

# Schizophrenia

## Main Topic 4

## features

pathogenesis is unknown — a thought disorder

onset — is in the late teens-early '20s  
affects 1% of the population worldwide

genetic predisposition — familial incidence  
hereditary influences may account for 10% of schizophrenia cases  
multiple genes are involved — doesn't mean that the genes decide whether you are schizophrenic patient or not  
so there is no specific genes that affects it but many genes increase the persons risk

more of a male disorder more than females and they differ in onset — females — after 28, every 200  
males — starts teens, early 20s, every 100  
the cause of onset differences is due to — environment  
genetic makeup

the drugs that we use are for the prevention of psychosis so keep in mind that these drugs ARE NOT A CURE — schizophrenics must be treated with medications indefinitely in as much as the disease in lifelong and it is preferable to prevent the psychotic episodes than to treat them  
schizophrenia is for life  
there is no remission

dopamine theory of schizophrenia — many lines of evidence point to the aberrant increased activity of the dopaminergic system as being critical in the symptomatology of schizophrenia  
there is a greater occupancy of D2 receptors by dopamine —> greater dopaminergic stimulation

schizophrenia pathophysiology and pharmacologic profile of APDs — schizophrenia pathophysiology — past — excessive dopaminergic activity  
present — renewed interest in the role of serotonin (5-HT)  
pharmacologic profile of APDs — past — dopamine antagonist — D2 receptors  
present — combine antagonists — 5-HT2/D2 — atypical drug sites

In the past they used to think that the problem is only with the excess dopaminergic activity. But they discovered that the serotonin receptors (5-HT) also have a role in this disease. How did they know? They saw that the patient is over-ecited (hallucinating), cannot get things together, the cognition is inhibited (he can't make a single meaningful sentence) & at the same time he's depressed. They said that if we inhibited the serotonin receptors (5-HT) this will cause mood improvement. & from here they discovered the atypical antipsychotics which inhibit DA receptors & serotonin receptors

neurological side effects of antipsychotics — in parkinsons symptoms we treat it by anticholinergic agents, we can't give him dopamine because of positive symptoms produced by dopamine like hallucinations  
BDZ and beta blockers like propranolol are given in akathisia for agitation and anxiety  
Schizophrenia is a life- disease, the drug will be taken for ever to control the symptoms, these includes that we open the mind of the patient, and his thoughts cross over each other. the doctor isn't not interested by those effects, just to know the patient are tolerated the drugs until sedation state

tolerance and dependence to antipsychotic drugs — not addicting  
relapse in psychosis if discontinued abruptly  
tolerance develops to sedative effects  
no tolerance to antipsychotic effects because this is an antagonist effect

withdrawal like syndrome — nausea  
vomiting  
insomnia  
headache  
sedation  
these symptoms may persist for up to 2 weeks  
these symptoms can be minimized with a tapered reduction of drug dosage

positive symptoms — hallucinations — delusions (bizarre, persecutory)  
disorganized thought  
perception disturbances  
inappropriate emotions

cognition — new learning  
memory

negative symptoms — blunted emotions  
anhedonia  
lack of feeling  
loss of motivation

mood symptoms — social withdrawal  
insight  
demoralization  
suicide

## Drugs

## symptoms

## classification of antipsychotics

Haloperidol  
Risperidone  
Clozapine  
Olanzapine  
Risperidone

Positive symptom drugs — affects the dopaminergic receptor, mainly D2 in which they just decrease the positive symptoms like hallucinations  
we also need to use a drug that reduces the negative symptoms too

Negative symptom drugs — bind to dopamine and serotonin receptors  
less likely to make mentions side effects because of unselectivity - which means they aren't selective towards dopamine since they bind to serotonin too

typical antipsychotics - old — chlorpromazine  
perphenazine — phenothiazines  
fluphenazine  
flupenthixol — thioxanthenes  
clopenthixol  
haloperidol — butyrophenones  
droperidol

Compound	Site	High affinity	Low affinity
Phenothiazines		++	++
Chlorpromazine		+++	++
Fluphenazine		+	++++
Haloperidol		+	++++

clozapine is the best drug among them all  
olanzapine has low affinity so less side effects  
they have very low EPS- extrapyramidal symptoms  
may show greater efficacy against negative symptoms than other antipsychotics

clozapine and olanzapine — MOA — blocks receptors — D1, D2, D4, adrenergic, 5HT2, muscarinic  
sedation effect — histamine H1  
potential fatal side effect for clozapine — agranulocytosis  
that's why we should always check for the blood count  
the diabetes condition caused by blocking 5HT2 C receptor, so we block the axis between serotonin and insulin as well as disrupt the relation between them — both drugs have a high efficacy but cause significant weight gain and diabetes

