Manic episode induced by Baclofen: A case report and literature of review

SUBJECT OBJECTIVE

Baclofen is a GABAB receptor agonist, commonly used as a muscle relaxant so it is used mainly for treatment of spasticity, pain, stiffness and used off-label for treatment of alcohol dependence.

Case presentation

Here, we present a case of a 35 year old Egyptian male with no previous history of medical or psychiatric disorders was admitted to our addiction unit for alcohol dependence for 6 years. Full laboratory investigations were in the normal range. We initiated treatment with baclofen oral tablets to decrease alcohol consumption with a gradual increase of Baclofen dose till 200 mg/ day. On regular psychiatric evaluation, we noticed a change in patient behavior, including euphoric mood, grandiose ideas and suspicious with persecutory delusions against his family members, rapid talking with a high flow of ideas, and insomnia. We started the gradual decrease of baclofen dose to avoid its withdrawal symptoms with antipsychotic medication (olanzapine). Patient regained his normal behavior 1 month later and continue his alcohol dependence treatment with regular visits to outpatient clinic.

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we searched medical electronic databases: PubMed, Ovid Midline, EBSCO and Web of science using the following query: "Baclofen AND mania AND Psychotic symptoms".

Conclusion

the mechanism of inducing manic symptoms by baclofen is still unclear and. Psychiatrists should pay more attention while using baclofen to treatment of baclofen dependence. Future studies should explore the relationship between GABA receptors and the psychotic symptoms induced by Baclofen.

References

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2- Forestl W: Chemistry and pharmacology of GABAB receptor ligands. Adv Pharmacol 2010; 58: 19-62

Methods