### TREATMENT RESISTANT SCHIZOPHRENIA

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### **DISCLOSURE**

• No financial disclosure

### **OUTLINE**

- Discuss case of patient with treatment resistant Schizophrenia (TRS)
- Definitions and epidemiology
- Factors contribute for treatment resistance
- Treatment options
- Clozapine efficacy and augmentation Strategies
- Revisiting Loxapine
- Efficacy of Loxapine as an adjuvant in this case

### CASE DETAILS

 18 years old African American Female brought to Emergency Department by grandmother for disorganized behavior

- Agitated
- Assaulted staff
- Endorsed-
  - married to Jesus
  - having devil's baby
  - raped by several hip-hop artists.

### PAST PSYCH HISTORY

- Diagnosed with Schizophrenia, Paranoid type at age 12
- Social History: Raised by Grandmother, Father incarcerated, mother possible substance use, in high school, no specialized education
- Trauma- per pt, starved by grandmother, raped by male family members while growing up, Grandmother denies, unable to confirm
- No brain injuries or seizures in past, no imaging available
- Substance Abuse- negative
- Family History- not significant
- Multiple Hospitalizations & failed antipsychotic trials including,

### MEDICATION TRIALS

#### Meds

- Olanzapine 10 mg
- Chlorpromazine 400 mg
- Lurasidone 40mg
- Quetiapine unknown dose
- Lithium unknown dose
- Valproic Acid 2000 mg

- On Clozapine 300 mg,
  - d/c ed after ANC –
     1.9→1.4



### HOSPITAL COURSE

ALL LABS within normal limits

Constant 1:1 –
 hypersexual
 agitated
 delusional
 responding to internal stimuli

Poor hygiene

### INTERVENTIONS~12 MONTHS

Medications/Procedures	Max Daily Dose
Olanzapine	40 mg
Valproic Acid	1500 mg
Haloperidol	10 mg
Temazepam	30 mg
Clonazepam	4 mg
Propranolol	75 mg
Gabapentin	1200 mg
Quetiapine	500 mg
Ziprasidone	160 mg
Risperidone	1 mg – (EPS)
Lithium	900 mg
Loxapine	100 mg
ECT	12 sessions

### DISCHARGED

- 60-70% improvement in behavior
- Discharge meds:
  - Lithium 450 mg twice a day (level 0.59)
  - Loxapine 50 mg twice a day
  - Propranolol 20 mg three times a day
  - Trazodone 100 mg at night
  - Benztropine 0.5 mg daily

### WITHIN HOURS

Brought Back for hitting grandmother

#### **Endorsing:**

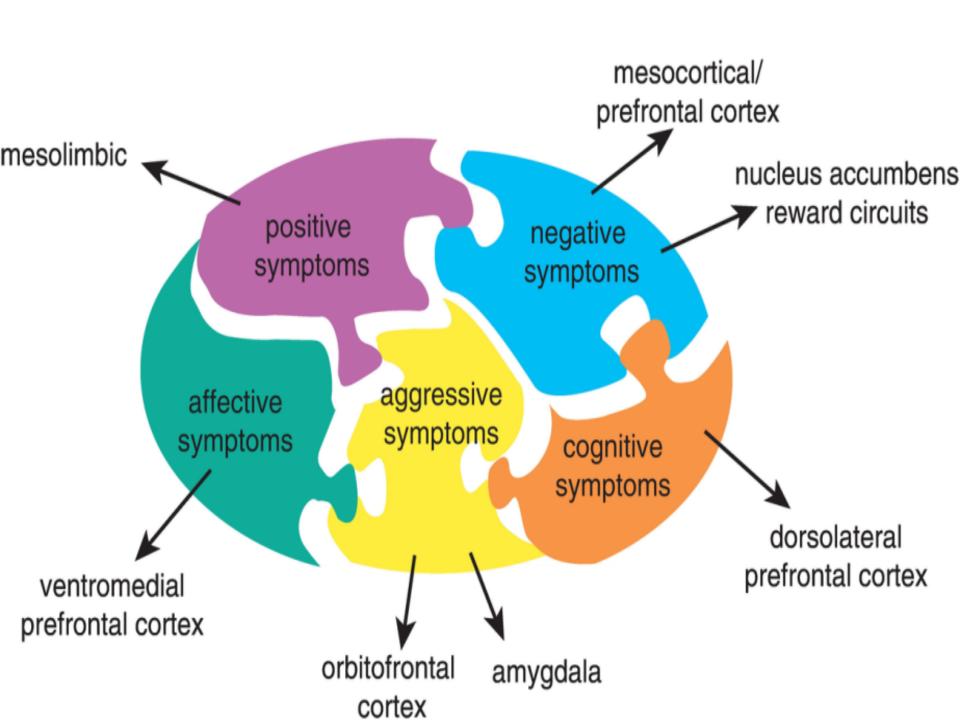
- Angels talking to her
- claimed to be hip hop artist
- have lots of money



### STATE UNIT

- Married to Angels, Husband-President Obama
- Hearing Angels talking to her, asking her not to take bath
- Seeing Demons in Room & Shower
- Isolative in room





