

# DTB CME/CPD Answers



Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

## ▼ Lurasidone for schizophrenia

### Question 1

Ms ET is a 26-year-old who has been diagnosed with schizophrenia. She is taking oral antipsychotic medication and receiving individual cognitive behavioural therapy. Although some patients will only have one episode what percentage will have a recurrence?

- a. 25%
- b. 40%
- c. 65%
- d. 80%
- e. 95%

Answer: d. Schizophrenia affects about 300,000 people in the UK, with about 15 new cases per 100,000 people per year. It often presents in young adults and, although some never have another episode, 80% will have a recurrence.

### Question 2

How much higher is mortality among people with schizophrenia than in the general population?

- a. 10%
- b. 25%
- c. 50%
- d. 75%
- e. 90%

Answer: c. Mortality among people with schizophrenia is approximately 50% higher than in the general population, due to an increased incidence of suicide and violent death, and also an increased risk of cardiovascular events and illnesses associated with obesity, metabolic problems and poor lifestyle.

### Question 3

The primary outcome in the short-term clinical studies of lurasidone was change from baseline in Positive and Negative Syndrome Scale (PANSS) total score. What is the minimum percentage change from baseline in PANSS that the European Medicines Agency regards as clinically relevant?

- a. 5%
- b. 15%
- c. 30%
- d. 45%
- e. 60%

Answer: c. The European Medicines Agency considers a reduction of  $\geq 30\%$  from baseline as clinically relevant.

### Complete this module online

This CME/CPD module is available for completion online via BMJ Learning ([learning.bmj.com](http://learning.bmj.com)) by subscribers to the online version of DTB.

If you would like to add online access to your current subscription, please contact our Customer Services team on +44 (0)20 7383 6270 or email [support@bmjgroup.com](mailto:support@bmjgroup.com). As well as allowing you to complete CME/CPD modules online, an online subscription also gives you unlimited access to the entire DTB archive back to volume 1, issue 1.

For further information, please visit [www.dtb.bmj.com](http://www.dtb.bmj.com)

# DTB CME/CPD Answers



Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin

## ▼ Lurasidone for schizophrenia

### Question 4

Across the 6-week PEARL 1, 2 and 3 randomised controlled trials, what proportion of patients achieved a clinically significant decrease from baseline in Positive and Negative Syndrome Scale (PANSS) total score with lurasidone doses of 37mg, 74mg, 111mg and 148mg, respectively?

- a. 26–33%, 30–32%, 27–30%, 43%
- b. 66–73%, 70–72%, 67–70%, 83%
- c. 16–33%, 32–48%, 67–70%, 53%
- d. 53–60%, 52–54%, 50–53%, 73%
- e. 46–53%, 50–52%, 47–50%, 63%

Answer: e. Across the three studies, the proportion of patients who achieved a clinically significant decrease of  $\geq 30\%$  from baseline in PANSS total score was higher with all lurasidone doses: 46–53% (37mg), 50–52% (74mg), 47–50% (111mg), 63% (148mg) compared with placebo (30–38%) but was only statistically significant for 37mg, 74mg and 148mg doses.

### Question 5

Lurasidone has a similar range of adverse effects to other second-generation antipsychotics. What are the most commonly reported treatment-related adverse events of lurasidone?

- a. akathisia, somnolence, nausea, vomiting, insomnia
- b. akathisia, hyperglycemia, agitation, nausea, vomiting
- c. somnolence, dizziness, constipation, hyperglycemia, bradycardia
- d. insomnia, anxiety, headache, dizziness, weight gain
- e. headache, nausea, vomiting, weight gain, agitation

Answer: a. The most common treatment-related adverse events are dose-related akathisia and somnolence, sedation, nausea, vomiting and insomnia.