

Attitudes of patients and family members towards implantable psychiatric medication

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Abstract

Introduction: Medication is a necessary part of treatment for severe psychiatric illnesses such as schizophrenia and nonadherence to prescribed medication is one of the most important public health issues in psychiatry today. The devastating consequences of nonadherence have motivated the development of novel therapeutic strategies, including a new long-term implantable medication delivery system. **Methods:** The current study assesses attitudes towards implantable medication in psychiatric patients and their family members. Patients included in the study had diagnoses of Schizophrenia, Schizoaffective Disorder, Mood or Anxiety related disorders. **Results:** 49.62% of patients and 44.47% of family members endorse support for implantable medication. **Conclusions:** This study demonstrates that implants may be an acceptable alternative to oral and injectable medication for a subset of psychiatric patients and their families. © 2008 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.