

THE ROLE OF PARTIAL AGONISTS AND SPECIFICALLY CARIPRAZINE IN DUAL DISORDERS

Á. Barabássi¹, Z. B. Dombi¹, R. Csehi¹, D. Djuric¹, Gy. Németh¹

¹Global Medical Division, Gedeon Richter Plc., Budapest, Hungary



OBJECTIVE

The objective of the poster is to evaluate the real-world evidence of the effectiveness of cariprazine in patients with dual disorders.



KEY TAKE-AWAYS

Evidence suggests that **cariprazine** is a **potential candidate** for dual disorders as it improves symptoms of both mental and substance use disorders.



Patients experienced **improvement** in various symptoms related to their mental disorder such as **anxiety, mood, psychotic symptoms** etc.



There has been **improvement** in symptoms of the substance use disorder such as **reduced craving or consumption**.



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INTRODUCTION

- The treatment of **dual disorders**, the co-occurrence of a major psychiatric disorder and a substance use disorder, represents a **great challenge**.
- Recent articles recommend antipsychotics with a **dopamine partial agonism** as first line treatment for these patients. Studies also postulate that drugs targeting the dopamine D3 receptors specifically might have an advantage, as these receptors are involved in drug-related reward, drug-seeking, and drug-intake behaviour. One compound that has both, partial agonist- and D3-activity is **cariprazine**.

METHODS

- We performed a **systematic literature search** on PubMed, looking for English language articles published between January 2017 - September 2023 with the following search terms: (cariprazine) AND (psychosis OR schizophrenia OR schizoaffective OR bipolar depression OR bipolar mania OR bipolar disorder OR major depressive disorder) AND ("substance use disorder" OR cocaine OR alcohol OR cannabis OR heroin OR "double diagnosis" OR "dual diagnosis") NOT (animal OR rat OR mouse) NOT (review or meta-analysis).
- An **additional targeted hand search** of congress reports, posters, and case reports was also conducted.

RESULTS

- The search yielded **8 articles with 11 case reports**.
- Mental health disorders included psychosis, schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, PTSD, and bipolar disorder while the abused substances were methamphetamine, cannabis, alcohol, and cocaine.
- All case reports described an **improvement in both the symptoms of mental and substance use disorder** with reduced craving and drug use and in some cases even ceasing drug use all together.

Table 1. Search results

SUBSTANCE	DIAGNOSIS	+ SUBSTANCE	CAR DOSE	OUTCOME
CANNABIS	Schizophrenia	Amphetamine	4.5 mg/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement of positive, negative and cognitive symptoms Markedly improved personal and social capabilities Cut down and eventually ceased smoking entirely
	Psychotic episode	-	6.0 mg/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stability with good mood and cooperativeness
	Psychotic disorder	-	3.0 mg/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement in positive and negative symptoms Stopped cannabis & started working
	Paranoid schizophrenia	Alcohol	3.0 mg/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Absence of positive, negative and cognitive symptoms Moderate capacity for insight and planning No side effects
METHAMPHETAMINE	Psychotic episode	Mephedrone, Cocaine, Alcohol	3.0 mg/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement in anxiety & mood Repercussion of the psychotic symptoms
	PTSD	Opioid	1.5 mg/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement of psychosis & craving 11 pounds of weight loss
COCAINE	PTSD	Opioid	3.0 mg/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No cravings with negative UDS Weight stabilized : stopped bingeing and purging Improvement of hypervigilance
	Schizophrenia	-	3.0 mg/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continues to abstain from consuming the substance
ALCOHOL	Bipolar disorder	-	3.0 mg/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A state of euthymia was observed with good tolerability No cocaine consumption.
	Schizophrenia	Cocaine, THC, MDMA	6.0 mg/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Denies having cravings for or consuming any psychoactive substances
	Schizoaffective disorder	Tobacco	4.5 mg/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weight loss without dieting Sustained remission in psychotic symptoms