Atypical antipsychotics are the newer generation of antipsychotics and make up a vast majority of usage:

- They are primarily intended for the management of patients with schizophrenia or bipolar disorder.
- In the elderly, they are commonly used to treat behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia (psychosis, agitation, depression, and mood disorders).
- The use of atypical antipsychotics in patients 65 and older has increased 43% in Ontario between 2009 and 2013.
- The use of atypical antipsychotics in patients 65 and older has increased 31% in Ontario between 2009 and 2013.

There are nine commercially available atypical antipsychotics:

- Aripiprazole
- Olanzapine
- Lurasidone
- Asenapine
- Clozapine
- Paliperidone
- Risperidone
- Ziprasidone
- Quetiapine

The majority of users are in the community setting, but the rate of use in long-term care (LTC) homes is approximately 14 times greater.

Rate of use in LTC homes compared to community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>LTC (2014 Q2)</th>
<th>Community (2014 Q2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>72,488</td>
<td>3,912,013</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nearly 40% of elderly patients in the community who are started on atypical antipsychotics will end up in a LTC home by the end of the year.

Increasing cost of brand name drug atypical antipsychotics

In 2013 total expenditure on atypical antipsychotics for patients 65 years and older was $35 million

Cost of antipsychotics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Cost (in millions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abilify, Invega, Zeldox</td>
<td>328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atypical antipsychotics</td>
<td>32,580</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What Do We Recommend?

- Engage in further research
- Other, near-peer educational strategies for treating BPSD or need.
- More research is needed on the off label use of atypical antipsychotics or the use of typical antipsychotics in long-term care facilities and in community setting is warranted.
- The shares of atypical antipsychotics in this population need to be tracked, and use programs and initiatives need to be developed to decrease inappropriate use.

Visit the Ontario Public Drug Programs website for more information about the work we do.

www.odprn.ca