

## Pharmacology Grade Evidence Tables – Appendix 19c

### Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Pharmacology Grade Evidence Tables – Appendix 19c .....  | 1  |
| Pharmacological interventions versus placebo and head-to head pharmacological interventions..... | 1  |
| Comparing the effectiveness of different dosages.....  | 35 |
| Maintenance treatment.....   | 48 |
| Augmentation .....   | 53 |

### Pharmacological interventions versus placebo and head-to head pharmacological interventions

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Escitalopram vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment  |            |             |               |              |             |                      | Summary of findings |         |                   |                        |         | Importance |
|---|------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------------|------------------------|---------|------------|
|   |            |             |               |              |             |                      | No of patients      |         | Effect            |                        | Quality |            |
| No of studies   | Design     | Limitations | Inconsistency | Indirectness | Imprecision | Other considerations | Escitalopram        | Placebo | Relative (95% CI) | Absolute               |         |            |
| <b>HAM-A (change from baseline) - Escitalopram (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |            |             |               |              |             |                      |                     |         |                   |                        |         |            |
| 4   | randomised | no serious  | no serious    | no serious   | no serious  | none                 | 816                 | 696     | -                 | MD 2.36 lower (3.28 to | ⊕⊕⊕⊕    |            |

|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                 |                          |  |                  |  |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--|------------------|--|
|  | trials            | limitations            | inconsistency            | indirectness            | imprecision            |      |                 |                 |                          | 1.43 lower)                                    | HIGH             |  |
| <b>Non-response - Escitalopram</b>           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                 |                          |  |                  |  |
| 3  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 233/613 (38%)   | 279/494 (56.5%) | RR 0.68 (0.44 to 1.05)   | 181 fewer per 1000 (from 316 fewer to 28 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                 |                          |  |                  |  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none | 240/344 (69.8%) | 265/355 (74.6%) | RR 0.93 (0.85 to 1.02)   | 52 fewer per 1000 (from 112 fewer to 15 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                 |                          |  |                  |  |
| 5  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 73/856 (8.5%)   | 38/745 (5.1%)   | RR 1.72 (1.16 to 2.53)   | 37 more per 1000 (from 8 more to 78 more)      | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Nausea</b>                                |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                 |                          |  |                  |  |
| 3  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 112/554 (20.2%) | 42/432 (9.7%)   | RR 2.02 (1.45 to 2.81)   | 99 more per 1000 (from 44 more to 176 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Anorgasmia - Escitalopram</b>             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                 |                          |  |                  |  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>3</sup>   | none | 17/427 (4%)     | 0/296 (0%)      | RR 13.17 (1.83 to 94.89) | 0 more per 1000 (from 0 more to 0 more)        | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Insomnia</b>                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                 |                          |  |                  |  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>4</sup>     | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 48/396 (12.1%)  | 21/275 (7.6%)   | RR 1.81 (1.07 to 3.08)   | 62 more per 1000 (from 5 more to 159 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |

<sup>1</sup> wide confidence interval compatible with benefit and no benefit

<sup>2</sup> relatively wide confidence intervals

<sup>3</sup> very wide confidence interval

<sup>4</sup> I-squared > 50%

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Sertraline vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | Summary of findings |                 |                        |   |                  | Importance |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------|---|------------------|------------|
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients      |                 | Effect                 |   | Quality          |            |
| No of studies   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Sertraline          | Placebo         | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute  |                  |            |
| <b>HAM-A (change from baseline) - Sertraline (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |   |                  |            |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 347                 | 351             | -                      | MD 2.46 lower (4.53 to 0.39 lower)              | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |            |
| <b>Non-response - Sertraline</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |   |                  |            |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 150/347 (43.2%)     | 213/351 (60.7%) | RR 0.71 (0.6 to 0.85)  | 176 fewer per 1000 (from 91 fewer to 243 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |   |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none                 | 126/182 (69.2%)     | 154/188 (81.9%) | RR 0.85 (0.75 to 0.95) | 123 fewer per 1000 (from 41 fewer to 205 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |   |                  |            |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>2</sup>     | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>3</sup>   | none                 | 22/347 (6.3%)       | 21/351 (6%)     | RR 1.07 (0.6 to 1.91)  | 4 more per 1000 (from 24 fewer to 54 more)      | ⊕⊕○○<br>LOW      |            |
| <b>Nausea</b>   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |   |                  |            |

|                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |                |                           |  |                  |  |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 2                           | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 88/349 (25.2%) | 48/352 (13.6%) | RR 1.85 (1.35 to 2.55)    | 116 more per 1000 (from 48 more to 211 more) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Ejaculation disorder</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |                |                           |  |                  |  |
| 1                           | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>4</sup>   | none | 7/184 (3.8%)   | 0/189 (0%)     | RR 15.41 (0.89 to 267.81) | 0 more per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Insomnia</b>             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |                |                           |  |                  |  |
| 2                           | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>3</sup>   | none | 65/349 (18.6%) | 52/352 (14.8%) | RR 1.26 (0.9 to 1.76)     | 38 more per 1000 (from 15 fewer to 112 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |

<sup>1</sup> only data on 1 study

<sup>2</sup> I-squared >50%

<sup>3</sup> wide confidence intervals compatible with benefit and harm

<sup>4</sup> very small number of events

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Paroxetine vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | Summary of findings |         |                   |                                    |              | Importance |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|------------|
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients      |         | Effect            |                                    | Quality      |            |
| No of studies   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Paroxetine          | Placebo | Relative (95% CI) | Absolute                           |              |            |
| <b>HAM-A (change from baseline) - Paroxetine (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |         |                   |                                    |              |            |
| 6   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 1203                | 1007    | -                 | MD 1.46 lower (2.23 to 0.69 lower) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH |            |
| <b>Non-response - Paroxetine</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |         |                   |                                    |              |            |

|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                  |                 |                         |   |                  |  |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---|------------------|--|
| 4  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>1</sup>     | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none | 309/697 (44.3%)  | 386/701 (55.1%) | RR 0.79 (0.65 to 0.97)  | 116 fewer per 1000 (from 17 fewer to 193 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>LOW      |  |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                  |                 |                         |   |                  |  |
| 5  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 711/1119 (63.5%) | 655/913 (71.7%) | RR 0.87 (0.82 to 0.92)  | 93 fewer per 1000 (from 57 fewer to 129 fewer)  | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                  |                 |                         |   |                  |  |
| 8  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 141/1493 (9.4%)  | 46/1291 (3.6%)  | RR 2.5 (1.81 to 3.45)   | 53 more per 1000 (from 29 more to 87 more)      | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Nausea</b>                                |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                  |                 |                         |   |                  |  |
| 7  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>1</sup>     | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 264/1272 (20.8%) | 73/1032 (7.1%)  | RR 2.98 (2.33 to 3.8)   | 140 more per 1000 (from 94 more to 198 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Sexual problem</b>                        |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                  |                 |                         |   |                  |  |
| 7  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>3</sup>   | none | 96/1272 (7.5%)   | 9/1068 (0.8%)   | RR 7.22 (3.77 to 13.83) | 52 more per 1000 (from 23 more to 108 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Insomnia</b>                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                  |                 |                         |   |                  |  |
| 4  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>1</sup>     | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 42/547 (7.7%)    | 18/544 (3.3%)   | RR 2.33 (1.35 to 4)     | 44 more per 1000 (from 12 more to 99 more)      | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>MODERATE |  |

<sup>1</sup> I-squared >50%

<sup>2</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit and no benefit

<sup>3</sup> small number of events

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-18

**Question:** Should **Citalopram vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:**

| Quality assessment                           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | Summary of findings |               |                        |  |                  | Importance |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|------------------------|--|------------------|------------|
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients      |               | Effect                 |  | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Citalopram          | Placebo       | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                       |                  |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |               |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 6/17 (35.3%)        | 0%            | RR 0.46 (0.23 to 0.93) | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 fewer)     | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |               |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 9/17 (52.9%)        | 14/17 (82.4%) | RR 0.64 (0.39 to 1.06) | 296 fewer per 1000 (from 502 fewer to 49 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     | 0%            |                        | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)      |                  |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |               |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 1/17 (5.9%)         | 0%            | RR 3.00 (0.13 to 68.8) | 0 more per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)       | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |

<sup>1</sup> Only one study

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Duloxetine vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment |        |             |               |              |             |                      | Summary of findings |         |                   |          |         | Importance |
|--------------------|--------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------------|----------|---------|------------|
|                    |        |             |               |              |             |                      | No of patients      |         | Effect            |          | Quality |            |
| No of studies      | Design | Limitations | Inconsistency | Indirectness | Imprecision | Other considerations | Duloxetine          | Placebo | Relative (95% CI) | Absolute |         |            |

| HAM-A Mean change from baseline (Better indicated by lower values) |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                 |                        |   |                  |  |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|---|------------------|--|
| 4  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 799             | 654             | -                      | MD 3.15 lower (4.1 to 2.21 lower)               | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Non-Response</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                 |                        |   |                  |  |
| 4  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>1</sup>     | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 399/826 (48.3%) | 433/665 (65.1%) | RR 0.75 (0.62 to 0.92) | 163 fewer per 1000 (from 52 fewer to 247 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Non-remission</b>   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                 |                        |   |                  |  |
| 4  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>1</sup>     | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 561/826 (67.9%) | 532/665 (80%)   | RR 0.86 (0.75 to 0.98) | 112 fewer per 1000 (from 16 fewer to 200 fewer) | ⊕⊕○○<br>LOW      |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>                       |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                 |                        |   |                  |  |
| 4  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>1</sup>     | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 122/826 (14.8%) | 35/665 (5.3%)   | RR 3.12 (1.55 to 6.31) | 112 more per 1000 (from 29 more to 279 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Nausea</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                 |                        |   |                  |  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 206/506 (40.7%) | 29/334 (8.7%)   | RR 4.54 (2.91 to 7.1)  | 307 more per 1000 (from 166 more to 530 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Sexual problems</b>   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                 |                        |   |                  |  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 28/506 (5.5%)   | 6/334 (1.8%)    | RR 2.95 (1.2 to 7.29)  | 35 more per 1000 (from 4 more to 113 more)      | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Insomnia</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                 |                        |   |                  |  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 43/506 (8.5%)   | 11/334 (3.3%)   | RR 2.46 (1.28 to 4.76) | 48 more per 1000 (from 9 more to 124 more)      | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |

<sup>1</sup> I-squared >50%

Author(s):

Date: 2010-03-15

Question: Should **Venlafaxine vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

Settings:

