CONCOMITANT USE OF ANTIDEPRESSANTS AND NEUROLEPTICS WITH TETRABENAZINE DURING TREATMENT OF HUNTINGTON’S DISEASE

Kathleen Clarence-Smith¹, Vivienne Shen², Christine Hunter², Joseph Jankovic³
¹KM Pharmaceutical Consulting LLC, Washington, DC; ²Lundbeck LLC, Deerfield, IL; ³Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX

ABSTRACT (UPDATED)
Objective: To assess antidepressant (ATD)/neuroleptic (NL) use by Huntington’s disease (HD) patients receiving tetrabenazine (TBZ).
Background: The potential interaction between TBZ and ATDs/NTDs has not been well studied.
Methods: Patients with hyperkinetic movement disorders were evaluated at the Parkinson’s Disease Center and Movement Disorders Clinic (PDCMDC), Baylor College of Medicine. Patients were initially randomized to TBZ or saline at 1.5 mg/day. Dosage was increased every 3 days, until a dosage limiting adverse event (AE) occurred. TBZ was then down-titrated to the optimal dosage, defined as the dosage judged by the investigator to provide the greatest efficacy with minimal or tolerable AEs.

RESULTS:
- Of the 270 patients listed in the Clinic Log as having received TBZ after being diagnosed with chorea (N=98), 92 had a valid efficacy response rating.
- Of the 92 patients included in this analysis, 91 had a valid response to treatment rating.
- Of the 91 patients with valid response to treatment ratings, 62 patients had valid data for concomitant ATD or NL use at any time during the study.

Conclusions:
- Patients who received a neuroleptic at any time during the study had a greater efficacy response than those who did not receive a neuroleptic.
- Concomitant treatment with an antidepressant or a neuroleptic did not significantly affect the efficacy response to treatment at optimal dosage.

LIMITATIONS:
- The incidence of certain AEs (insomnia, depression, akathisia) appeared to be greater for the group of patients who received antidepressants than any other time during the study, but these were not statistically significant.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
The authors thank Statistics Collaborative, Inc. in Washington, DC, for providing the statistical analyses.

REFERENCES