### MINIMAL IMPROVEMENT

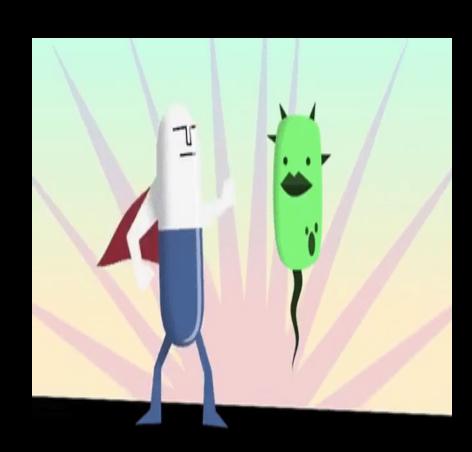
Medications	Highest Dose/Day
Fluphenazine; fluphenazine decanoate	15 mg, 75 mg IM q2wks
Clozapine	Titration Protocol – ANC 1.4 (d/c)
Haloperidol; haloperidol decanoate	15 mg, 300 mg IM q4 wks
Lurasidone	80 mg
Risperidone	6 mg
paliperidone palmitate	156 mg x q4 weeks
Ziprasidone	160 mg
Quetiapine	600 mg
Olanzapine	45 mg
Aripiprazole	30 mg
Valproic Acid	1500 mg
Lithium	1350 mg

### AUGMENTED WITH

Other Medications	Highest Dose/Day
Lorazepam	3 mg
Clonazepam	1 mg
Fluoxetine	20 mg
Sertraline	50 mg
Propranolol	160 mg

### TREATMENT RESISTANT SCHIZOPHRENIA

- 1/3 (20-60%) of patients with schizophrenia
- Since introduction of Chlorpromazine
- Criteria first used by Kane et al (1988)
- ≥ 2 different chemical classes, ≥ 3 periods of Tx each for 6 weeks (4-10), at dosages ≥ 1000 mg/day of chlorpromazine, in last 5 years
- each without significant symptomatic relief or good functioning; or <20% improvement in BPRS scores



### BRENNER'S CRITERIA (1990)

Levels	Resistance	Symptoms	BPRS (18/24 item)	
1	Clinical Remission	None	None >2	
2	Partial remission	Mild Residual	None >3	
3	Slight resistance	Incomplete Reduction	Only 1 item >4	
4	Moderate resistance	Some reduction	2 items>4, Total 45/60	
5	Severe resistance	Mild reduction	1>5 or 3>4; Total 50/67	
6	Refractory	Slight Reduction	1>6 or 2>5; Total 50/67	
7	Severely refractory	No Reduction	1>7; Total >50/67	

Table 1. Guidelines for Defining Treatment-Resistant Sch	izophrenia
	,

**Treatment Duration** 

≥6 wk

Response and Resistance in Psychosis, WFSBP = World Federation of Societies of Biological Psychiatry.

Prior AP Treatment Failure

≥1 Second-generation AP

≥ 2 Failures

Guidelines

APA (2004)<sup>9</sup>

	generation AP		medication, prescribed at an adequate dose and for the correct duration
, ,	≥ 2 Failures ≥ 2 Different chemical classes ≥ 1 Atypical AP	2–8 wk	No significant improvement in the psychopathology and/or target symptoms; ensured treatment adherence
, ,	≥ 2 Different APs ≥ 1 Prior treatment with long- acting injectable AP (≥ 4 mo)	≥6 wk (at therapeutic dose)	At least moderate disease severity and < 20% symptom reduction during a prospective trial or observation of $\geq$ 6 weeks; at least moderate functional impairment based on a validated scale; adherence ( $\geq$ 80% of prescribed doses) confirmed using trough serum AP levels

(therapeutic range)

Failure Criteria

Little or no symptomatic response to a trial of adequate duration and dose

Kane JM, Agid O, Baldwin ML, Howes O, Lindenmayer JP, Marder S, Olfson M, Potkin SG, Correll CU. Clinical Guidance on the Identification and Management of Treatment-Resistant Schizophrenia. The Journal of clinical psychiatry. 2019 Mar;80(2).

Abbreviations: AP = antipsychotic, APA = American Psychiatric Association, NICE = National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, TRRIP = Treatment

### Table 2. Burden of Treatment-Resistant Schizophrenia

		<u>'</u>
Patient	Treatment Team	Family/Caregiver
<ul> <li>More severe positive and negative symptoms<sup>33</sup></li> <li>Worse neurocognitive functioning<sup>34</sup></li> <li>Higher health care costs<sup>35</sup></li> <li>Lower employment rates</li> <li>Lower quality of life</li> <li>Lower levels of community</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Pessimism</li> <li>Therapeutic nihilism</li> <li>Lack of intellectual curiosity</li> <li>No specialized treatment teams</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Substantial amounts         of time and income         devoted to patient         care-related         activities<sup>36</sup></li> <li>Negative impact on the         family/dissolution of         the family<sup>37</sup></li> </ul>