Bibliography: . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | Summary of findings |                 |                        |   |                  | Importance |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------|---|------------------|------------|
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients      |                 | Effect                 |   | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Venlafaxine         | Placebo         | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute  |                  |            |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |   |                  |            |
| 5   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>1</sup>     | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 595                 | 582             | -                      | MD 3.16 lower (4.81 to 1.51 lower)              | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |   |                  |            |
| 8   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>1</sup>     | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 607/1301 (46.7%)    | 550/923 (59.6%) | RR 0.79 (0.69 to 0.91) | 125 fewer per 1000 (from 54 fewer to 185 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                            |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |   |                  |            |
| 6   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>1</sup>     | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 496/725 (68.4%)     | 586/716 (81.8%) | RR 0.83 (0.74 to 0.94) | 139 fewer per 1000 (from 49 fewer to 213 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |   |                  |            |
| 10  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 302/1945 (15.5%)    | 95/1255 (7.6%)  | RR 2.04 (1.58 to 2.65) | 79 more per 1000 (from 44 more to 125 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |            |
| <b>Nausea</b>                                   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |   |                  |            |
| 8   | randomised        | no serious             | no serious               | no serious              | no serious             | none                 | 437/1253            | 117/976         | RR 2.76 (2.28          | 211 more per 1000 (from 153 more to 281         | ⊕⊕⊕⊕             |            |



|                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                           |  |                  |  |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|--|------------------|--|
|                             | trials            | limitations            | inconsistency            | indirectness            | imprecision            |      | (34.9%)        | (12%)         | to 3.34)                  | more)                                      | HIGH             |  |
| <b>Ejaculation disorder</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                           |  |                  |  |
| 3                           | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none | 68/526 (12.9%) | 0/360 (0%)    | RR 36.32 (7.76 to 170.02) | 0 more per 1000 (from 0 more to 0 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Insomnia</b>             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                           |  |                  |  |
| 6                           | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>1</sup>     | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 140/933 (15%)  | 60/738 (8.1%) | RR 1.56 (1.16 to 2.09)    | 46 more per 1000 (from 13 more to 89 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |

<sup>1</sup> I-squared >50%

<sup>2</sup> small number of events

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Imipramine vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |                      | Summary of findings |         |                   |  |             | Importance |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------------|--|-------------|------------|
| No of studies                                   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision               | Other considerations | No of patients      |         | Effect            |  | Quality     |            |
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |                      | Imipramine          | Placebo | Relative (95% CI) | Absolute                                   |             |            |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |                      |                     |         |                   |  |             |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | very serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 14                  | 14      | -                 | SMD 0.49 lower (1.24 lower to 0.27 higher) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>LOW |            |

<sup>1</sup> small study and very wide CIs

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Pregabalin vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | Summary of findings |                 |                        |  |                  | Importance |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--|------------------|------------|
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients      |                 | Effect                 |  | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Pregabalin          | Placebo         | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute   |                  |            |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 5   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 821                 | 475             | -                      | MD 2.97 lower (3.7 to 2.24 lower)                | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 8   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 674/1440 (46.8%)    | 425/705 (60.3%) | RR 0.77 (0.71 to 0.83) | 139 fewer per 1000 (from 102 fewer to 175 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                            |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 7   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 983/1319 (74.5%)    | 471/577 (81.6%) | RR 0.91 (0.87 to 0.96) | 73 fewer per 1000 (from 33 fewer to 106 fewer)   | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 8   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 164/1440 (11.4%)    | 60/705 (8.5%)   | RR 1.31 (0.99 to 1.74) | 26 more per 1000 (from 1 fewer to 63 more)       | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |            |
| <b>Nausea</b>                                   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 6   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none                 | 102/980 (10.4%)     | 47/552 (8.5%)   | RR 1.19 (0.85 to 1.66) | 16 more per 1000 (from 13 fewer to 56 more)      | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Insomnia</b>                                 |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 3   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none                 | 12/467              | 12/298          | RR 0.7 (0.32 to 1.46)  | 12 fewer per 1000 (from 1 fewer to 21 fewer)     | ⊕⊕⊕○             |            |

|                  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |               |                        |   |                  |  |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|-----------------|---------------|------------------------|---|------------------|--|
|                  | trials            | limitations            | inconsistency            | indirectness            |                        |      | (2.6%)          | (4%)          | to 1.54)               | 27 fewer to 22 more)                          | MODERATE         |  |
| <b>Dizziness</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 6                | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 270/980 (27.6%) | 43/552 (7.8%) | RR 3.36 (2.46 to 4.58) | 184 more per 1000 (from 114 more to 279 more) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Fatigue</b>   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1                | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>3</sup>   | none | 12/121 (9.9%)   | 5/128 (3.9%)  | RR 2.54 (0.92 to 6.99) | 60 more per 1000 (from 3 fewer to 234 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |

<sup>1</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit or harm

<sup>2</sup> small number of events

<sup>3</sup> data only for 1 study

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Diazepam vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | Summary of findings |                 |                        |  |                  | Importance |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--|------------------|------------|
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients      |                 | Effect                 |  | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Diazepam            | Placebo         | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                   |                  |            |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none                 | 12                  | 12              | -                      | SMD 0.21 lower (1.01 lower to 0.59 higher) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 3   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 96/247 (38.9%)      | 149/258 (57.8%) | RR 0.67 (0.54 to 0.84) | 191 fewer per 1000 (from 92 fewer to 266)  | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |            |

|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|----------------|---------------|------------------------|---|------------------|--|
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        | fewer)                                      |                  |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 4  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 20/259 (7.7%)  | 12/270 (4.4%) | RR 1.67 (0.82 to 3.39) | 30 more per 1000 (from 8 fewer to 106 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Libido</b>                                |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 5/104 (4.8%)   | 0/104 (0%)    | RR 11 (0.62 to 196.43) | 0 more per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Fatigue</b>                               |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none | 17/104 (16.3%) | 6/104 (5.8%)  | RR 2.83 (1.16 to 6.9)  | 106 more per 1000 (from 9 more to 340 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Dizziness</b>                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 16/158 (10.1%) | 5/161 (3.1%)  | RR 3.26 (1.22 to 8.7)  | 70 more per 1000 (from 7 more to 239 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |

<sup>1</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit and no benefit

<sup>2</sup> data only on 1 study

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Alprazolam vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment |        |             |               |              |             |                      | Summary of findings |         |                   |          |         | Importance |
|--------------------|--------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------------|----------|---------|------------|
|                    |        |             |               |              |             |                      | No of patients      |         | Effect            |          | Quality |            |
| No of studies      | Design | Limitations | Inconsistency | Indirectness | Imprecision | Other considerations | Alprazolam          | Placebo | Relative (95% CI) | Absolute |         |            |
|                    |        |             |               |              |             |                      |                     |         |                   |          |         |            |

| HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)     |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |      |          |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|----------------|---------------|------------------------|---|------|----------|
| 3  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 209            | 210           | -                      | MD 2.53 lower (3.9 to 1.17 lower)             | ⊕⊕⊕⊕ | HIGH     |
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 55/93 (59.1%)  | 62/91 (68.1%) | RR 0.87 (0.7 to 1.08)  | 89 fewer per 1000 (from 204 fewer to 55 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none | 69/93 (74.2%)  | 76/91 (83.5%) | RR 0.89 (0.76 to 1.03) | 92 fewer per 1000 (from 200 fewer to 25 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 12/93 (12.9%)  | 9/91 (9.9%)   | RR 1.3 (0.58 to 2.95)  | 30 more per 1000 (from 42 fewer to 193 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>Nausea</b>                                |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |      |          |
| 3  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 12/258 (4.7%)  | 16/258 (6.2%) | RR 0.74 (0.36 to 1.52) | 16 fewer per 1000 (from 40 fewer to 32 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>Insomnia</b>                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 3/63 (4.8%)    | 5/62 (8.1%)   | RR 0.59 (0.15 to 2.37) | 33 fewer per 1000 (from 69 fewer to 110 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>Fatigue</b>                               |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 3/63 (4.8%)    | 4/62 (6.5%)   | RR 0.74 (0.17 to 3.16) | 17 fewer per 1000 (from 54 fewer to 139 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>Dizziness</b>                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |      |          |
| 3  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 30/258 (11.6%) | 18/258 (7%)   | RR 1.65 (0.95 to 2.85) | 45 more per 1000 (from 3 fewer to 129 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |

<sup>1</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit and no benefit

<sup>2</sup> No explanation was provided

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Lorazepam vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | Summary of findings |                 |                        |  | Importance   |         |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--|--------------|---------|
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients      |                 | Effect                 |  |              | Quality |
| No of studies                                   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Lorazepam           | Placebo         | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                       |              |         |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |              |         |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 98                  | 87              | -                      | MD 2.49 lower (3.78 to 1.2 lower)              | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH |         |
| <b>Non-response</b>                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |              |         |
| 4   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>1</sup>     | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none                 | 133/230 (57.8%)     | 152/223 (68.2%) | RR 0.84 (0.66 to 1.07) | 109 fewer per 1000 (from 232 fewer to 48 more) | ⊕⊕○○<br>LOW  |         |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                            |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |              |         |
| 3   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>1</sup>     | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none                 | 151/200 (75.5%)     | 171/203 (84.2%) | RR 0.9 (0.77 to 1.05)  | 84 fewer per 1000 (from 194 fewer to 42 more)  | ⊕⊕○○<br>LOW  |         |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |              |         |
| 4   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 83/255 (32.5%)      | 20/260 (7.7%)   | RR 4.04 (2.55 to 6.38) | 234 more per 1000 (from 119 more to 414 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH |         |
| <b>Nausea</b>                                   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |              |         |

|                  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |      |                |               |                        |  |                  |  |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|------|----------------|---------------|------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 4                | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>      | none | 29/222 (13.1%) | 19/213 (8.9%) | RR 1.42 (0.82 to 2.46) | 37 more per 1000 (from 16 fewer to 130 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Insomnia</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |      |                |               |                        |  |                  |  |
| 3                | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>1</sup>     | no serious indirectness | very serious <sup>2</sup> | none | 15/154 (9.7%)  | 7/146 (4.8%)  | RR 2.21 (0.3 to 16.32) | 58 more per 1000 (from 34 fewer to 735 more) | ⊕○○○<br>VERY LOW |  |
| <b>Dizziness</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |      |                |               |                        |  |                  |  |
| 4                | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision    | none | 40/222 (18%)   | 14/213 (6.6%) | RR 2.76 (1.54 to 4.93) | 116 more per 1000 (from 35 more to 258 more) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |

<sup>1</sup> I-squared > 50%

<sup>2</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit and no benefit

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Buspirone vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | Summary of findings |                 |                        |  |                  | Importance |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--|------------------|------------|
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients      |                 | Effect                 |  | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Buspirone           | Placebo         | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                     |                  |            |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 4   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 260                 | 259             | -                      | MD 1.93 lower (3.04 to 0.82 lower)           | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none                 | 107/180 (59.4%)     | 127/185 (68.6%) | RR 0.87 (0.74 to 1.01) | 89 fewer per 1000 (from 178 fewer to 7 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |

| Discontinuation due to adverse events |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                |                        |   |                  |  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|-----------------|----------------|------------------------|---|------------------|--|
| 3                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 46/293 (15.7%)  | 22/298 (7.4%)  | RR 2.02 (1.12 to 3.67) | 75 more per 1000 (from 9 more to 197 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| Nausea                                |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                |                        |   |                  |  |
| 2                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 56/178 (31.5%)  | 25/186 (13.4%) | RR 2.34 (1.53 to 3.58) | 180 more per 1000 (from 71 more to 347 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| Insomnia                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none | 10/80 (12.5%)   | 7/82 (8.5%)    | RR 1.46 (0.59 to 3.66) | 39 more per 1000 (from 35 fewer to 227 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| Dizziness                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |                |                        |   |                  |  |
| 4                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 137/375 (36.5%) | 38/379 (10%)   | RR 3.68 (2.66 to 5.08) | 269 more per 1000 (from 166 more to 409 more) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |

<sup>1</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit or no benefit

<sup>2</sup> data only for 1 study

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Hydroxyzine vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                       |        |             |               |              |             |                      | Summary of findings |         |                   |          |         | Importance |
|--|--------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------------|----------|---------|------------|
|  |        |             |               |              |             |                      | No of patients      |         | Effect            |          | Quality |            |
| No of studies                            | Design | Limitations | Inconsistency | Indirectness | Imprecision | Other considerations | Hydroxyzine         | Placebo | Relative (95% CI) | Absolute |         |            |
| HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values) |        |             |               |              |             |                      |                     |         |                   |          |         |            |



|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |              |               |                        |  |                  |  |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|--------------|---------------|------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 3  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 237          | 245           | -                      | MD 3.51 lower (4.91 to 2.11 lower)             | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |              |               |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 47/81 (58%)  | 58/81 (71.6%) | RR 0.81 (0.64 to 1.02) | 136 fewer per 1000 (from 258 fewer to 14 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |              |               |                        |  |                  |  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 7/159 (4.4%) | 5/169 (3%)    | RR 1.48 (0.48 to 4.6)  | 14 more per 1000 (from 15 fewer to 107 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |

<sup>1</sup> confidence intervals compatible with benefit or no benefit

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-18

**Question:** Should **Quetiapine 50mg vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:**

| Quality assessment   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | Summary of findings |         |                        |  | Importance       |         |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|------------------------|--|------------------|---------|
|                      |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients      |         | Effect                 |  |                  | Quality |
| No of studies        | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Quetiapine 50mg     | Placebo | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                   |                  |         |
| <b>Non-response</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |         |                        |  |                  |         |
| 2                    | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 186/455 (40.9%)     | 0%      | RR 0.82 (0.71 to 0.95) | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |         |
| <b>Non-remission</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |         |                        |  |                  |         |
| 2                    | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none                 | 305/455 (67%)       | 0%      | RR 0.92 (0.84 to 1)    | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |         |

| Discontinuation due to adverse events |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |    |                        |   |              |  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|----------------|----|------------------------|---|--------------|--|
| 2                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 66/455 (14.5%) | 0% | RR 2.62 (1.68 to 4.07) | 0 more per 1000 (from 0 more to 0 more) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH |  |

<sup>†</sup> Wide confidence interval

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-18

**Question:** Should **Quetiapine 150mg vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:**

| Quality assessment                           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | Summary of findings |         |                        |  |              | Importance |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|------------------------|--|--------------|------------|
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients      |         | Effect                 |  | Quality      |            |
| No of studies                                | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Quetiapine 150mg    | Placebo | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                   |              |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |         |                        |  |              |            |
| 3  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 253/678 (37.3%)     | 0%      | RR 0.73 (0.62 to 0.85) | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |         |                        |  |              |            |
| 3  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 423/678 (62.4%)     | 0%      | RR 0.86 (0.79 to 0.92) | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |         |                        |  |              |            |
| 3  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 122/678 (18%)       | 0%      | RR 2.97 (2.11 to 4.18) | 0 more per 1000 (from 0 more to 0 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH |            |

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-18

**Question:** Should **Quetiapine 300mg vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

Settings:  
Bibliography:

| Quality assessment                           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | Summary of findings |               |                        |   | Importance       |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|------------------------|---|------------------|
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients      |               | Effect                 |   |                  |
| No of studies                                | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Quetiapine 300mg    | Placebo       | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                      | Quality          |
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |               |                        |   |                  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 219/448 (48.9%)     | 0%            | RR 0.92 (0.81 to 1.05) | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |               |                        |   |                  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 327/448 (73%)       | 0%            | RR 1.00 (0.92 to 1.08) | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |               |                        |   |                  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 114/448 (25.4%)     | 31/450 (6.9%) | RR 3.69 (2.54 to 5.37) | 185 more per 1000 (from 106 more to 301 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     | 0%            |                        | 0 more per 1000 (from 0 more to 0 more)       |                  |

<sup>1</sup> Wide confidence interval

Author(s):  
Date: 2010-05-18

Question: Should **Quetiapine flexible dose vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

Settings:  
Bibliography:

| Quality assessment |  |  |  |  |  |  | Summary of findings |  |        | Importance |
|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------------------|--|--------|------------|
|                    |  |  |  |  |  |  | No of patients      |  | Effect |            |

| No of studies                                | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Quetiapine flexible dose | Placebo                                    | Relative (95% CI)       | Absolute   |                  |  |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                          |  |                         |  |                  |  |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 219/448 (48.9%)          | 238/450 (52.9%)                            | RR 0.42 (0.34 to 0.51)  | 307 fewer per 1000 (from 259 fewer to 349 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | 0%                       | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 fewer) |                         |  |                  |  |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                          |  |                         |  |                  |  |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 134/223 (60.1%)          | 198/227 (87.2%)                            | RR 0.69 (0.61 to 0.78)  | 270 fewer per 1000 (from 192 fewer to 340 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | 0%                       | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 fewer) |                         |  |                  |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                          |  |                         |  |                  |  |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none                 | 12/223 (5.4%)            | 3/227 (1.3%)                               | RR 4.07 (1.16 to 14.23) | 41 more per 1000 (from 2 more to 175 more)       | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | 0%                       | 0 more per 1000 (from 0 more to 0 more)    |                         |  |                  |  |

<sup>1</sup> Wide confidence interval

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-06-10

**Question:** Should **Escitalopram vs Paroxetine** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:**

| Quality assessment |        |             |               |              |             |       | Summary of findings |            |          |          | Importance |         |
|--------------------|--------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------|---------------------|------------|----------|----------|------------|---------|
|                    |        |             |               |              |             |       | No of patients      |            | Effect   |          |            | Quality |
| No of              | Design | Limitations | Inconsistency | Indirectness | Imprecision | Other | Escitalopram        | Paroxetine | Relative | Absolute |            |         |
|                    |        |             |               |              |             |       |                     |            |          |          |            |         |

| studies                                      |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        | considerations |                |               | (95% CI)               |   |                  |  |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|------------------------|---|------------------|--|
| <b>HAM-A</b>                                 |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none           | 0/326 (0%)     | 0/197 (0%)    | SMD -0.32 (0 to 0)     | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 fewer)      | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                | 0%            |                        |   |                  |  |
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none           | 65/269 (24.2%) | 56/140 (40%)  | RR 0.60 (0.45 to 0.81) | 160 fewer per 1000 (from 76 fewer to 220 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                | 0%            |                        |   |                  |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none           | 22/269 (8.2%)  | 13/140 (9.3%) | RR 0.88 (0.46 to 1.69) | 11 fewer per 1000 (from 50 fewer to 64 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                | 0%            |                        |   |                  |  |
| <b>Diarrhea</b>                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none           | 26/269 (9.7%)  | 12/140 (8.6%) | RR 1.13 (0.59 to 2.17) | 11 more per 1000 (from 35 fewer to 100 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                | 0%            |                        |   |                  |  |
| <b>Sexual problems</b>                       |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none           | 11/269 (4.1%)  | 10/140 (7.1%) | RR 0.57 (0.25 to 1.32) | 31 fewer per 1000 (from 54 fewer to 23 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                | 0%            |                        |   |                  |  |

| Anxiety |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |              |            |                        |  |                  |  |
|---------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------|--------------|------------|------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 1       | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 7/269 (2.6%) | 7/140 (5%) | RR 0.52 (0.19 to 1.45) | 24 fewer per 1000 (from 41 fewer to 23 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
|         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |              | 0%         |                        | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)    |                  |  |

<sup>1</sup> Wide confidence interval

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Sertraline vs Paroxetine** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | Summary of findings |               |                       |  |                  | Importance |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------------------|--|------------------|------------|
|                      |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients      |               | Effect                |  | Quality          |            |
| No of studies        | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Sertraline          | Paroxetine    | Relative (95% CI)     | Absolute                                       |                  |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |               |                       |  |                  |            |
| 1                    | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 15/25 (60%)         | 15/28 (53.6%) | RR 1.12 (0.7 to 1.79) | 64 more per 1000 (from 161 fewer to 423 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |               |                       |  |                  |            |
| 1                    | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 8/25 (32%)          | 11/28 (39.3%) | RR 0.81 (0.39 to 1.7) | 75 fewer per 1000 (from 240 fewer to 275 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |

<sup>1</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for either intervention

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Escitalopram vs Venlafaxine** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | Summary of findings |                |                        |  |                  | Importance |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------------|--|------------------|------------|
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients      |                | Effect                 |  | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Escitalopram        | Venlafaxine    | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                       |                  |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |                |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 64/131 (48.9%)      | 66/133 (49.6%) | RR 0.98 (0.77 to 1.26) | 10 fewer per 1000 (from 114 fewer to 129 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |                |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 91/131 (69.5%)      | 93/133 (69.9%) | RR 0.99 (0.85 to 1.16) | 7 fewer per 1000 (from 105 fewer to 112 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |                |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup> | none                 | 9/131 (6.9%)        | 17/133 (12.8%) | RR 0.54 (0.25 to 1.16) | 59 fewer per 1000 (from 96 fewer to 20 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |

<sup>1</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for either intervention

<sup>2</sup> Confidence interval compatible with benefit for escitalopram or no difference between interventions

