophrenia or bipolar disorder. Results from one study\(^2\) indicated higher response rates with olanzapine compared with other SAIM antipsychotics. The second study\(^3\) found that patients on olanzapine used fewer additional medications and switched to oral medications earlier than patients receiving other SAIM antipsychotics. Both studies\(^2,3\) determined that intramuscular olanzapine resulted in fewer adverse events compared with other SAIM antipsychotics.
REFERENCES SUMMARIZED

Health Technology Assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses
No literature identified.

Randomized Controlled Trials
No literature identified.

Non-Randomized Studies


Economic Evaluations
No literature identified.

Guidelines and Recommendations
No literature identified.

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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Review Articles