functioning<sup>33</sup>

# FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO RESISTANCE

### TWO PLAUSIBLE HYPOTHESIS

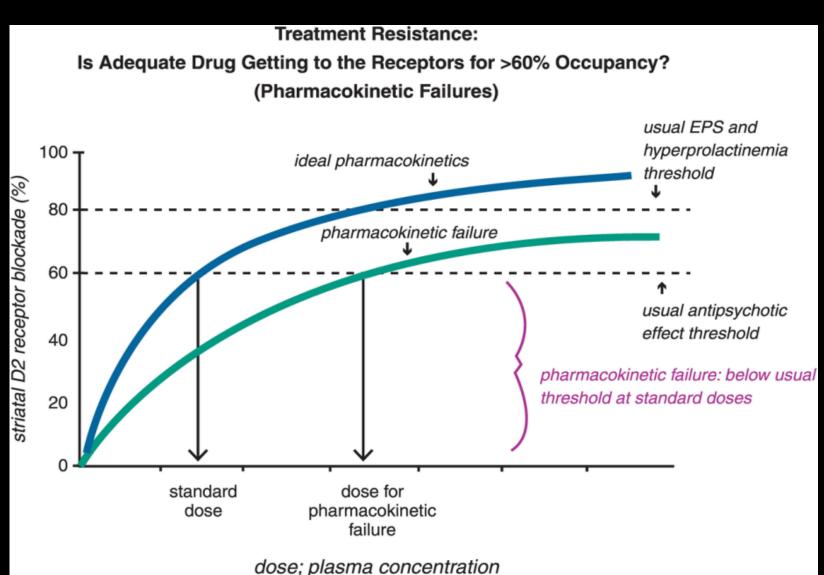
#### 1) Dopamine (D2) receptors super sensitivity to dopamine

- prolonged blockade of postsynaptic dopamine receptors by treatment leads to upregulation of receptors
- increased psychotic symptoms (breakthrough psychosis) and motor side effects such as abnormal involuntary movements (eg, tardive dyskinesia) in treated patients.

#### 2) "normodopaminergic" hypothesis

- other neurotransmitter systems contribute to the symptoms
- High concentrations of anterior cingulate glutamate metabolite
- Another potential pathway, N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) antibody psychosis, diagnosed with a positive antibody titer to the NR1 subunit of the NMDA receptor.

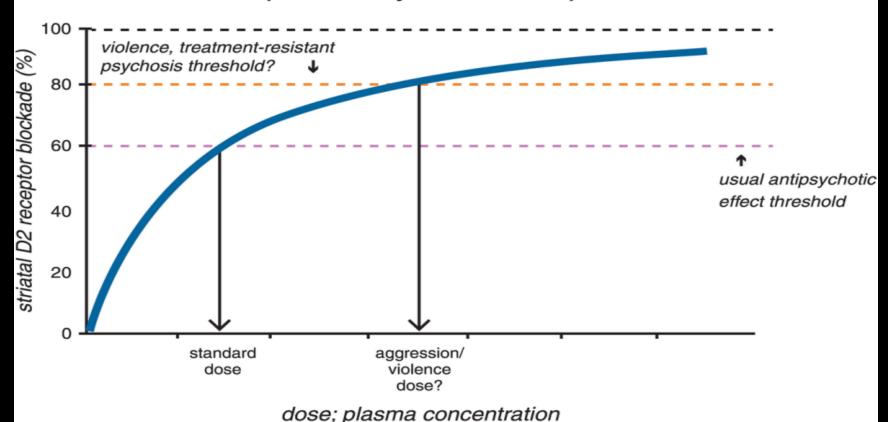
### PHARMACOKINETIC FAILURE



- Poor drug absorption
- Certain CYP450 variants- rapid metabolizers
- Suspect- No Effect & no Side Effect
- Confirm- Therapeutic drug levels

### PHARMACODYNAMIC FAILURE

Violence and Treatment-Resistant Psychosis:
Are Hypothetical Thresholds for Atypical
Antipsychotic Drug Effects Altered?
(Pharmacodynamic Failure?)



- Slow responders, late onset responders
- "time as a drug" and treat for many weeks – hoping to get a good outcome
- No way to predict
- trial and error.



### TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR RESISTANT SCHIZOPHRENIA

NA

99

McEvoy 2006 [9]

nalidollilzed collicolled trials of all tipsychotic illohotilerapy ill				
treatment-refr	actory scl	hizophrenia		
Author and year	Study duration (weeks)	Number randomized	Antipsychotic	Efficacy*
Kane 1988 [11]	6	268	Clozapine	Clozapine > chlorpromazine
Pickar 1992 [12]	Varied	21	Clozapine	Clozapine > fluphenazine or placebo
Breier 1994 [13]	10	39	Clozapine	Clozapine > haloperidol
Kumra 1996 [14]	6	21 children	Clozapine	Clozapine > haloperidol
Hong 1997 [15]	12	40	Clozapine	Clozapine > chlorpromazine
Rosenheck 1997 [16]	1 year	423	Clozapine	Clozapine > haloperidol
Buchanan 1998 [17]	10	75	Clozapine	Clozapine > haloperidol
Kane 2001 [18]	29	71	Clozapine	Clozapine > haloperidol
Volavka 2002 [10]	14	157	Clozapine,	Clozapine ~ olanzapine >

olanzapine or

risperidone

Clozapine

risperidone > haloperidol

Clozapine ~ olanzapine >

### Randomized controlled trials of antipsychotic monotherapy in treatment-refractory schizophrenia Study

	Study duration	Number		
Author and year	(weeks)	randomized	Antipsychotic	Efficacy*
Bondolfi 1998	8	86	Risperidone	Risperidone ~ clozar

