TITLE: Ondansetron for Gastroenteritis: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines

DATE: 07 October 2015

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of ondansetron for children with acute gastroenteritis?
2. What is the clinical effectiveness of ondansetron for adults with acute gastroenteritis?
3. What are the evidence-based guidelines for the use of ondansetron for patients with acute gastroenteritis?

KEY FINDINGS

Four systematic reviews, three randomized controlled trials, five non-randomized studies, and two evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding ondansetron use for patients with acute gastroenteritis.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, The Cochrane Library, University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, 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. The search was limited to English language documents published between Jan 1, 2010 and Oct 1, 2015. Internet links were provided, where available.

SELECTION CRITERIA

One reviewer screened citations and selected studies based on the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1.
Ondansetron for Gastroenteritis

<table>
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<th>Table 1: Selection Criteria</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Population</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Intervention</strong></td>
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| **Comparators**             | • Gravol  
|                            | • Placebo  
|                            | • No treatment |
| **Outcomes**                | Q1 & 2: Clinical effectiveness (e.g., symptom reduction, reduced hospital admissions or fluid replacement treatment)  
|                            | Q3: Evidence-based guidelines |
| **Study Designs**           | Health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, evidence-based guidelines |

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, and evidence-based guidelines.

Four systematic reviews, three randomized controlled trials, five non-randomized studies, and two evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding ondansetron use for patients with acute gastroenteritis. No relevant health technology assessments were identified.

Additional references of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

Health Technology Assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses


**Randomized Controlled Trials**


**Non-Randomized Studies**


Guidelines and Recommendations


   See: Other Therapy;
   Potential Harms

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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Randomized Controlled Studies – Alternate Comparator


Clinical Practice Guidelines – Unspecified Methodology


http://cme02.med.umanitoba.ca/assets/trekk/assets/attachments/28/original/Bottom_Line_Summary_Gastroenteritis.pdf?1410378848


See: Moderate to Severe Dehydration


27. Emergency department use of oral ondansetron for acute gastroenteritis-related vomiting in infants and children 2011
http://www.cps.ca/documents/position/oral-ondansetron

28. Ondansetron protocol. 2010

See: Nurse Initiated Therapy

Review Articles


