

CASE REPORT: ELECTROCONVULSOTHERAPY TO ENHANCE THE ACTION OF ANTIPSYCHOTICS

Letusa M. Conte

``Centro Universitário de Pato Branco``,
PR, Brazil
<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0510-1401>

Liamara Correa

``Centro Universitário de Pato Branco``,
PR, Brazil
<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1197-1948>

Amanda Bringhenti

``Centro Universitário de Pato Branco``,
PR, Brazil
<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7738-0871>

Gabriela Szyminovicz

``Centro Universitário de Pato Branco``,
PR, Brazil
<https://orcid.org/0009-0003-8261-5585>

Aldrey R. Silva

``Centro Universitário de Pato Branco``,
PR, Brazil
<https://orcid.org/0009-0002-4961-142X>

Julia K. Lima

``Centro Universitário de Pato Branco``,
PR, Brazil
<https://orcid.org/0009-0001-2506-4268>

Mateus S. C. Teixeira

``Centro Universitário de Pato Branco``,
PR, Brazil
<https://orcid.org/0009-0004-6197-6784>

All content in this magazine is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution License. Attribution-Non-Commercial-Non-Derivatives 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0).



Patrícia Galina

``Centro Universitário de Pato Branco``,
PR, Brazil
<https://orcid.org/0009-0003-3964-5324>

Gabriella Z. Monteiro

``Centro Universitário de Pato Branco``,
PR, Brazil
<https://orcid.org/0009-0004-3176-3729>

Moisés J. L. Mattos

``Centro Universitário de Pato Branco``,
PR, Brazil
<https://orcid.org/0009-0004-5101-846X>

Gabriella Fergutz

``Centro Universitário de Pato Branco``,
PR, Brazil
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6760-0460>

Ana C. G. Cabeço

Medical Psychiatrist by AMB/ABP, secretary
director APPSIQ; Professor ``Centro
Universitário de Pato Branco``, PR, Brazil
<https://orcid.org/0009-0009-2924-2066>

Abstract: Electroconvulsive therapy is a psychiatric treatment technique used in patients who have mental illnesses such as severe depressive disorder, mania and schizophrenia. This method aims to cause changes in the electrical activity of the brain to reestablish the flow of neurotransmitters. With this in mind, treatment with this technique can be used in combination with antipsychotic medications to obtain more favorable results for patients.

Keywords: electroconvulsive therapy; schizophrenia; antipsychotics

CASE PRESENTATION:

Female patient, 37 years old, comes to the psychiatric office with complaints of: "I can't take these voices in my head anymore". According to the companion, the patient has been using different medications for more than 20 years and has never presented favorable therapeutic responses. She remains with changes in sensorial perception (auditory and visual hallucinations), changes in the sleep-wake cycle, disorganized thinking, difficulty in social interaction and affective dullness. Currently using: venlafaxine 75 mg/day; amylsupride 50 mg/day; fluoxetine 20 mg/day; valproic acid 250 mg/day; levomepromazine 20 drops/day.

According to reports from the companion, the first psychotic episode began after the death of her paternal grandfather, when she used haloperidol decanoate 50 mg/day and risperidone 2 mg/day. She denies smoking, drinking alcohol or using illicit drugs. No family history of mental disorders. After hospitalization, monthly services were provided; The patient, after three months of remission from his psychotic condition, had symptoms again and was prescribed electroconvulsive therapy.

Patient underwent 08 ECT sessions; After the procedure, he started using only

clozapine with weekly adjustments and went into remission of symptoms; improved social interaction; maintaining only a slight cognitive decline.

CONCLUSION:

When considering the situation in question, an episode of refractory schizophrenia that is difficult to manage associated with metabolic syndrome, it is clear that, although electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) alone is not superior to the action of antipsychotics, this combination provides benefits superior to those of medication alone, so ECT is not invariably linked to greater memory

impairment. Therefore, through literature review articles that evaluated the effectiveness of ECT in schizophrenic patients, it was concluded that this intervention contributed to the majority of patients, reducing the rates of disease recurrence and hospitalizations compared to those who received only placebo and ECT.

Although the literature lacks more clinical trials to prove the effectiveness of this treatment, this clinical case is relevant as the patient remains without recurrence of positive symptoms after one year of ECT, using only clozapine 100mg/day, and demonstrating an improvement in your glycemic level.

REFERENCES

ALI, Sana A.; MATHUR, Nandita; MALHOTRA, Anil K.; BRAGA, Raphael J. Electroconvulsive Therapy and Schizophrenia: a systematic review. *Complex Psychiatry*, v. 5, n. 2, p. 75-83, 2019. S. Karger AG. Acesso em: 03 ago. 2022

ANDRADE, Keitty Regina Cordeiro de. Eletroconvulsoterapia para esquizofrenia refratária à farmacoterapia: Revisão rápida. Brasília, p. 1-11. Acesso em: 03 ago. 2022

MASOUDZADEH, Abbas; KHALILIAN, Alireza; HOSSEINI, Seyed Hamzeh. Comparative Study of Clozapine, Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT), and the Combination of ECT with Clozapine in Treatment-Resistant Schizophrenic Patients. *Iranian Journal Of Psychiatry And Behavioral Sciences (Ijpbs)*. Iran, p. 7-11. 2007. Acesso em: 03 ago. 2022

ELKIS, Hélio; MELTZER, Herbert. Esquizofrenia refratária. *Jornal Brasileiro de Psiquiatria*. n. 29. v. 2. 2007. Acesso em: 03 ago. 2022