Risperidone

Risperidone

Risperidone

Risperidone

Risperidone

Risperidone

Risperidone or

quetiapine

67

29

19

273

78

36

38

Risperidone > haloperidol

Risperidone < clozapine

Risperidone ~ clozapine

Risperidone < clozapine

Risperidone > haloperidol

Risperidone ~ haloperidol

Risperidone ~ quetiapine ~

fluphenazine

(at 4 weeks but not 8 weeks)

[19]

[20]

[22]

[25]

Wirshing 1999

Breier 1999 [21]

Wahlbeck 2000

Azorin 2001 [23]

Zhang 2001 [24]

Liberman 2002

Conley 2005 [26]

8

6

10

12

12

8

12

# Randomized controlled trials of antipsychotic monotherapy in treatment-refractory schizophrenia Study duration Number

randomized

84

526

180

13

147

25 children

39 children

63

40

Antipsychotic

Olanzapine

Olanzapine

Olanzapine

Olanzapine

Olanzapine

Olanzapine

Olanzapine

Olanzapine

Olanzapine

Efficacy\*

Olanzapine ~

chlorpromazine

Olanzapine > haloperidol

Olanzapine ~ clozapine

Olanzapine < clozapine

Olanzapine ~ clozapine

Olanzapine ~ haloperidol

Olanzapine < clozapine

Olanzapine ~ clozapine

Olanzapine < clozapine

Author and year
Conley 1998 [27]

Breier 1999 [28]

Tollefson 2001

Conley 2003 [30]

Bitter 2004 [31]

**Buchanan 2005** 

Shaw 2006 [33]

Meltzer 2008 [34]

Kumra 2008 [35]

[29]

[32]

(weeks)

6

6

18

16

18

16

8

12

6 months

# Randomized controlled trials of antipsychotic monotherapy in treatment-refractory schizophrenia Study duration Number

**Antipsychotic** 

Quetiapine

Ziprasidone

Ziprasidone

Aripiprazole

Efficacy\*

Quetiapine > haloperidol

Ziprasidone ~ clozapine

Ziprasidone > chlorpromazine

Aripiprazole ~ perphenazine

randomized

288

306

147

300

(weeks)

12

18

6

**Author and year** 

Emsley 2000 [36]

Kane 2006 [37]

Sacchetti 2009

Kane 2007 [39]

[38]

### HOW ABOUT CLOZAPINE FOR OUR PATIENT

 Hematology Consult to reconsider Clozapine

• Benign Ethnic Neutropenia





RECOMMENDED MONITORING FREQUENCY AND CLINICAL DECISIONS BY ANC LEVEL ANC Level Treatment Recommendation ANC Monitoring · Initiate treatment Normal Range for a New Patient Weekly from initiation to six months If treatment interrupted: GENERAL POPULATION . Every 2 weeks from 6 to 12 months < 30 days, continue monitoring as before</li> ANC ≥ 1500/µL Monthly after 12 months - ≥ 30 days, monitor as if new patient BEN POPULATION ANC ≥ 1000/µL . See Section 2.4 of the full Prescribing Information · Discontinuation for reasons other than neutropenia Obtain at least two baseline ANC levels before initiating treatment GENERAL POPULATION Three times weekly until ANC ≥ 1500/µL GENERAL POPULATION Once ANC ≥ 1500/µL return to patient's last "Normal Range" Continue treatment ANC monitoring interval\*\* BEN POPULATION Mild Neutropenia is normal range for BEN Mild Neutropenia BEN POPULATION population, continue treatment (1000 - 1499/µL)\* Weekly from initiation to six months . Obtain at least two baseline ANC levels before Every 2 weeks from 6 to 12 months initiating treatment . Monthly after 12 months · If treatment interrupted - < 30 days, continue monitoring as before See Section 2.4 of the full Prescribing Information ≥ 30 days, monitor as if new patient · Discontinuation for reasons other than neutropenia GENERAL POPULATION GENERAL POPULATION Daily until ANC ≥ 1000/µL, then Recommend hematology consultation Three times weekly until ANC ≥ 1500/µL · Interrupt treatment for suspected Clozapine Once ANC ≥ 1500/µL check ANC weekly for 4 weeks, then induced neutropenia return to patient's last "Normal Range" ANC monitoring Resume treatment once ANC normalizes to ≥ 1000/µL. interval\*\* Moderate Neutropenia (500 - 999/µL)\* BEN POPULATION Three times weekly until ANC ≥ 1000/µL or ≥ patient's known BEN POPULATION baseline. Recommend hematology consultation Once ANC ≥ 1000/µL or patient's known baseline, check Continue treatment ANC weekly for 4 weeks, then return to patient's last "Normal BEN Range" ANC monitoring interval\*\*

GENERAL POPULATION GENERAL POPULATION · Recommend hematology consultation Daily until ANC ≥ 1000/µL Interrupt treatment for suspected Clozapine Three times weekly until ANC ≥ 1500/µL induced neutropenia · If patient rechallenged, resume treatment as a new patient . Do not rechallenge unless prescriber determines under "Normal Range" monitoring once ANC ≥ 1500/µL benefits outweigh risks Severe Neutropenia (< 500/µL)\* BEN POPULATION BEN POPULATION

