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## EFFECTIVENESS OF ARIPIPRAZOL IN ACUTE SCHIZOPHRENIA

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The study aims to demonstrate the efficacy of aripiprazole in treatment of patients with acute exacerbation of schizophrenia and in acute psychotic episodes

**Methodology:** This was an observational , uncontrolled , 4 week inpatient study , conducted at Unit VII , Clinical Hospital of Psychiatry Prof Dr . Alexandru Obregia , Bucharest . We included in the study 31 inpatients that suited the criteria admitted between January and March 2008 . Patients received aripiprazol oral for four weeks. The patients received initially 15 mg aripiprazol. When the symptomatically hadn't responded in 5 to 7 days we added 15 more mg aripiprazol. The group was divided in 2 parts: in one of them the patients received 15 mg in the morning, and in the other 15 mg in the morning and 15 more at noon.

Treatment efficacy was assessed using PANSS at baseline and at the end of weeks 2 and 4.

The CGI-S was performed at baseline and at the end of weeks 1,4. CGI-I assessments were conducted at the end of weeks 1, 2 and 4.

**Results:** Clinically important change were not noted with regard vital signs measurements and physical examinations.

At the end of the study a persons gain weight.

**Conclusions:** The results of the study suggest that aripiprazole was efficacious safe and well tolerated for patients with acute psychosis - Aripiprazol 30mg/day was. Adverse events were generally mild and not treatment limiting. The majority of patients remain on the 30mg/day dose during the study.