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Duloxetine vs Venlafaxine** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                              |        |             |               |              |             |                      | Summary of findings |             |                   |          |         | Importance |
|---|--------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------------|----------|---------|------------|
|   |        |             |               |              |             |                      | No of patients      |             | Effect            |          | Quality |            |
| No of studies                                   | Design | Limitations | Inconsistency | Indirectness | Imprecision | Other considerations | Duloxetine          | Venlafaxine | Relative (95% CI) | Absolute |         |            |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |        |             |               |              |             |                      |                     |             |                   |          |         |            |

|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                 |                 |                        |  |                  |  |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 320             | 333             | -                      | MD 0.2 higher (0.92 lower to 1.32 higher)    | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Non-response</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                 |                 |                        |  |                  |  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>1,2</sup>   | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 152/320 (47.5%) | 150/333 (45%)   | RR 1.04 (0.78 to 1.39) | 18 more per 1000 (from 99 fewer to 176 more) | ⊕⊕OO<br>LOW      |  |
| <b>Non-remission</b>   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                 |                 |                        |  |                  |  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>3</sup> | none | 219/320 (68.4%) | 215/333 (64.6%) | RR 1.07 (0.94 to 1.21) | 45 more per 1000 (from 39 fewer to 136 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Sheehan Disability Scale (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                 |                 |                        |  |                  |  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 320             | 333             | -                      | MD 0.18 higher (0.83 lower to 1.2 higher)    | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>                       |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                 |                 |                        |  |                  |  |
| 2  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 43/320 (13.4%)  | 38/333 (11.4%)  | RR 1.18 (0.78 to 1.77) | 21 more per 1000 (from 25 fewer to 88 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Diarrhea</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                 |                 |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>3</sup> | none | 22/162 (13.6%)  | 12/164 (7.3%)   | RR 1.86 (0.95 to 3.62) | 63 more per 1000 (from 4 fewer to 192 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |

<sup>1</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for either intervention

<sup>2</sup> I-squared >50%

<sup>3</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for venlafaxine or no difference

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Venlafaxine vs Pregabalin** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment | Summary of findings | Importance |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------|
|--------------------|---------------------|------------|



|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients  |                 | Effect                 |   | Quality          |  |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|---|------------------|--|
| No of studies                                     | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Venlafaxine     | Pregabalin      | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute  |                  |  |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b>   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                 |                 |                        |   |                  |  |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none                 | 231             | 319             | -                      | MD 1.35 higher (0.82 lower to 3.53 higher)      | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Non-response</b>                               |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                 |                 |                        |   |                  |  |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>2</sup>     | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>3</sup>   | none                 | 113/238 (47.5%) | 134/328 (40.9%) | RR 1.13 (0.79 to 1.63) | 53 more per 1000 (from 86 fewer to 257 more)    | ⊕⊕○○<br>LOW      |  |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                 |                 |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>4</sup>   | none                 | 73/113 (64.6%)  | 135/207 (65.2%) | RR 0.99 (0.84 to 1.17) | 7 fewer per 1000 (from 104 fewer to 111 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Q-LES-Q (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                 |                 |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>3</sup>   | none                 | 125             | 121             | -                      | SMD 0.09 lower (0.34 lower to 0.16 higher)      | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>      |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                 |                 |                        |   |                  |  |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 45/238 (18.9%)  | 36/328 (11%)    | RR 1.72 (1.15 to 2.58) | 79 more per 1000 (from 16 more to 173 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Dizziness</b>                                  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                 |                 |                        |   |                  |  |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 26/238 (10.9%)  | 76/328 (23.2%)  | RR 0.49 (0.32 to 0.74) | 118 fewer per 1000 (from 60 fewer to 158 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Insomnia</b>                                   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                 |                 |                        |   |                  |  |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 20/238          | 9/328 (2.7%)    | RR 2.8 (1.31 to 5.91)  | 49 more per 1000 (from 10 more to 88 more)      | ⊕⊕⊕⊕             |  |

|                   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |                |                        |   |              |  |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|---|--------------|--|
|                   | trials            | limitations            | inconsistency            | indirectness            | imprecision            |      | (8.4%)         |                | to 6.01)               | 9 more to 137 more)                           | HIGH         |  |
| <b>Somnolence</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |                |                        |   |              |  |
| 2                 | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 10/238 (4.2%)  | 39/328 (11.9%) | RR 0.36 (0.18 to 0.72) | 76 fewer per 1000 (from 33 fewer to 97 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH |  |
| <b>Nausea</b>     |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |                |                        |   |              |  |
| 2                 | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 63/238 (26.5%) | 38/328 (11.6%) | RR 2.27 (1.57 to 3.29) | 147 more per 1000 (from 66 more to 265 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH |  |

<sup>1</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for pregabalin or no difference

<sup>2</sup> I-squared > 50%

<sup>3</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for either intervention

<sup>4</sup> data from only one study

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Venlafaxine vs Buspirone** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | Summary of findings |               |                        |   |                  | Importance |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|------------------------|---|------------------|------------|
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients      |               | Effect                 |   | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Venlafaxine         | Buspirone     | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                      |                  |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |               |                        |   |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 116/203 (57.1%)     | 55/98 (56.1%) | RR 1.02 (0.82 to 1.26) | 11 more per 1000 (from 101 fewer to 146 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |               |                        |   |                  |            |

|                  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |  |                  |  |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|----------------|---------------|------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 1                | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none | 50/203 (24.6%) | 15/98 (15.3%) | RR 1.61 (0.95 to 2.72) | 93 more per 1000 (from 8 fewer to 263 more)      | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Dizziness</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1                | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 38/203 (18.7%) | 46/98 (46.9%) | RR 0.4 (0.28 to 0.57)  | 282 fewer per 1000 (from 202 fewer to 338 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Nausea</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1                | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none | 78/203 (38.4%) | 29/98 (29.6%) | RR 1.3 (0.91 to 1.85)  | 89 more per 1000 (from 27 fewer to 252 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |

<sup>1</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for either intervention

<sup>2</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for buspirone or no difference

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Venlafaxine vs Diazepam** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | Summary of findings |               |                         |   |                  | Importance |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---|------------------|------------|
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients      |               | Effect                  |   | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Venlafaxine         | Diazepam      | Relative (95% CI)       | Absolute                                      |                  |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |               |                         |   |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 160/370 (43.2%)     | 39/89 (43.8%) | RR 0.99 (0.76 to 1.28)  | 4 fewer per 1000 (from 105 fewer to 123 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |               |                         |   |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup> | none                 | 40/370 (10.8%)      | 2/89 (2.2%)   | RR 4.81 (1.18 to 19.53) | 86 more per 1000 (from 4 more to 416 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |

<sup>1</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for either intervention

<sup>2</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for diazepam or no difference

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-18

**Question:** Should **Quetiapine 50mg vs Paroxetine** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:**

| Quality assessment                           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | Summary of findings |                 |                        |   |                  | Importance |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------|---|------------------|------------|
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients      |                 | Effect                 |   | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Quetiapine 50mg     | Paroxetine      | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                      |                  |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |                 |                        |   |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 76/217 (35%)        | 84/221 (38%)    | RR 0.92 (0.72 to 1.18) | 30 fewer per 1000 (from 106 fewer to 68 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     | 0%              |                        | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)     |                  |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |                 |                        |   |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 134/218 (61.5%)     | 150/221 (67.9%) | RR 0.91 (0.79 to 1.04) | 61 fewer per 1000 (from 143 fewer to 27 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     | 0%              |                        | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)     |                  |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |                 |                        |   |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 17/217 (7.8%)       | 26/221 (11.8%)  | RR 0.67 (0.37 to 1.19) | 39 fewer per 1000 (from 74 fewer to 22 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     | 0%              |                        | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)     |                  |            |

<sup>1</sup> CIs compatible with benefit and no benefit

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-18

**Question:** Should **Quetiapine 150mg vs Paroxetine** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:**

| Quality assessment                           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | Summary of findings |                 |                        |  |                  | Importance |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--|------------------|------------|
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients      |                 | Effect                 |  | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Quetiapine 150mg    | Paroxetine      | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                       |                  |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none                 | 76/217 (35%)        | 65/218 (29.8%)  | RR 1.17 (0.89 to 1.54) | 51 more per 1000 (from 33 fewer to 161 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     | 0%              |                        | 0 more per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)       |                  |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none                 | 134/218 (61.5%)     | 150/221 (67.9%) | RR 0.91 (0.79 to 1.04) | 41 more per 1000 (from 61 fewer to 163 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     | 0%              |                        | 0 more per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)       |                  |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 17/217 (7.8%)       | 35/218 (16.1%)  | RR 0.49 (0.28 to 0.84) | 82 fewer per 1000 (from 26 fewer to 116 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |            |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     | 0%              |                        | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 fewer)     |                  |            |

<sup>1</sup> CIs compatible with benefit and no benefit

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-18

**Question:** Should **Quetiapine 150mg vs Escitalopram** be used for GAD?

Settings:  
Bibliography:

| Quality assessment                           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | Summary of findings |                 |                        |  |                  | Importance |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--|------------------|------------|
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients      |                 | Effect                 |  | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Quetiapine 150mg    | Escitalopram    | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                       |                  |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 94/203 (46.3%)      | 86/219 (39.3%)  | RR 1.18 (0.94 to 1.47) | 71 more per 1000 (from 24 fewer to 185 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     | 0%              |                        | 0 more per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)       |                  |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 149/213 (70%)       | 140/219 (63.9%) | RR 1.09 (0.96 to 1.25) | 58 more per 1000 (from 26 fewer to 160 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     | 0%              |                        | 0 more per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)       |                  |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 21/213 (9.9%)       | 39/219 (17.8%)  | RR 0.55 (0.34 to 0.91) | 80 fewer per 1000 (from 16 fewer to 118 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     | 0%              |                        | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 fewer)     |                  |            |

<sup>1</sup> CIs compatible with benefit and no benefit

Author(s):  
Date: 2010-05-18

Question: Should **Quetiapine 300mg vs Escitalopram** be used for GAD?

Settings:  
Bibliography:

| Quality assessment                           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | Summary of findings |  |                        |   |                  | Importance |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--|------------------------|---|------------------|------------|
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients      |  | Effect                 |   | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Quetiapine 300mg    | Escitalopram                               | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute  |                  |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |  |                        |   |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none                 | 94/203 (46.3%)      | 101/207 (48.8%)                            | RR 0.95 (0.77 to 1.16) | 24 fewer per 1000 (from 112 fewer to 78 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>MODERATE |            |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | 0%                  | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)  |                        |   |                  |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |  |                        |   |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none                 | 149/213 (70%)       | 150/207 (72.5%)                            | RR 0.97 (0.85 to 1.09) | 22 fewer per 1000 (from 109 fewer to 65 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>MODERATE |            |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | 0%                  | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 more)  |                        |   |                  |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |  |                        |   |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 21/213 (9.9%)       | 52/206 (25.2%)                             | RR 0.39 (0.24 to 0.62) | 154 fewer per 1000 (from 96 fewer to 192 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |            |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | 0%                  | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 fewer) |                        |   |                  |            |

<sup>1</sup> CIs compatible with benefit and no benefit

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Hydroxyzine vs Buspirone** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment | Summary of findings | Importance |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------|
|--------------------|---------------------|------------|

|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients |               | Effect                 |   | Quality          |  |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------------|---|------------------|--|
| No of studies                                   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Hydroxyzine    | Buspirone     | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                      |                  |  |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 81             | 82            | -                      | SMD 0.26 lower (0.57 lower to 0.05 higher)    | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>At least one side effect</b>                 |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup> | none                 | 32/81 (39.5%)  | 31/82 (37.8%) | RR 1.05 (0.71 to 1.54) | 19 more per 1000 (from 110 fewer to 204 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |

<sup>1</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for hydroxyzine or no difference

<sup>2</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for either intervention

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Buspirone vs Lorazepam** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | Summary of findings |           |                   |  | Quality          | Importance |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|--|------------------|------------|
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients      |           | Effect            |  |                  |            |
| No of studies                                   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Buspirone           | Lorazepam | Relative (95% CI) | Absolute                                   |                  |            |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |           |                   |  |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 23                  | 20        | -                 | SMD 0.29 lower (0.89 lower to 0.32 higher) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |

<sup>1</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for either intervention



Author(s):

Date: 2010-03-15

Question: Should **Pregabalin vs Lorazepam** be used for GAD?