Daily until ANC ≥ 500/µL

or at patient's baseline

Three times weekly until ANC ≥ patients established baseline

· If patient rechallenged, resume treatment as a new patient under "Normal Range" monitoring once ANC ≥1000/µL

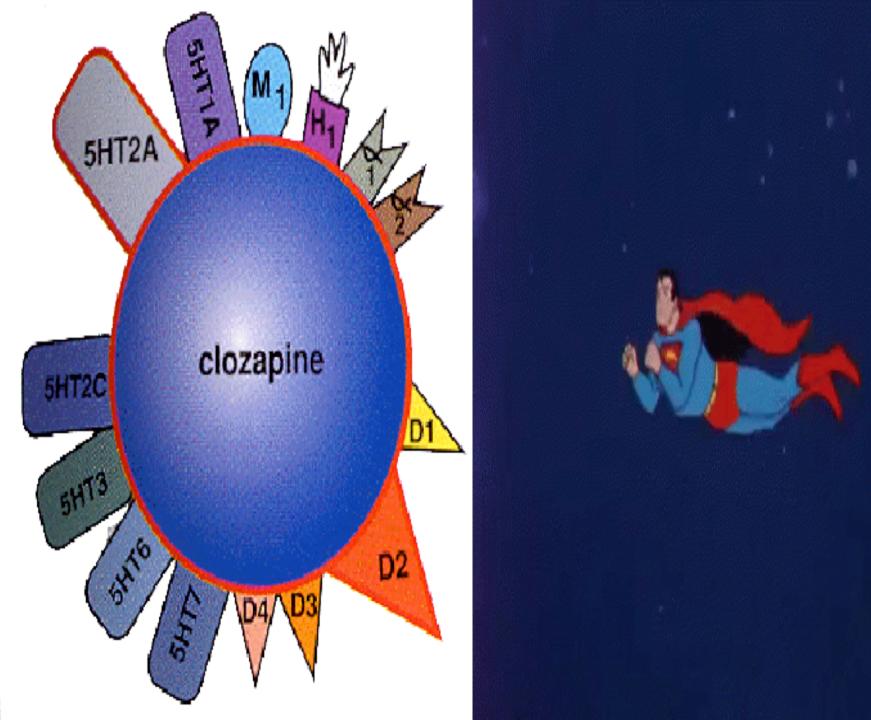
Recommend hematology consultation

induced neutropenia

benefits outweigh risks

Interrupt treatment for suspected Clozapine

· Do not rechallenge unless prescriber determines















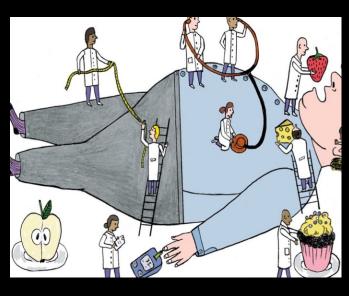












### CLOZAPINE TRIAL

TITRATED UP TO 500 MG DAILY

TROUGH CLOZAPINE LEVEL ~550 NG/ML (200-450 NG/ML)

