

CADTH RAPID RESPONSE REPORT: REFERENCE LIST

# Antidepressants for Geriatric Patients with Liver Disease and Mood or Anxiety Disorder: Guidelines

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## Research Question

What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding the use of antidepressants in geriatric patients with liver disease and primary mood or anxiety disorder?

## Key Findings

One relevant evidence-based guideline was identified regarding the use of antidepressants in geriatric patients with liver disease and primary mood or anxiety disorder.

## Methods

### Literature Search Methods

A limited literature search was conducted by an information specialist on key resources including MEDLINE, the Cochrane Library, the University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, the websites of Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused internet search. The search strategy was comprised of both controlled vocabulary, such as the National Library of Medicine's MeSH (Medical Subject Headings), and keywords. The main search concepts were antidepressants and geriatric patients with liver disease. Search filters were applied to limit retrieval to health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, or network meta-analyses, and guidelines. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The search was also limited to English language documents published between Jan 1, 2010 and Dec 1, 2020. Internet links were provided, where available.

### Selection Criteria

One reviewer screened literature search results (titles and abstracts) and selected publications according to the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1. Full texts of study publications were not reviewed. Open access full-text versions of evidence-based guidelines were reviewed when abstracts were not available.

**Table 1: Selection Criteria**

<b>Population</b>	Geriatric patients (≥ 65 years of age) in any setting (e.g., home, long-term care, hospital) with liver disease (any type e.g., fibrosis, cirrhosis, liver failure, cancer) and primary mood or anxiety disorder
<b>Interventions</b>	Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) Serotonin and norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs) Norepinephrine-dopamine reuptake inhibitor (NDRIs) Serotonin 2 antagonists /serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SARIs) Noradrenergic and specific serotonergic antidepressant (NaSSAs)
<b>Comparator</b>	Not applicable
<b>Outcomes</b>	Recommendations regarding optimal antidepressant drug choice and/or dosing regimen for geriatric patients with liver disease (any type) and primary mood or anxiety disorder
<b>Study Designs</b>	Evidence-based guidelines

## Results

One relevant evidence-based guideline<sup>1</sup> was identified regarding the use of antidepressants in geriatric patients with liver disease and primary mood or anxiety disorder.

Additional references of potential interest that did not meet the inclusion criteria are provided in the appendix.

## Guidelines and Recommendations

1. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. VA/DoD Clinical Practice Guideline for the Management of Major Depressive Disorder; 2016.  
<https://www.healthquality.va.gov/guidelines/MH/mdd/VADoDMDDCPGFINAL82916.pdf>  
Accessed 2020 Dec 3  
*See: Table C-1: Antidepressant Dosing and Monitoring, page 93*

## Appendix — Further Information

### Previous CADTH Reports

2. CADTH. Antidepressants in Elderly Patients with Depression and Dementia: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines; 2015.  
<https://cadth.ca/sites/default/files/pdf/htis/aug-2015/RC0689%20-%20Antidepressants%20in%20the%20Elderly%20Final.pdf> Accessed 2020 Dec 3
3. CADTH. Antidepressants in Elderly Patients with Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines; 2015.  
<https://cadth.ca/sites/default/files/pdf/htis/aug-2015/RC0690%20Antidepressants%20for%20Elderly%20BPSD%20Final.pdf>  
 Accessed 2020 Dec 3
4. CADTH. Antidepressants in Elderly Patients with Major and Minor Depression: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines; 2015.  
<https://cadth.ca/sites/default/files/pdf/htis/aug-2015/RC0688%20Antidepressants%20in%20the%20Elderly%20Final.pdf> Accessed 2020 Dec 3

### Review Articles

5. Carvalho AF, Sharma MS, Brunoni AR, Vieta E, Fava GA, The Safety, Tolerability and Risks Associated with the Use of Newer Generation Antidepressant Drugs: A Critical Review of the Literature; 2016. *Psychother Psychosom* 2016;85(5):270-88.  
<https://www.karger.com/Article/Fulltext/447034> Accessed 2020 Dec 3  
 See: Hepatotoxicity and Hypersensitivity Reactions, page 272; Cardiovascular, page 273
6. Mullish BH, Kabir MS, Thursz MR, Dhar A. Review article: depression and the use of antidepressants in patients with chronic liver disease or liver transplantation. *Aliment Pharmacol Ther*. 2014 Oct;40(8):880-892.  
[PubMed: PM25175904](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25175904/)