J. Beezold. *United Kingdom*
D. Eraslan. *Turkey*
V. Buwalda. *Netherlands*
N. Maric. *Institute of Psychiatry, Belgrade, Yugoslavia*

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

W-14. Workshop: COX-2 inhibitors in the therapy of psychiatric disorders

Chairperson(s): Norbert Müller (Munich, Germany), P.J. Egger (Greenford, United Kingdom)
08.30 - 10.00, Holiday Inn - Room 5

M. J. Schwarz. *Psychiatric Hospital, LMU Muni, Munich, Germany*
B. Sperner-Unterweger. *Psychiatric Hospital, Universi, Innsbruck, Austria*
M. Riedel. *Psychiatric Hospital, LMU Muni, Munich, Germany*
P. J. Egger. *Greenford, United Kingdom*
N. Müller. *Ludwig Maximilian University Psychiatric Hospital, Munich, Germany*

Cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) - constitutively expressed in the CNS - is suggested to have an important functional role in the CNS. COX-2 interacts with neurotransmitters such as acetylcholine, serotonin, and glutamate, but is also involved in the regulation of immune system and in inflammation in the central nervous system (CNS) via effects of prostaglandins, in particular prostaglandin E2. The relationship between the tryptophan/serotonin metabolism and the differential effects of COX-1 and COX-2 will be discussed by G. Engbert, Stockholm. While Markus Schwarz München, Germany, will present data showing that inflammation, cytokines and PGE2 plays a role in the etiopathology of schizophrenia, Michael Riedel München, Germany, will focus on the effects of COX-2 inhibitors on neurotransmitters, which are involved in schizophrenic psychopathology. Recently, a role for the new generation of selective COX-2 inhibitors in the treatment of psychiatric disorders is discussed. Peter Egger, Greenford, UK will present epidemiological data of 716 schizophrenic patients who had a prescription of a selective COX-2 inhibitor (celecoxib or rofecoxib). Compared to schizophrenics without a COX-2 inhibitor, the COX-2 inhibitor users had a 36% reduced risk for a schizophrenic exacerbation independent from antipsychotic medication. Results of two double-blind, randomized studies, altogether with 90 schizophrenic patients will be presented by Norbert Müller, München, Germany. The results show, that celecoxib has significant beneficial effects not only at the PANSS total scale, but also regarding the general psychopathology and on the schizophrenic negative symptoms. The fact that the therapeutic effect depends from the duration of the disease fits with the inflammation hypothesis. In depression, however, signs of inflammation have been described since many years. Clinical improvement of a depressive syndrome has been observed in patients, which have been treated rofecoxib due to other indications. First data of the use of COX-2 inhibitors in affective disorders will be presented.

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

W-21. Workshop: Psychotropic drugs in pregnancy and lactation

Chairperson(s): Cyril Höschl (Prag 8, Czech Republic), Dagmar Seifertova (Praha 1, Czech Republic)
08.30 - 10.00, Holiday Inn - Room 5

M. Steiner, L. Ross, L. Born. *McMaster University Dept. of Psychiatry, Hamilton ON, Canada*

The proposed workshop covers both theoretical and practical issues of administration of psychotropic drugs (antipsychotics, antidepressants, mood stabilizers, anxiolytics and hypnotics) and ECT during pregnancy and lactation. It is primarily focused on the very common problems that psychiatrists may encounter in their clinical practice: whether and how to prescribe medication for women who want to become or already are pregnant; or who are breastfeeding; to weigh risks and benefits for baby and mother, including risks of untreated mental illness. Our current knowledge on the effects of psychotropic drugs on fetuses, newborns and infants is largely based on the case reports and retrospective studies. Possible teratogenity, withdrawal symptoms, and long?term impacts are of particular concern. In the introductory part of each session, a brief summary of drug effects, contemporary treatment state?of?art and practical guidelines based on evidence will be reviewed. Afterwards, case reports will be presented and the participants will be encouraged to discuss presented cases.

Monday, April 4, 2005

C-07. Educational course: Therapeutic drug monitoring of psychotropic drugs and pharmacogenetic tests in psychiatry

Course director(s): Pierre Baumann (Prilly-Lausanne, Switzerland)
08.30 - 12.00, Hilton - Salon Bialas

Therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM) of psychotropic drugs is now a widely introduced practice, and it is especially recommended in patients who are non-compliant, or who poorly tolerate, or respond poorly to a medication, or who belong to the category of "special populations" (somatically ill patients, comedicated with a variety of drugs, suffering from a liver or renal disease, elderly or very young patients). Increasingly, the use of generics has been shown to represent a source of unexpected treatment outcomes, and TDM may help to explain pharmacokinetic particularities after switching from an original to a generic preparation (or vice versa). Finally, the increasing knowledge of the metabolism of psychotropic drugs allows to take account of the pharmacogenetic status (e.g. cytochrome P-450, P-glycoprotein) of the patients not only in adapting their medication, but also for interpreting pharmacokinetic interactions with clinical consequences. In this respect, TDM and pharmacogenetic tests (phenotyping, genotyping) have now also to be considered as a tool in pharmacovigilance. The aim of this course is first to briefly summarize some basic knowledge on TDM and pharmacogenetics of the metabolism of psychotropic drugs. Psychiatrists who already have experience in this field will have their knowledge updated: recently progress will be illustrated by clinical situations, which will be discussed in an interactive way. A consensus paper (AGNP) with recommendations on the optimal use of TDM and pharmacogenetic tests in psychiatry will be summarized and submitted for discussion, by speakers (clinicians, clinical psychopharmacologists) from Switzerland, Sweden and Germany.

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