Settings:

Bibliography: . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | Summary of findings |                 |                        |  |                  | Importance |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--|------------------|------------|
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients      |                 | Effect                 |  | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Pregabalin          | Lorazepam       | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute   |                  |            |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none                 | 66                  | 68              | -                      | MD 1.55 lower (3.22 lower to 0.12 higher)        | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Non-response</b>                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 3   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>2</sup>     | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>3</sup>   | none                 | 232/410 (56.6%)     | 108/200 (54%)   | RR 1.04 (0.76 to 1.44) | 22 more per 1000 (from 130 fewer to 238 more)    | ⊕⊕○○<br>LOW      |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                            |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 3   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 325/410 (79.3%)     | 151/200 (75.5%) | RR 1.05 (0.95 to 1.15) | 38 more per 1000 (from 38 fewer to 113 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 3   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 59/410 (14.4%)      | 69/200 (34.5%)  | RR 0.42 (0.31 to 0.56) | 200 fewer per 1000 (from 152 fewer to 238 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |            |
| <b>Dizziness</b>                                |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |                 |                        |  |                  |            |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>4</sup>   | none                 | 62/205 (30.2%)      | 22/136 (16.2%)  | RR 1.85 (1.18 to 2.91) | 138 more per 1000 (from 29 more to 309 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |

| Somnolence |                   |                        |                      |                         |                      |      |                |                |                        |  |             |  |
|------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|--|-------------|--|
| 2          | randomised trials | no serious limitations | serious <sup>2</sup> | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 68/205 (33.2%) | 78/136 (57.4%) | RR 0.62 (0.35 to 1.11) | 218 fewer per 1000 (from 373 fewer to 63 more) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>LOW |  |

<sup>1</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for pregabalin or no difference

<sup>2</sup> I-squared > 50%

<sup>3</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit or no benefit

<sup>4</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for lorazepam or no difference

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-03-15

**Question:** Should **Pregabalin vs Alprazolam** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | Summary of findings |               |                        |   | Importance       |         |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|------------------------|---|------------------|---------|
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients      |               | Effect                 |   |                  | Quality |
| No of studies                                   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Pregabalin          | Alprazolam    | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                      |                  |         |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |               |                        |   |                  |         |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none                 | 261                 | 88            | -                      | SMD 0.09 lower (0.33 lower to 0.15 higher)    | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>MODERATE |         |
| <b>Non-response</b>                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |               |                        |   |                  |         |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none                 | 130/270 (48.1%)     | 55/93 (59.1%) | RR 0.81 (0.66 to 1)    | 112 fewer per 1000 (from 201 fewer to 0 more) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>MODERATE |         |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                            |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                     |               |                        |   |                  |         |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none                 | 203/270 (75.2%)     | 69/93 (74.2%) | RR 1.01 (0.88 to 1.16) | 7 more per 1000 (from 89 fewer to 119 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |         |

| Discontinuation due to adverse events |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|----------------|---------------|------------------------|---|------------------|--|
| 1                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 22/270 (8.1%)  | 12/93 (12.9%) | RR 0.63 (0.33 to 1.23) | 48 fewer per 1000 (from 86 fewer to 30 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| Dizziness                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 96/270 (35.6%) | 14/93 (15.1%) | RR 2.36 (1.42 to 3.93) | 205 more per 1000 (from 63 more to 441 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| Somnolence                            |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |               |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none | 97/270 (35.9%) | 39/93 (41.9%) | RR 0.86 (0.64 to 1.14) | 59 fewer per 1000 (from 151 fewer to 59 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |

<sup>1</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for either intervention

<sup>2</sup> Confidence intervals compatible with benefit for pregabalin or no difference

## Comparing the effectiveness of different dosages

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-13

**Question:** Should **Venlafaxine** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment   |            |             |               |              |                      |                      | Summary of findings |         |                   |                           |         | Importance |
|--|------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------------|---------------------------|---------|------------|
|  |            |             |               |              |                      |                      | No of patients      |         | Effect            |                           | Quality |            |
| No of studies  | Design     | Limitations | Inconsistency | Indirectness | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Venlafaxine         | control | Relative (95% CI) | Absolute                  |         |            |
| HAM-A - Venlafaxine 75mg vs 150mg (Better indicated by lower values) |            |             |               |              |                      |                      |                     |         |                   |                           |         |            |
| 1  | randomised | no serious  | no serious    | no serious   | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 87                  | 87      | -                 | MD 1.5 lower (3.15 lower) | ⊕⊕⊕○    |            |

|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |       |                        |   |                  |  |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|-----------------|-------|------------------------|---|------------------|--|
|   | trials            | limitations            | inconsistency            | indirectness            |                        |      |                 |       |                        | to 0.15 higher)                                 | MODERATE         |  |
| <b>Non Response - Venlafaxine 75mg vs 150mg</b>                           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |       |                        |   |                  |  |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 122/278 (43.9%) | 48.2% | RR 0.93 (0.78 to 1.12) | 34 fewer per 1000 (from 106 fewer to 58 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to Adverse Events - Venlafaxine 37.5mg vs 75mg</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |       |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 11/141 (7.8%)   | 12.7% | RR 0.61 (0.3 to 1.26)  | 50 fewer per 1000 (from 89 fewer to 33 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to Adverse Events - Venlafaxine 75mg vs 150mg</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |       |                        |   |                  |  |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 34/325 (10.5%)  | 12.3% | RR 0.85 (0.55 to 1.32) | 18 fewer per 1000 (from 55 fewer to 39 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Nausea - Venlafaxine 37.5mg vs 75mg</b>                                |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |       |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 31/140 (22.1%)  | 34.3% | RR 0.65 (0.44 to 0.95) | 120 fewer per 1000 (from 17 fewer to 192 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Nausea - Venlafaxine 75mg vs 150mg</b>                                 |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |       |                        |   |                  |  |
| 3   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 120/328 (36.6%) | 43.6% | RR 0.82 (0.68 to 0.98) | 78 fewer per 1000 (from 9 fewer to 140 fewer)   | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Nausea - Venlafaxine 150mg vs 225mg</b>                                |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |       |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none | 46/91 (50.5%)   | 46.7% | RR 1.08 (0.8 to 1.46)  | 37 more per 1000 (from 93 fewer to 215 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Insomnia - Venlafaxine 75mg vs 150mg</b>                               |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |       |                        |   |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 16/92 (17.4%)   | 29.7% | RR 0.59 (0.34 to 1.01) | 122 fewer per 1000 (from 196 fewer to 3 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Insomnia - Venlafaxine 150mg vs 225mg</b>                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                 |       |                        |   |                  |  |

|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |       |                        |  |                  |  |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|----------------|-------|------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 27/91 (29.7%)  | 31.1% | RR 0.95 (0.61 to 1.48) | 16 fewer per 1000 (from 121 fewer to 149 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Nervousness - Venlafaxine 75mg vs 150mg</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 10/92 (10.9%)  | 17.6% | RR 0.62 (0.3 to 1.29)  | 67 fewer per 1000 (from 123 fewer to 51 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Nervousness - Venlafaxine 150mg vs 225mg</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 16/91 (17.6%)  | 10%   | RR 1.76 (0.82 to 3.77) | 76 more per 1000 (from 18 fewer to 277 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Dizziness - Venlafaxine 37.5mg vs 75mg</b>   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 21/140 (15%)   | 21.6% | RR 0.69 (0.42 to 1.15) | 67 fewer per 1000 (from 125 fewer to 32 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Dizziness - Venlafaxine 75mg vs 150mg</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 3   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 70/328 (21.3%) | 22%   | RR 0.82 (0.56 to 1.2)  | 40 fewer per 1000 (from 97 fewer to 44 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Dizziness - Venlafaxine 150mg vs 225mg</b>   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 20/91 (22%)    | 7.6%  | RR 2.91 (1.6 to 5.29)  | 145 more per 1000 (from 46 more to 326 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Asthenia - Venlafaxine 75mg vs 150mg</b>     |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 24/194 (12.4%) | 17.5% | RR 0.7 (0.43 to 1.13)  | 53 fewer per 1000 (from 100 fewer to 23 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Asthenia - Venlafaxine 150mg vs 225mg</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 12/91 (13.2%)  | 21.1% | RR 0.62 (0.32 to 1.21) | 80 fewer per 1000 (from 143 fewer to 44 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |

<sup>1</sup> Wide confidence interval

<sup>2</sup> No explanation was provided

Author(s):

Date: 2010-05-13

Question: Should **Escitalopram** be used for GAD?