### **VERY MILD**

↓ Positive symptoms, less incidents

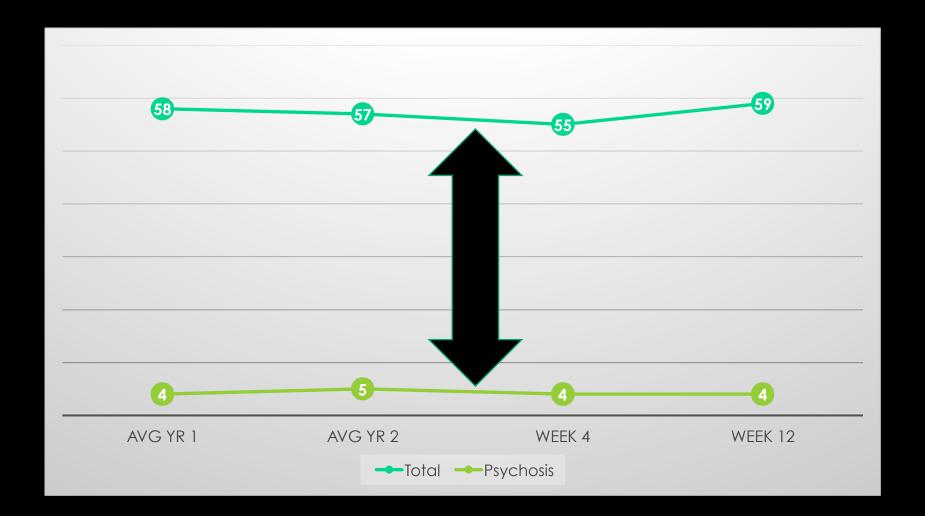
**↑ Hygiene** 

↑ Therapy Group Attendance

**↑** Cognition



### BPRS SCORES





## **CLOZAPINE RESISTANT PSYCHOSIS**

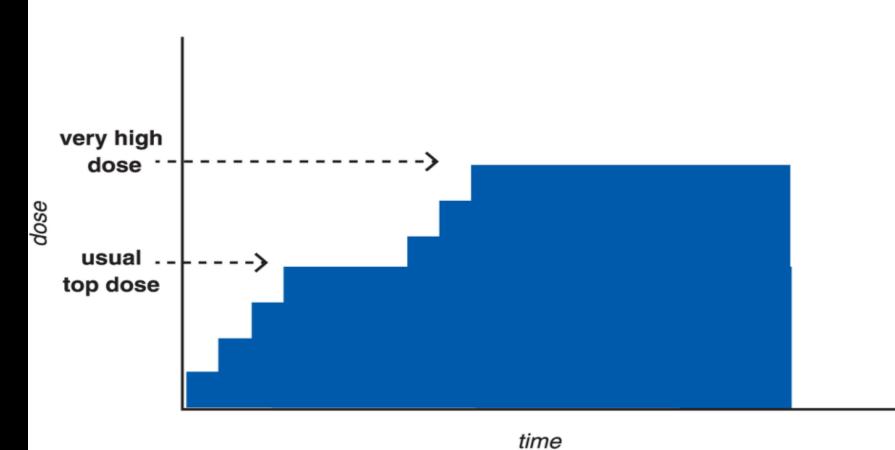
- Present in about 40% 70%
- Trough Clozapine levels 300-450 ng/ml, trial at least 3 months, optimum threshold requirement
- Total levels more than 1000 ng/ml usually have less therapeutic value, increase seizure risk, differ by patients
- Can get total levels with clozapine and its metabolite norclozapine



# WHAT CAN WE DO?

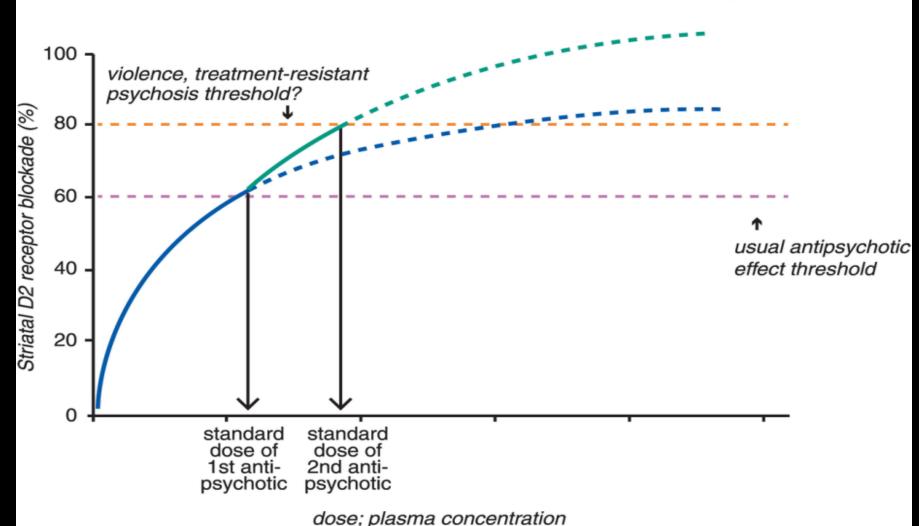
## 1) HIGH DOSE

Novel Solution to Nonresponse/Violence: High to Very High Doses Beyond the Generally Recommended Range



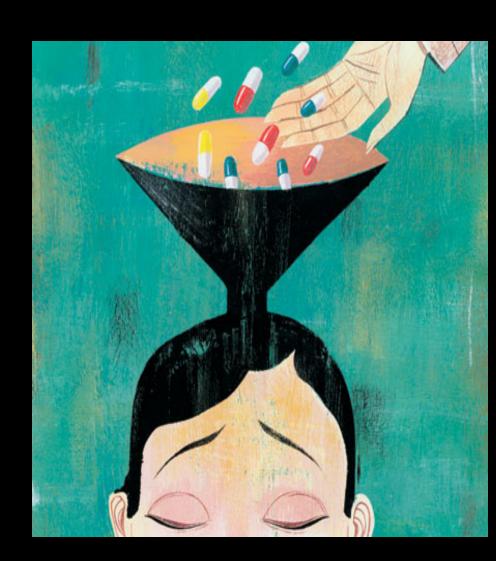
#### 2) ADD ANOTHER ANTIPSYCHOTIC

#### Hypothetical Thresholds for Atypical Antipsychotic Drug Effects



#### COMBINATION OF MEDICATIONS

- Achieving optimal receptor occupancy;
- Targeting different receptors with the added drug
- Reducing the dose-related side-effects



# BEFORE CONSIDERING CLOZAPINE AUGMENTATION

- Diagnosis Reevaluation
- r/o severe case of schizoaffective disorder or bipolar disorder with psychotic features
- Potential Substance Abuse

Medication Adherence

#### LITERATURE

- Risperidone and lamotrigine are the best studied each has five placebo-controlled randomized trials.
- No IMPRESSIVE efficacy, reasonable toleratability
- Topiramate efficacy for weight loss, many meta-analyses, not consistent improvement on psychopathology
- ECT One RCT & case reports: positive, Another sham controlled studyno efficacy, Moderate efficacy

Tiihonen J, Wahlbeck K, Kiviniemi V. <u>The efficacy of lamotrigine in clozapine-resistant schizophrenia: a systematic review and meta-analysis</u>. Schizophr Res 2009;109: 10Y4

Weiner E, Conley RR, Ball MP, et al. <u>Adjunctive risperidone for partially responsive people with schizophrenia treated with clozapine</u>. Neuropsychopharmacology 2010;35:2274Y83.

