

ABSTRACT

Objective

The objective of this study is to determine the occurrence of nocturnal enuresis in patients on clozapine treatment, to compare the demographic and clinical characteristics of patients with and without nocturnal enuresis, and to measure any association between nocturnal enuresis and the treatment adherence of patients.

Method

A retrospective review of 198 patients on clozapine treatment was conducted by interviewing the patients and studying their medical record. Demographic and clinical characteristics, presence of nocturnal enuresis, were recorded and analyzed. Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale (BPRS) was used to measure the illness severity. Patients with nocturnal enuresis were compared with patients without nocturnal enuresis on demographic and clinical factors. Multivariate logistic regression was performed to identify predictors of clozapine-related nocturnal enuresis. Drug Attitude Inventory 10-item version (DAI-10) and self-reported treatment adherence was used to estimate patients' treatment adherence, and its association with clozapine-related enuresis was analyzed.

Result

About a quarter of the patients on clozapine developed nocturnal enuresis. Clozapine-related nocturnal enuresis was associated with concurrent use of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) use and past history of smoking. No association was found

between clozapine-related nocturnal enuresis and the dosage of clozapine used, duration of clozapine treatment, BPRS total score, DAI-10 score and the self-reported treatment adherence.

Conclusion

Nocturnal enuresis is a common adverse effect of clozapine but is often underestimated in clinical practice. Direct questioning is helpful in detecting this adverse effect. The condition is not self-limiting in a large proportion of the patients, and actions need to be taken to help patients to decrease this embarrassing adverse effect.

Keywords: Clozapine, enuresis, adverse effects