



RETROSPECTIVE EVALUATION OF ANTIDEPRESSANTS SIDE EFFECTS

De Fazio Salvatore, Gareri Pietro, Palleria Caterina, Gallelli Luca, De Sarro Giovambattista

Chair of Pharmacology, School of Medicine, University “Magna Graecia” of Catanzaro, “Mater Domini” University Hospital, Via T. Campanella 115, 88100 Catanzaro, Italy

To determine whether different antidepressant drugs are involved in the development of different adverse drug reactions (ADRs) 144 clinical records were retrospectively examined. Major depression or bipolar disorder affected patients were divided into two groups according to the received therapy: 98 subjects for drug therapy and 46 for psychotherapy. Antidepressant Drugs were analysed for prescription, subsequently, for each drug, ADRs were reported in terms of episodes. More commonly prescribed drugs as paroxetine or sertraline showed a better tolerability profile; while drugs as clomipramine, escitalopram and fluoxetine were more frequently associated with experienced side effects.

Symptoms as anxiety, insomnia, daily drowsiness and asthenia resulted greater in the psychotherapy group. Accurate pharmacovigilance could be useful in order to distinguish between ADRs related to antidepressants treatment and primary pathological symptoms.