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Psychopharmacology in PDD/Asperger's/Autism

- ADHD symptoms
 - RUPP, 2005:
 - Methylphenidate studied
 - Hyperactivity improved; overall 49% response rate
 - Social withdrawal worsened
 - Irritability common side effect; overall 18% drop out rate due to adverse events
 - Clonidine
 - Clonidine effective in 2 small placebo-controlled trials (Jaselskis et al, 1992; Fankhauser et al, 1992)
 - Guanfacine
 - Open-label guanfacine in methylphenidate nonresponders positive (Scahill et al, 2006)
 - Strattera
 - Open-label positive
 - Controlled crossover design study positive
- Repetitive, stereotyped and/or self-injurious behaviors
 - SSRIs
 - Fluvoxamine
 - Effective in ADULTS (McDougle et al, 1996)
 - NOT effective in KIDS (McDougle, unpublished data)
 - Fluoxetine
 - Effective in ADULTS (Hollander et al, 2012)
 - NOT effective in KIDS (ACTN SOFIA study)
 - Citalopram
 - Effective in KIDS, but lots of side effects (King et al, 2009)
 - TCAs
 - Clomipramine
 - Effective in KIDS and young adults (Gordon et al, 1993)
- Irritability/agitation
 - Typical antipsychotics
 - Haldol
 - Anderson et al, 1984; Campbell et al, 1997
 - Risks: dystonia, dyskinesia among others
 - Atypical antipsychotics
 - Clozapine
 - Case reports
 - Risperdal

- RUPP, 2002
 - 101 subjects, autism, significant irritability, 8 weeks, RCT, DB
 - Average age 8.8 (range 5-17)
 - Average dose Risperdal 1.8 (range 0.5-3.5)
 - Effective
 - Average weight gain 6 lbs (range 0-12 lbs) vs placebo 2 lbs (-2-4.5 lbs)
 - Helped irritability, social withdrawal, stereotypic/repetitive behaviors, hyperactivity
- Paliperidone
 - Stigler et al, in press
 - Open-label, 8 wks, 25 subjects
 - Average age 15 (range 12-21 yo)
 - Average dose 6.9 mg (range 3-9 mg)
 - 83% responded
 - Average weight gain 5 lbs (range -6-16 lbs)
- Zyprexa
 - Hollander et al, 2006
 - 11 children, 9 yo, 8 week, RCT, DB
 - Average dose 10 (8-12)
 - Average weight gain 7.5 lbs (3-12 lbs) vs. placebo 1.5 lbs (0-3 lbs)
- Seroquel
 - No placebo controlled data
- Geodon
 - No placebo controlled data
- Abilify
 - Owen et al, 2009
 - 98 kids, autism, RCT, DB, 8 weeks
 - Ages 6-17
 - Average dose 8.5 mg (2-15 mg/day)
 - Average weight gain 4 lbs vs. placebo 2.2 lbs
 - Effective
 - Marcus et al, 2009
 - 218 kids with autism, RCT, DB, 8 weeks
 - Ages 6-17
 - Assessed 5 mg, 10 mg, 15 mg
 - Average weight gain 2.5-3 lbs vs. placebo 0.6 lb
 - Effective
 - Marcus et al, 2011
 - 52-week, open-label
 - Average dose 9.6 mg/day
 - Effective

- Social impairment
 - Evidence of lack of efficacy
 - Fenfluramine
 - Naltrexone
 - Lamictal
 - Amantadine
 - Risperdal
 - Prozac
 - Celexa
 - D-cycloserine (Posey et al, 2008); some responders (but no more than placebo)
- Sleep
 - Melatonin
 - Clonidine
 - Trazodone
 - Remeron
 - Atarax
 - Doxepin
 - Benadryl
- Other
 - Secretin
 - Gluten-free, casein free diet
 - Oral immunoglobulin
 - Omega-3 fatty acids
 - B6, magnesium
 - NAC?