Settings:

Bibliography: . [Intervention] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | Summary of findings |         |                        |   |                  | Importance |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|------------------------|---|------------------|------------|
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients      |         | Effect                 |   | Quality          |            |
| No of studies   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Escitalopram        | control | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                      |                  |            |
| <b>HAM-A - Escitalopram 5mg vs 10mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |         |                        |   |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 134                 | 134     | -                      | SMD 0.23 higher (0.01 lower to 0.47 higher)   | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>HAM-A - Escitalopram 10mg vs 20mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |         |                        |   |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 134                 | 132     | -                      | SMD 0.07 lower (0.31 lower to 0.17 higher)    | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to Adverse events - Escitalopram 5mg vs 10mg</b>     |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |         |                        |   |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup> | none                 | 7/134 (5.2%)        | 5.9%    | RR 0.89 (0.33 to 2.38) | 6 fewer per 1000 (from 40 fewer to 81 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to Adverse events - Escitalopram 10mg vs 20mg</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |         |                        |   |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 8/136 (5.9%)        | 10.5%   | RR 0.56 (0.24 to 1.29) | 46 fewer per 1000 (from 80 fewer to 30 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Nausea - Escitalopram 5mg vs 10mg</b>                                    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |         |                        |   |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 20/134 (14.9%)      | 20.6%   | RR 0.72 (0.43 to 1.22) | 58 fewer per 1000 (from 117 fewer to 45 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |

| Nausea - Escitalopram 10mg vs 20mg    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------|----------------|-------|------------------------|---|------|----------|
| 1                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 28/136 (20.6%) | 21.1% | RR 0.98 (0.61 to 1.56) | 4 fewer per 1000 (from 82 fewer to 118 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Fatigue - Escitalopram 5mg vs 10mg    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 11/134 (8.2%)  | 10.3% | RR 0.8 (0.38 to 1.69)  | 21 fewer per 1000 (from 64 fewer to 71 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Fatigue - Escitalopram 10mg vs 20mg   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 14/136 (10.3%) | 16.5% | RR 0.62 (0.33 to 1.16) | 63 fewer per 1000 (from 111 fewer to 26 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Headache - Escitalopram 5mg vs 10mg   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 21/134 (15.7%) | 25%   | RR 0.63 (0.38 to 1.02) | 93 fewer per 1000 (from 155 fewer to 5 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Headache - Escitalopram 10mg vs 20mg  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 34/136 (25%)   | 15.8% | RR 1.58 (0.97 to 2.58) | 92 more per 1000 (from 5 fewer to 250 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Insomnia - Escitalopram 5mg vs 10mg   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 12/134 (9%)    | 12.5% | RR 0.72 (0.36 to 1.44) | 35 fewer per 1000 (from 80 fewer to 55 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Insomnia - Escitalopram 10mg vs 20mg  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 17/136 (12.5%) | 10.5% | RR 1.19 (0.61 to 2.31) | 20 more per 1000 (from 41 fewer to 138 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Somnolence - Escitalopram 5mg vs 10mg |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1                                     | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 10/134 (7.5%)  | 3.7%  | RR 2.03 (0.71 to 5.78) | 38 more per 1000 (from 11 fewer to 177 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |

| Somnolence - Escitalopram 10mg vs 20mg |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |  |      |          |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------|----------------|-------|------------------------|--|------|----------|
| 1                                      | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 5/136 (3.7%)   | 7.5%  | RR 0.49 (0.17 to 1.39) | 38 fewer per 1000 (from 62 fewer to 29 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Anxiety - Escitalopram 5mg vs 10mg     |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1                                      | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 9/134 (6.7%)   | 2.2%  | RR 3.04 (0.84 to 11)   | 45 more per 1000 (from 4 fewer to 220 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Anxiety - Escitalopram 10mg vs 20mg    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1                                      | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 3/136 (2.2%)   | 3%    | RR 0.73 (0.17 to 3.21) | 8 fewer per 1000 (from 25 fewer to 66 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Dizziness - Escitalopram 5mg vs 10mg   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1                                      | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 6/134 (4.5%)   | 10.3% | RR 0.43 (0.17 to 1.1)  | 59 fewer per 1000 (from 85 fewer to 10 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Dizziness - Escitalopram 10mg vs 20mg  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1                                      | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 14/136 (10.3%) | 9%    | RR 1.14 (0.55 to 2.37) | 13 more per 1000 (from 41 fewer to 123 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |

<sup>1</sup> Wide confidence interval

<sup>2</sup> No explanation was provided

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-13

**Question:** Should **Paroxetine** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment |        |             |               |              |             |       | Summary of findings |         |          |          |         | Importance |
|--------------------|--------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------|---------------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|------------|
|                    |        |             |               |              |             |       | No of patients      |         | Effect   |          | Quality |            |
| No of              | Design | Limitations | Inconsistency | Indirectness | Imprecision | Other | Paroxetine          | control | Relative | Absolute |         |            |
|                    |        |             |               |              |             |       |                     |         |          |          |         |            |



| studies  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      | considerations |                 |       | (95% CI)               |  |      |          |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------|------------------------|--|------|----------|
| <b>HAM-A - Paroxetine 20mg vs 40mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                |                 |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none           | 188             | 197   | -                      | MD 0.3 lower (2.02 lower to 1.42 higher)     | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>HADS-A - Paroxetine 20mg vs 40mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                |                 |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none           | 188             | 197   | -                      | MD 0.3 lower (2.02 lower to 1.42 higher)     | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>Non-response - Paroxetine 20mg vs 40mg</b>                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                |                 |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none           | 72/189 (38.1%)  | 32%   | RR 1.19 (0.91 to 1.57) | 61 more per 1000 (from 29 fewer to 182 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>Non-remission - Paroxetine 20mg vs 40mg</b>                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                |                 |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none           | 132/189 (69.8%) | 64%   | RR 1.09 (0.95 to 1.26) | 58 more per 1000 (from 32 fewer to 166 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>Discontinuation due to Adverse Events - Paroxetine 20mg vs 40mg</b>     |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                |                 |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none           | 19/189 (10.1%)  | 12.2% | RR 0.83 (0.47 to 1.46) | 21 fewer per 1000 (from 65 fewer to 56 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>Nausea - Paroxetine 20mg vs 40mg</b>                                    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                |                 |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none           | 36/189 (19%)    | 16.8% | RR 1.14 (0.74 to 1.74) | 24 more per 1000 (from 44 fewer to 124 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>Somnolence - Paroxetine 20mg vs 40mg</b>                                |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                |                 |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none           | 38/189 (20.1%)  | 17.8% | RR 1.13 (0.75 to 1.71) | 23 more per 1000 (from 44 fewer to 126 more) | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>Decreased libido - Paroxetine 20mg vs 40mg</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                |                 |       |                        |  |      |          |

|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |  |                  |  |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------|----------------|-------|------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 24/189 (12.7%) | 10.7% | RR 1.19 (0.69 to 2.07) | 20 more per 1000 (from 33 fewer to 114 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Decreased appetite - Paroxetine 20mg vs 40mg</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 13/189 (6.9%)  | 6.1%  | RR 1.13 (0.53 to 2.41) | 8 more per 1000 (from 29 fewer to 86 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |

<sup>1</sup>Wide confidence interval

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-13

**Question:** Should **Duloxetine** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | Summary of findings |         |                   |   | Importance       |         |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------------|---|------------------|---------|
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients      |         | Effect            |   |                  | Quality |
| No of studies  | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Duloxetine          | control | Relative (95% CI) | Absolute                                  |                  |         |
| <b>HAM-A - Duloxetine 20mg vs 60-120mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |         |                   |   |                  |         |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 83                  | 151     | -                 | MD 0.6 higher (1.09 lower to 2.29 higher) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |         |
| <b>HAM-A - Duloxetine 60mg vs 120mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b>     |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |         |                   |   |                  |         |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 165                 | 169     | -                 | MD 0.34 lower (2.47 lower to 1.79 higher) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |         |
| <b>HADS-A - Duloxetine 20mg vs 60-120mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |         |                   |   |                  |         |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 83                  | 151     | -                 | MD 0.7 higher (0.19 lower to 1.59 higher) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |         |
| <b>HADS-A - Duloxetine 60mg vs 120mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |         |                   |   |                  |         |

|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------|----------------|-------|------------------------|---|------|----------|
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 160            | 163   | -                      | MD 0.18 lower (1.2 lower to 0.84 higher)      | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| <b>Non-response - Duloxetine 20mg vs 60-120mg</b>   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 34/84 (40.5%)  | 38%   | RR 1.07 (0.77 to 1.48) | 27 more per 1000 (from 87 fewer to 182 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| <b>Non-response - Duloxetine 60mg vs 120mg</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 71/168 (42.3%) | 44.1% | RR 0.96 (0.75 to 1.22) | 18 fewer per 1000 (from 110 fewer to 97 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| <b>Non-remission - Duloxetine 60mg vs 120mg</b>   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 116/168 (69%)  | 61.8% | RR 1.12 (0.96 to 1.31) | 74 more per 1000 (from 25 fewer to 192 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| <b>Sheehan Disability Scale - Duloxetine 60mg vs 120mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 156            | 160   | -                      | MD 0.99 lower (2.9 lower to 0.92 higher)      | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| <b>Q-LES-Q-SF - Duloxetine 60mg vs 120mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b>               |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 136            | 129   | -                      | MD 0.18 higher (2.21 lower to 2.57 higher)    | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| <b>Discontinuation due to Adverse Events - Duloxetine 20mg vs 60-120mg</b>                    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 4/84 (4.8%)    | 12.7% | RR 0.38 (0.13 to 1.06) | 79 fewer per 1000 (from 110 fewer to 8 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| <b>Discontinuation due to Adverse Events - Duloxetine 60mg vs 120mg</b>                       |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 19/168 (11.3%) | 15.3% | RR 0.74 (0.43 to 1.28) | 40 fewer per 1000 (from 87 fewer to 43 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| <b>Discontinuation due to Any Reason - Duloxetine 60mg vs 120mg</b>                           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |      |          |

|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                |       |                        |   |                  |  |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------|----------------|-------|------------------------|---|------------------|--|
| 1 | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 33/168 (19.6%) | 27.1% | RR 0.73 (0.49 to 1.08) | 73 fewer per 1000 (from 138 fewer to 22 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------|----------------|-------|------------------------|---|------------------|--|