Petrides, G., et al (2014). <u>Electroconvulsive therapy augmentation in clozapine-resistant schizophrenia: a prospective, randomized study</u>. American Journal of Psychiatry, 172(1), 52-58.

Havaki-Kontaxaki, B. J., (2006). Concurrent administration of clozapine and electroconvulsive therapy in clozapine-resistant schizophrenia. Clinical neuropharmacology, 29(1), 52-56.

# RCTs- Adjunct Antipsychotics

Author and year	Study duration (weeks)	Number randomized	Combination	Efficacy*
Potter 1989	8	57	Chlorpromazine and clozapine	Chlorpromazine and clozapine ~ or > clozapine or chlorpromazine
Shiloh 1997	10	28	Sulpiride and clozapine	Sulpiride and clozapine > clozapine
Josiassen 2005	12	40	Risperidone and clozapine	Risperidone and clozapine > clozapine
Anil Yağcioğlu 2005	6	30	Risperidone and clozapine	Risperidone and clozapine < clozapine
Honer 2006	8	68	Risperidone and clozapine	Risperidone and clozapine ~ clozapine
Freudenreich 2007	6	24	Risperidone and clozapine	Risperidone and clozapine ~ or > clozapine
Weiner 2010	16	69	Risperidone and clozapine	Risperidone and clozapine ~ or > clozapine

Kreinin 2006 [59]	7	20	Amisulpride and clozapine	Amisulpride and clozapine ~ or > clozapine	
Assion 2008 [60]	6	16	Amisulpride and clozapine	Amisulpride and clozapine ~ or > clozapine	
Genç 2007 [61]	8	56	Amisulpride and clozapine	Amisulpride and clozapine > quetiapine and clozapine	
Chang 2008 [62]	8	62	Aripiprazole and clozapine	Aripiprazole and clozapine ~ or > clozapine	
Fleischhacker 2010 [63]	16	207	Aripiprazole and clozapine	Aripiprazole and clozapine ~ or > clozapine	
Muscatello 2011 [64]	24	40	Aripiprazole and clozapine	Aripiprazole and clozapine > clozapine	
Zink 2009 [65]	6	24	Ziprasidone and clozapine	Ziprasidone and clozapine ~ clozapine and risperidone	
Kane 2009 [66]	16	323	Risperidone or quetiapine and aripiprazole	Risperidone or quetiapine and aripiprazole ~ risperidone or quetiapine	
Henderson 2009 [67]	10	15	Aripiprazole and olanzapine	Aripiprazole and olanzapine ~ olanzapine	
Shafti 2009 [68]	12	28	Fluphenazine decanoate and olanzapine	Fluphenazine decanoate and olanzapine ~ or > olanzapine	
Kotler 2004 [69]	8	17	Sulpiride and olanzapine	Sulpiride and olanzapine ~ or > olanzapine	
Takahashi 1999 [70]	8	24	Risperidone or mosapramine and one or more first-generation antipsychotics	Risperidone or mosapramine and one or more first-generation antipsychotics > one or more first-generation antipsychotics	

#### ADJUNCTIVE NON-ANTIPSYCHOTICS

Intervention	# RCT	Duration (wk)	# subjects	Useful? (Y:N)
Antidepressants	36	4-24	1277	24:12
ACE inhibitors/AZ	20	8-52	843	5:15
Glutamate Rec	18	4-12	751	11:7
Neurosteroids/Hormones	10	4-12	443	10:0
NSAIDs	5	5-12	267	3:2
Antiglucocorticoids	2	4-6	35	0:2
ADHD Meds	4	2-8	99	0:4
B-blockers	2	3-6	64	2:0
GABA-A Rec	2	4	75	1:1
Omega-3 Fatty Acid	2	12-16	127	1:1
Opioid Antagonists	3	3-12	63	2:1
Peptides	2	3	41	1:1

#### **ADJUNCTIVE NON-ANTIPSYCHOTICS**

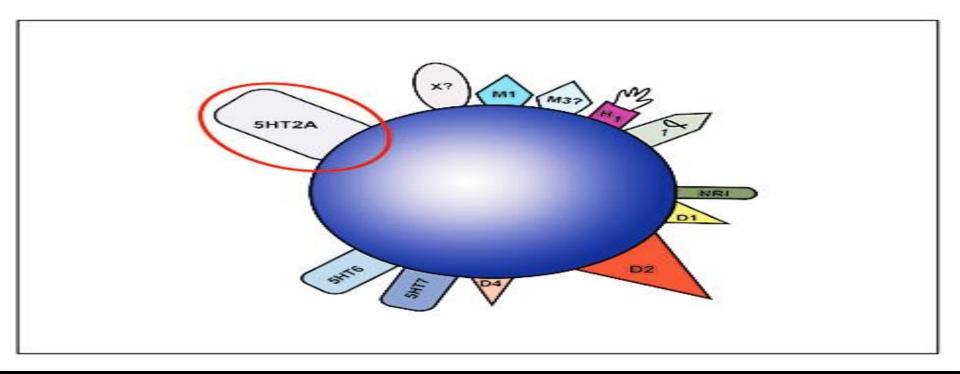
Intervention	# RCT	Duration (wk)	# subjects	Useful? (Y:N)
Purinergic Agents	5	6-8	220	5:0
5-HT1A Agonists	4	6-8	160	3:1
5-HT3 Antagonists	2	12	151	2:0
Wakefullness Agents (eg. Modafinil)	4	4-8	139	0:4
Other Medications	12	3-22	532	9:3
CBT	3	21-24	124	2:1
ECT	2	4-6	76	1:1
r-TMS	11	1-4	291	6:5
Others (OT)	3	6-18 months	121	3:0

