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# **Pharmacology of Atypical Antipsychotics: Clinical Impact on Efficacy and Safety**

Premiere Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2008

LIVE Broadcast: 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. ET

11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. CT 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. MT 9:00 a m =10:00 a m PT

Taped Re-Air: 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. ET

2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.CT 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. MT 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. PT

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#### STATEMENT OF NEED

Atypical antipsychotics are widely used for the treatment of mental disorders. <sup>1</sup> These medications are pharmacologically very similar in many respects, but have important pharmacological differences that contribute to differences in their efficacy and safety. Understanding the receptor binding profiles of these medications can give insight into possible side effects as well as improved knowledge of how atypical antipsychotics can impact clinical outcomes. Patients taking atypical antipsychotics have a very high rate of discontinuation of these medications due to lack of efficacy or intolerable side effects,<sup>2</sup> therefore a greater knowledge of the pharmacology of these medications can help to improve patient adherence and/or help in switching patients to a different atypical antipsychotic. In this evidence-based neuroscienceCME TV activity, the experts will review the pharmacology of antipsychotics and the clinical impact of the pharmacology on the efficacy and safety of these medications in the treatment of mental disorders.

Harrington C, Gregorian R, Gemmen E, et al. Access and utilization of new antidepressant and antipsychotic medications. Falls Church, VA: Lewin Group; 2000. <sup>2</sup> Lieberman JA, Stroup TS, McEvoy JP, et al. Effectiveness of antipsychotic drugs in patients with chronic schizophrenia. N Engl J Med 2005;353:1209-1223.

#### ACTIVITY GOAL

To assess the clinical impact of pharmacology of the current FDA-approved atypical antipsychotics on safety and efficacy in the treatment of mental disorders.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

At the end of this CE activity, participants should be able to:

- Describe the mechanism of action of atypical antipsychotics, including how receptor binding profiles affect safety profiles.
- Analyze the need to balance efficacy and safety in light of increased morbidity and mortality in patients with mental health disorders.
- Evaluate medication adherence in patients with mental health disorders and how and when to consider switching antipsychotics in these patients.

## **TARGET AUDIENCE**

Physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, psychologists, social workers, certified case managers, pharmacists, and other healthcare professionals interested in mental health.

#### **COMMERCIAL SUPPORT**

CME Outfitters, LLC, and CME LLC gratefully acknowledge an educational grant from Bristol-Myers Squibb Company and Otsuka America Pharmaceuticals, Inc., in support of this CE activity.

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# **FACULTY INFORMATION**

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#### Dan Haupt, MD

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#### **MODERATOR**

#### Charles B. Nemeroff, MD, PhD

Reunette W. Harris Professor and Chairman Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences **Emory University School of Medicine** Atlanta, GA

#### **CREDIT INFORMATION**

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It has been assigned code 6WASUP-PRV-0635. 1.0 contact hours will be awarded upon successful completion. This activity is co-provided with CME LLC.

Note to Nurse Practitioners: The content of this CNE activity pertains to Pharmacology.

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