<sup>1</sup> Wide confidence interval

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-13

**Question:** Pregablin for [health problem]

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment   |                       |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | Summary of findings |         |                   |   |                  | Importance |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------------|---|------------------|------------|
|  |                       |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients      |         | Effect            |   | Quality          |            |
| No of studies  | Design                | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Pregablin           | control | Relative (95% CI) | Absolute                                  |                  |            |
| <b>HAM-A - Pregablin 150mg vs 600mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                       |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |         |                   |   |                  |            |
| 1  | no methodology chosen | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 69                  | 61      | -                 | MD 2.28 higher (0.58 to 3.98 higher)      | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>HAM-A - Pregablin 200mg vs 400mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                       |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |         |                   |   |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials     | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 78                  | 89      | -                 | MD 0.5 higher (1.07 lower to 2.07 higher) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>HAM-A - Pregablin 300mg vs 450mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                       |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |         |                   |   |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials     | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 89                  | 87      | -                 | MD 1.2 lower (2.77 lower to 0.37 higher)  | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>HAM-A - Pregablin 400mg vs 450mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                       |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |         |                   |   |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials     | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 89                  | 88      | -                 | MD 0.5 lower (2.07 lower to 1.07 higher)  | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>HAM-A - Pregablin 400mg vs 600mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                       |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                     |         |                   |   |                  |            |

|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|------------------|-------|------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 94               | 104   | -                      | MD 3.1 lower (4.69 to 1.51 lower)                  | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>HAM-A - Pregablin 450mg vs 600mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 87               | 85    | -                      | MD 0.8 higher (0.77 lower to 2.37 higher)          | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>HADS-A - Pregablin 400mg vs 600mg (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 94               | 104   | -                      | MD 0.4 lower (1.41 lower to 0.61 higher)           | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Non Response - Pregablin 300mg vs 450mg</b>                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 35/91<br>(38.5%) | 53.3% | RR 0.72 (0.52 to 1)    | 149 fewer per 1000<br>(from 256 fewer to 0 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Non Response - Pregablin 450mg vs 600mg</b>                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 48/90<br>(53.3%) | 47.2% | RR 1.13 (0.84 to 1.51) | 61 more per 1000 (from 76 fewer to 241 more)       | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to Adverse Events - Pregablin 150mg vs 600mg</b>     |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 7/69<br>(10.1%)  | 28.6% | RR 0.36 (0.16 to 0.79) | 183 fewer per 1000<br>(from 60 fewer to 240 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕<br>HIGH     |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to Adverse Events - Pregablin 300mg vs 450mg</b>     |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 3/91<br>(3.3%)   | 7.8%  | RR 0.42 (0.11 to 1.59) | 45 fewer per 1000 (from 69 fewer to 46 more)       | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to Adverse Events - Pregablin 400mg vs 600mg</b>     |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 6/97<br>(6.2%)   | 13.6% | RR 0.45 (0.18 to 1.12) | 75 fewer per 1000 (from 112 fewer to 16 more)      | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |  |

| Discontinuation due to Adverse Events - Pregablin 450mg vs 600mg |                       |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |               |       |                        |   |      |          |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|---------------|-------|------------------------|---|------|----------|
| 1  | randomised trials     | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 7/90 (7.8%)   | 14.6% | RR 0.53 (0.22 to 1.27) | 69 fewer per 1000 (from 114 fewer to 39 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕⊕ | MODERATE |
| Discontinuation for any reason - Pregablin 400mg vs 600mg        |                       |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |               |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1  | no methodology chosen |                        |                          |                         |                        | none | 16/97 (16.5%) | 26.4% | RR 0.63 (0.36 to 1.08) | 98 fewer per 1000 (from 169 fewer to 21 more)   |      |          |
| Somnolence - Pregablin 150mg vs 600mg                            |                       |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |               |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials     | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 10/69 (14.5%) | 35.7% | RR 0.41 (0.21 to 0.78) | 211 fewer per 1000 (from 79 fewer to 282 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕ | HIGH     |
| Somnolence - Pregablin 200mg vs 400mg                            |                       |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |               |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials     | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 24/78 (30.8%) | 37.1% | RR 0.83 (0.54 to 1.27) | 63 fewer per 1000 (from 171 fewer to 100 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕⊕ | MODERATE |
| Somnolence - Pregablin 300mg vs 450mg                            |                       |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |               |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials     | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 35/91 (38.5%) | 40%   | RR 0.96 (0.67 to 1.38) | 16 fewer per 1000 (from 132 fewer to 152 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕⊕ | MODERATE |
| Somnolence - Pregablin 400mg vs 450mg                            |                       |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |               |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials     | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none | 33/89 (37.1%) | 23.9% | RR 1.55 (0.98 to 2.46) | 131 more per 1000 (from 5 fewer to 349 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕⊕ | HIGH     |
| Somnolence - Pregablin 400mg vs 600mg                            |                       |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |               |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials     | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 13/97 (13.4%) | 13.6% | RR 0.98 (0.49 to 1.96) | 3 fewer per 1000 (from 69 fewer to 131 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕⊕ | MODERATE |
| Somnolence - Pregablin 450mg vs 600mg                            |                       |                        |                          |                         |                        |      |               |       |                        |   |      |          |
| 1  | randomised trials     | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none | 36/90         | 41.6% | RR 0.96 (0.68          | 17 fewer per 1000 (from                         | ⊕⊕⊕⊕ |          |

|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------|------------------|-------|------------------------|--|------------------|--|
|   |                   | limitations            | inconsistency            | indirectness            |                      |      | (40%)            |       | to 1.37)               | 133 fewer to 154 more)                           | MODERATE         |  |
| <b>Dizziness - Pregablin 150mg vs 600mg</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 16/69<br>(23.2%) | 38.6% | RR 0.6 (0.36 to 1.01)  | 154 fewer per 1000<br>(from 247 fewer to 4 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Dizziness - Pregablin 200mg vs 400mg</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 27/78<br>(34.6%) | 49.4% | RR 0.7 (0.48 to 1.01)  | 148 fewer per 1000<br>(from 257 fewer to 5 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Dizziness - Pregablin 300mg vs 450mg</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 37/91<br>(40.7%) | 37.8% | RR 1.08 (0.75 to 1.55) | 30 more per 1000 (from 94 fewer to 208 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Dizziness - Pregablin 400mg vs 450mg</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 44/89<br>(49.4%) | 42.1% | RR 1.18 (0.85 to 1.62) | 76 more per 1000 (from 63 fewer to 261 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Dizziness - Pregablin 400mg vs 600mg</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 22/97<br>(22.7%) | 26.4% | RR 0.86 (0.53 to 1.39) | 37 fewer per 1000 (from 124 fewer to 103 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Dizziness - Pregablin 450mg vs 600mg</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 34/90<br>(37.8%) | 39.3% | RR 0.96 (0.66 to 1.39) | 16 fewer per 1000 (from 134 fewer to 153 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |
| <b>Nausea - Pregablin 150mg vs 600mg</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |                  |       |                        |  |                  |  |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 5/69<br>(7.2%)   | 8.6%  | RR 0.85 (0.27 to 2.64) | 13 fewer per 1000 (from 63 fewer to 141 more)    | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |  |

| Nausea - Pregablin 300mg vs 450mg   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |               |       |                        |  |      |          |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------|---------------|-------|------------------------|--|------|----------|
| 1                                   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 10/91 (11%)   | 14.4% | RR 0.76 (0.35 to 1.65) | 35 fewer per 1000 (from 94 fewer to 94 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Nausea - Pregablin 400mg vs 600mg   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |               |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1                                   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 9/97 (9.3%)   | 12.7% | RR 0.73 (0.33 to 1.61) | 34 fewer per 1000 (from 85 fewer to 77 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Nausea - Pregablin 450mg vs 600mg   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |               |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1                                   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 13/90 (14.4%) | 11.2% | RR 1.29 (0.59 to 2.78) | 32 more per 1000 (from 46 fewer to 199 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Headache - Pregablin 150mg vs 600mg |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |               |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1                                   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 13/69 (18.8%) | 21.4% | RR 0.88 (0.45 to 1.71) | 26 fewer per 1000 (from 118 fewer to 152 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Headache - Pregablin 400mg vs 600mg |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |               |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1                                   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 7/97 (7.2%)   | 8.2%  | RR 0.88 (0.34 to 2.28) | 10 fewer per 1000 (from 54 fewer to 105 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| Insomnia - Pregablin 400mg vs 600mg |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |      |               |       |                        |  |      |          |
| 1                                   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 1/97 (1%)     | 2.7%  | RR 0.38 (0.04 to 3.57) | 17 fewer per 1000 (from 26 fewer to 69 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |

<sup>1</sup> Wide confidence interval

## Maintenance treatment

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-18

**Question:** Should **Pregabalin versus Placebo** be used for GAD?



**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | Summary of findings       |         |                        |  |                  | Importance |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------|------------------------|--|------------------|------------|
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients            |         | Effect                 |  | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Pregabalin versus Placebo | control | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute   |                  |            |
| <b>Relapse</b>                                  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                           |         |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 71/168 (42.3%)            | 65.3%   | RR 0.65 (0.53 to 0.8)  | 229 fewer per 1000 (from 131 fewer to 307 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                           |         |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 168                       | 170     | -                      | SMD 0.52 lower (0.73 to 0.3 lower)               | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation for any reason</b>           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                           |         |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 61/168 (36.3%)            | 22.4%   | RR 1.62 (1.15 to 2.29) | 139 more per 1000 (from 34 more to 289 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                           |         |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup> | none                 | 10/168 (6%)               | 2.4%    | RR 2.53 (0.81 to 7.91) | 37 more per 1000 (from 5 fewer to 166 more)      | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |

<sup>1</sup> Only one study

<sup>2</sup> Wide confidence interval

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-18

**Question:** Should **Duloxetine versus Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                                   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                          |                      | Summary of findings       |         |                         |  |                  | Importance |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------|-------------------------|--|------------------|------------|
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                          |                      | No of patients            |         | Effect                  |  | Quality          |            |
| No of studies  | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision              | Other considerations | Duloxetine versus Placebo | control | Relative (95% CI)       | Absolute   |                  |            |
| <b>Relapse</b>                                       |                   |                        |                          |                         |                          |                      |                           |         |                         |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>     | none                 | 28/204 (13.7%)            | 41.8%   | RR 0.33 (0.22 to 0.48)  | 280 fewer per 1000 (from 217 fewer to 326 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                                 |                   |                        |                          |                         |                          |                      |                           |         |                         |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>     | none                 | 68/213 (31.9%)            | 60.7%   | RR 0.53 (0.42 to 0.66)  | 285 fewer per 1000 (from 206 fewer to 352 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b>      |                   |                        |                          |                         |                          |                      |                           |         |                         |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1,2,3</sup> | none                 | 213                       | 211     | -                       | SMD 0.7 lower (0.9 to 0.51 lower)                | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Q-LES-Q-SF (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                          |                      |                           |         |                         |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>     | none                 | 209                       | 198     | -                       | SMD 0.74 lower (0.94 to 0.53 lower)              | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation for any reason</b>                |                   |                        |                          |                         |                          |                      |                           |         |                         |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>     | none                 | 49/216 (22.7%)            | 45.5%   | RR 0.5 (0.37 to 0.66)   | 228 fewer per 1000 (from 155 fewer to 287 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                          |                      |                           |         |                         |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>3</sup>     | none                 | 4/216 (1.9%)              | 0.9%    | RR 1.97 (0.37 to 10.65) | 9 more per 1000 (from 6 fewer to 87 more)        | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |

<sup>1</sup> High drop out

<sup>2</sup> Only one study

<sup>3</sup> Wide confidence interval

Author(s):

Date: 2010-05-18

Question: Should **Paroxetine versus Placebo** be used for GAD?