## RIGHT ADJUNCTIVE FOR OUR PT?



# REVISITING LOXAPINE

#### Loxapine: Conventional or Low-Dose Atypical?



- Dibenzoxazepine tricyclic antipsychotic agent Similar to Clozapine with 5HT2A/D2 antagonism
- Similar Conventional EPS & ↑ Prolactin
- Atypical Low doses <50mg/day</li>
- Amoxapine- metabolite- TCA (CYP3A4, CYP2C19 & CYP2C8)

- Receptor Binding: Similar affinity as clozapine and olanzapine with a more potent 5-HT2A antagonism.
- Receptor occupancy: (10-100mg/day), PET Data,
  - D2 receptor 43% to 90%
  - 5-HT2A receptor- 27% to >98%
- Calming effects and suppression of aggressive behavior with NR1, M1, H1



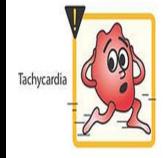


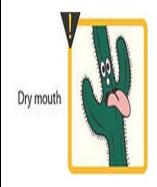




## SIDE EFFECTS







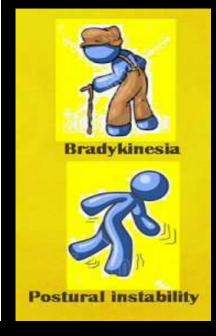














Risk of death in elderly- comparable to others



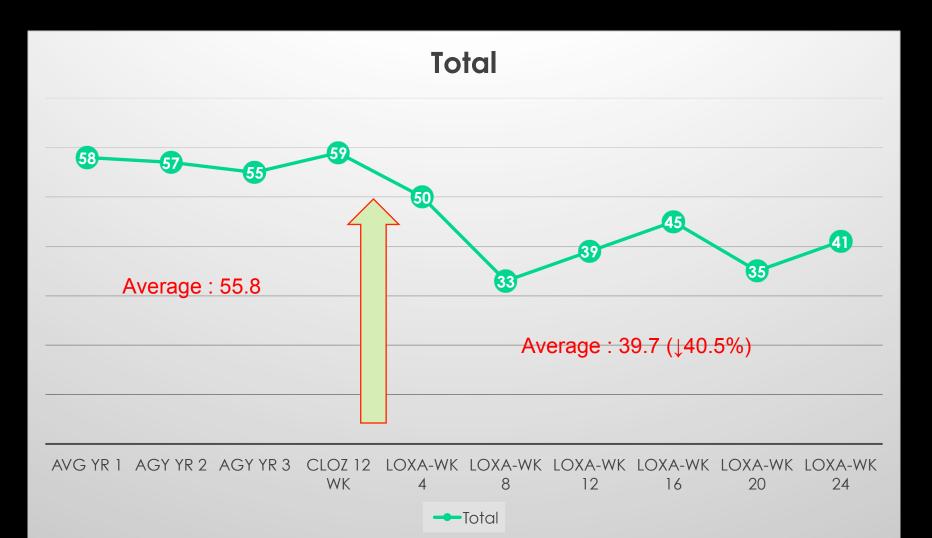
- Teratogenic? Paucity of Data
- Three reports- No direct correlation
  - Achondroplasia
    - Multiple unspecified malformations
    - Tremors at 15 weeks of age.

#### **LOXAPINE TRIAL-100 MG**

- J Positive Symptoms
- Responding to internal stimulus
- † † hygiene
   (Taking baths more)
- ↑ ↑ Group attendance
- Ability to hold linear conversation
- Brighter Affect



## **BPRS SCORES**



# THERAPY GROUPS ATTENDENCE



# CLINICAL GLOBAL IMPRESSION SCALE-IMPROVEMENT

Number	Interpretation
1	Very much improved
2	much improved
3	minimally improved
4	no change
5	minimally worse
6	much worse
7	very much worse

# CGI SCALE - IMPROVEMENT





# OVERALL IMPROVEMENT IN QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THE LONGEST PERIOD SINCE DIAGNOSIS

## WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED

# SELECTING RIGHT MEDICATION & COMBINATION



- No one size fits all individualized approach
- Drug interactions
- Side effect profile
- Cost
- Compliance
- Availability of data

# NON-PHARMACOLOGICAL APPROACHES

- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- Family and Social support
- Community treatment programs - eg. Vocational Rehabilitation
- Motivational therapies
- Cognitive remediation attention, working memory and executive capacity



# TO CONCLUDE...







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