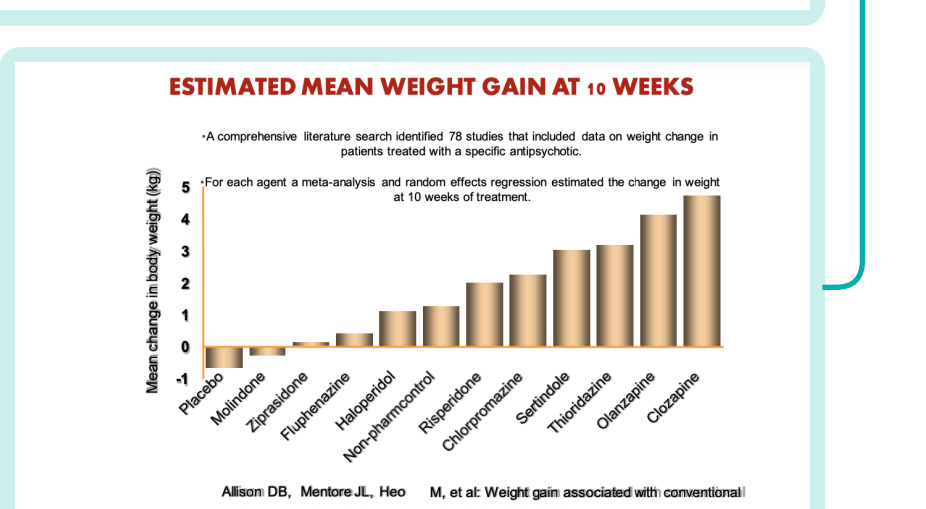
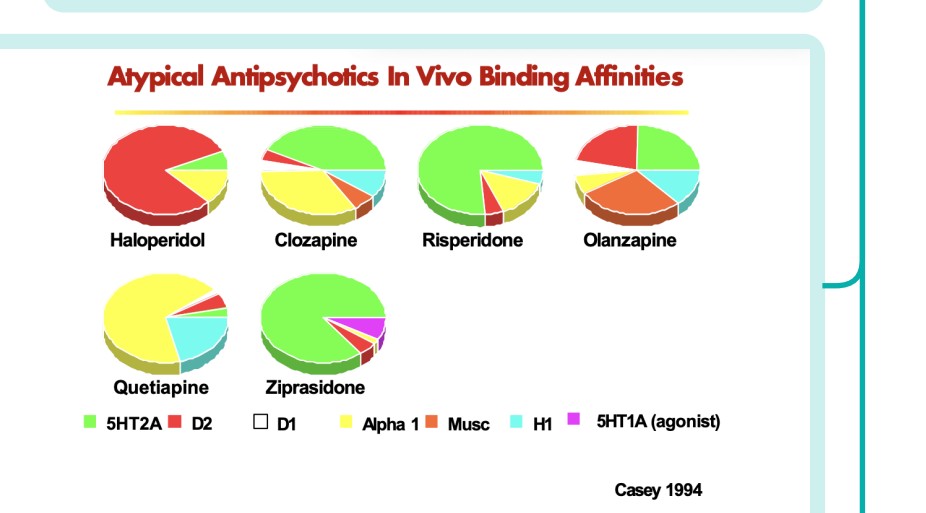
risperidone — features — one of the most prescribed drugs in Jordan  
MOA — mainly D2 receptors working, so we give anticholinergic agents to avoid parkinson like symptoms  
treating the positive symptoms — D receptors - mainly D2  
causing orthostatic hypotension — Alpha receptors  
inhibiting the inhibitory symptoms by serotonin activity — 5HT2 receptors  
sedation producing — Histamine receptors  
side effects — galactorrhea, loss of libido, delayed ovulation and menstruation or amenorrhea (in women), gynecomastia, impotence (in men)

atypical antipsychotics - new — ziprasidone — features — no increased risk for extrapyramidal symptoms  
DCES NOTTT elevate prolactin  
shares sedation  
orthostatic hypotension  
weight gain  
side effects — dry mouth, constipation, anticholinergic side effects  
similar advantages of others, but argued NOT to cause weight gain

lurasidone — features — Japanese product  
few extrapyramidal side effects  
its a prodrug  
metabolized by CYP450 - CYP3A4 and CYP2D6

aripiprazole — MOA — partial agonist at D2 receptors  
due to minimal effects on the receptors as a partial agonist, it gives good outcomes on the long-run treatment, avoiding the above-mentioned side effects  
has an affinity to many receptors — muscarinic, alpha 1 adrenergic, serotonin, histamine  
side effects — weight gain, feeling dizzy

the advantage of these new drugs is that they treat both the positive and negative symptoms — binding to dopamine receptors — positive symptoms  
binding to serotonin — negative symptoms



less in atypical group — incidence of extrapyramidal side effects  
the new guys make them by little onset  
efficacy in treatment resistant group of patients  
the distinction between the typical and atypical groups isn't clearly defined but rests on  
efficacy against negative symptoms via affecting the serotonin receptors