Settings:

Bibliography: . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | Summary of findings       |         |                        |  |                  | Importance |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------|------------------------|--|------------------|------------|
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      | No of patients            |         | Effect                 |  | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision            | Other considerations | Paroxetine versus Placebo | control | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute   |                  |            |
| <b>Relapse</b>                                  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                           |         |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1,2</sup> | none                 | 30/274 (10.9%)            | 40.1%   | RR 0.27 (0.19 to 0.39) | 293 fewer per 1000 (from 245 fewer to 325 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                            |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                           |         |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1,2</sup> | none                 | 74/274 (27%)              | 65.5%   | RR 0.41 (0.33 to 0.51) | 386 fewer per 1000 (from 321 fewer to 439 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                           |         |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1,2</sup> | none                 | 274                       | 287     | -                      | SMD 1.03 lower (1.2 to 0.85 lower)               | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation for any reason</b>           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                           |         |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1,2</sup> | none                 | 62/278 (22.3%)            | 49%     | RR 0.46 (0.36 to 0.58) | 265 fewer per 1000 (from 206 fewer to 314 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                      |                           |         |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none                 | 11/278 (4%)               | 3.1%    | RR 1.27 (0.53 to 3.01) | 8 more per 1000 (from 15 fewer to 62 more)       | ⊕⊕⊕O<br>MODERATE |            |

<sup>1</sup> Large drop out

<sup>2</sup> Only one study

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-18

**Question:** Should **Escitalopram versus Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                           |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | Summary of findings         |         |                        |  |                  | Importance |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------|--|------------------|------------|
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      | No of patients              |         | Effect                 |  | Quality          |            |
| No of studies                                | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Escitalopram versus Placebo | control | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute   |                  |            |
| <b>Relapse</b>                               |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                             |         |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 38/187 (20.3%)              | 56.4%   | RR 0.36 (0.26 to 0.49) | 361 fewer per 1000 (from 288 fewer to 417 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation for any reason</b>        |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                             |         |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 71/187 (38%)                | 72.3%   | RR 0.52 (0.43 to 0.64) | 347 fewer per 1000 (from 260 fewer to 412 fewer) | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |                             |         |                        |  |                  |            |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 13/187 (7%)                 | 8.5%    | RR 0.82 (0.4 to 1.65)  | 15 fewer per 1000 (from 51 fewer to 55 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕○<br>MODERATE |            |

<sup>1</sup> Only one study

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-18

**Question:** Should **Quetiapine vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment |  |  |  |  |  |  | Summary of findings |        |         | Importance |
|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------------------|--------|---------|------------|
|                    |  |  |  |  |  |  | No of patients      | Effect | Quality |            |

| No of studies                                   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision          | Other considerations | Quetiapine   | Placebo | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute                                    |      |          |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------|------------------------|---|------|----------|
| <b>Time to anxiety event</b>                    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |              |         |                        |   |      |          |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 0/0 (0%)     | 0%      | HR 0.19 (0.12 to 0.32) | 0 fewer per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 0 fewer)  | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| <b>HAMA (Better indicated by lower values)</b>  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |              |         |                        |   |      |          |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 216          | 216     | -                      | SMD 0.61 lower (0.81 to 0.42 lower)         | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| <b>QLESQ (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |              |         |                        |   |      |          |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 216          | 216     | -                      | SMD 0.23 lower (0.42 to 0.04 lower)         | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                      |                      |              |         |                        |   |      |          |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 5/216 (2.3%) | 2.8%    | RR 0.83 (0.26 to 2.69) | 5 fewer per 1000 (from 21 fewer to 47 more) | ⊕⊕⊕O | MODERATE |

<sup>1</sup> Only one study

## Augmentation

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-26

**Question:** Should Augmentation: **Olanzapine vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment |        |             |               |              |             |                      | Summary of findings      |         |                   |          | Quality | Importance |
|--------------------|--------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------|-------------------|----------|---------|------------|
|                    |        |             |               |              |             |                      | No of patients           |         | Effect            |          |         |            |
| No of studies      | Design | Limitations | Inconsistency | Indirectness | Imprecision | Other considerations | Augmentation: Olanzapine | Placebo | Relative (95% CI) | Absolute |         |            |

| HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)     |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |      |              |               |                        |   |             |  |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|------|--------------|---------------|------------------------|---|-------------|--|
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | very serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 9            | 12            | -                      | SMD 0.3 lower (1.17 lower to 0.57 higher)       | ⊕⊕○○<br>LOW |  |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                         |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |      |              |               |                        |   |             |  |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | very serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 8/12 (66.7%) | 11/12 (91.7%) | RR 0.73 (0.47 to 1.12) | 247 fewer per 1000 (from 486 fewer to 110 more) | ⊕⊕○○<br>LOW |  |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |      |              | 91.7%         |                        | 248 fewer per 1000 (from 486 fewer to 110 more) |             |  |
| <b>Non-response</b>                          |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |      |              |               |                        |   |             |  |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | very serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 7/12 (58.3%) | 11/12 (91.7%) | RR 0.64 (0.38 to 1.06) | 330 fewer per 1000 (from 568 fewer to 55 more)  | ⊕⊕○○<br>LOW |  |
|  |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |      |              | 91.7%         |                        | 330 fewer per 1000 (from 569 fewer to 55 more)  |             |  |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |      |              |               |                        |   |             |  |
| 1  | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | very serious <sup>1</sup> | none | 4/12 (33.3%) | 8.3%          | RR 4 (0.52 to 30.76)   | 249 more per 1000 (from 40 fewer to 2470 more)  | ⊕⊕○○<br>LOW |  |

<sup>1</sup> 1 small study

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-26

**Question:** Should Augmentation: **Risperidone vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment |        |             |               |              |             |       | Summary of findings |         |          |          |         | Importance |
|--------------------|--------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------|---------------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|------------|
|                    |        |             |               |              |             |       | No of patients      |         | Effect   |          | Quality |            |
| No of              | Design | Limitations | Inconsistency | Indirectness | Imprecision | Other | Augmentation:       | Placebo | Relative | Absolute |         |            |

| studies   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        | considerations | Risperidone     |                 | (95% CI)               |  |      |          |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|--|------|----------|
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                 |                 |                        |  |      |          |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none           | 215             | 214             | -                      | SMD 0.27 lower (0.9 lower to 0.36 higher)    | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                            |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                 |                 |                        |  |      |          |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none           | 158/196 (80.6%) | 82%             | RR 0.98 (0.89 to 1.08) | 16 fewer per 1000 (from 90 fewer to 66 more) | ⊕⊕⊕⊕ | HIGH     |
| <b>Non-response</b>                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                 |                 |                        |  |      |          |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none           | 117/196 (59.7%) | 117/194 (60.3%) | RR 0.99 (0.84 to 1.16) | 6 fewer per 1000 (from 96 fewer to 96 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                 | 60.3%           |                        |  |      |          |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                 |                 |                        |  |      |          |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none           | 24/215 (11.2%)  | 11/214 (5.1%)   | RR 2.17 (1.09 to 4.32) | 60 more per 1000 (from 5 more to 171 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                 | 5.1%            |                        |  |      |          |

<sup>1</sup> CIs compatible with benefit and no benefit

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-26

**Question:** Should Augmentation: **Quetiapine vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment                              |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |                      | Summary of findings      |              |                        |   | Quality     | Importance |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------------------|---|-------------|------------|
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |                      | No of patients           |              | Effect                 |   |             |            |
| No of studies                                   | Design            | Limitations            | Inconsistency            | Indirectness            | Imprecision               | Other considerations | Augmentation: Quetiapine | Placebo      | Relative (95% CI)      | Absolute  |             |            |
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |                      |                          |              |                        |   |             |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | very serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 11                       | 11           | -                      | SMD 0.24 lower (1.08 lower to 0.6 higher)       | ⊕⊕○○<br>LOW |            |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                            |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |                      |                          |              |                        |   |             |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | very serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 7/11 (63.6%)             | 9/11 (81.8%) | RR 0.78 (0.46 to 1.32) | 180 fewer per 1000 (from 442 fewer to 262 more) | ⊕⊕○○<br>LOW |            |
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |                      |                          | 81.8%        |                        | 180 fewer per 1000 (from 442 fewer to 262 more) |             |            |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |                      |                          |              |                        |   |             |            |
| 1   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | very serious <sup>1</sup> | none                 | 4/11 (36.4%)             | 1/11 (9.1%)  | RR 4 (0.53 to 30.33)   | 273 more per 1000 (from 43 fewer to 2666 more)  | ⊕⊕○○<br>LOW |            |
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                           |                      |                          | 9.1%         |                        | 273 more per 1000 (from 43 fewer to 2669 more)  |             |            |

<sup>1</sup> 1 small study

**Author(s):**

**Date:** 2010-05-26

**Question:** Should Augmentation: **Antipsychotics vs Placebo** be used for GAD?

**Settings:**

**Bibliography:** . [Intervention A] versus [intervention B] for [health problem]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Year], Issue [Issue].

| Quality assessment |        |             |               |              |             |       | Summary of findings |         |          |          | Quality | Importance |
|--------------------|--------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------|---------------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|------------|
|                    |        |             |               |              |             |       | No of patients      |         | Effect   |          |         |            |
| No of              | Design | Limitations | Inconsistency | Indirectness | Imprecision | Other | Augmentation:       | Placebo | Relative | Absolute |         |            |



| studies   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        | considerations | Antipsychotics  |                 | (95% CI)               |   |      |          |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|---|------|----------|
| <b>HAM-A (Better indicated by lower values)</b> |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                 |                 |                        |   |      |          |
| 5   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none           | 245             | 244             | -                      | MD 1.04 lower (2.49 lower to 0.41 higher)       | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
| <b>Non-response</b>                             |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                 |                 |                        |   |      |          |
| 2   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>2</sup>   | none           | 124/208 (59.6%) | 128/206 (62.1%) | RR 0.85 (0.56 to 1.28) | 93 fewer per 1000 (from 273 fewer to 174 more)  | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                 | 76%             |                        | 114 fewer per 1000 (from 334 fewer to 213 more) |      |          |
| <b>Non-remission</b>                            |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                 |                 |                        |   |      |          |
| 3   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | serious <sup>1</sup>   | none           | 173/219 (79%)   | 179/217 (82.5%) | RR 0.93 (0.78 to 1.09) | 58 fewer per 1000 (from 181 fewer to 74 more)   | ⊕⊕⊕○ | MODERATE |
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                 | 82%             |                        | 57 fewer per 1000 (from 180 fewer to 74 more)   |      |          |
| <b>Discontinuation due to adverse events</b>    |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                 |                 |                        |   |      |          |
| 5   | randomised trials | no serious limitations | no serious inconsistency | no serious indirectness | no serious imprecision | none           | 37/279 (13.3%)  | 13/258 (5%)     | RR 2.53 (1.38 to 4.64) | 77 more per 1000 (from 19 more to 183 more)     | ⊕⊕⊕⊕ | HIGH     |
|   |                   |                        |                          |                         |                        |                |                 | 5.2%            |                        | 80 more per 1000 (from 20 more to 189 more)     |      |          |

<sup>1</sup> CIs compatible with benefit for treatment or placebo

<sup>2</sup> 1 small study and 1 large study