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PAIN PERCEPTION AMONG DEPRESSED HEROIN ADDICT PATIENTS

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There are an increased evidence of co-morbidity between pain, abnormal sensations and depression in heroin addict patients. Such conditions are usually treated by antidepressants, mood stabilizers and rarely by atypical antipsychotics.

Investigation of heroin addict patients in post-abstinent state revealed that low mood, anxiety, tension and guilt feeling increased sensitivity toward pain, which mostly experienced as algetic, coenestetick and hypochondriacal sensations. Algetic symptoms highly correlated with psychopathology. Efficient treatment of psychopathological symptoms decreased pain. Atypical antipsychotic quetiapin monotherapy could be used for treating such conditions.