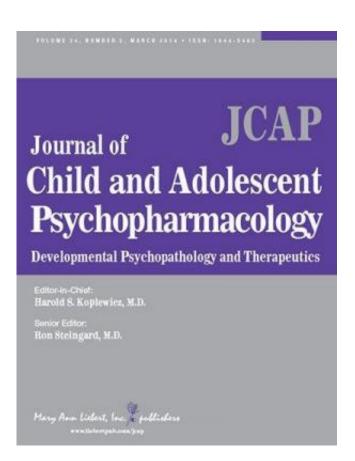


Antipsychotic drug use among ADHDdiagnosed foster care youth is increasing

April 7 2014



© Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., publishers

Antipsychotic medications are often used for unlabeled indications, such as treatment of children and adolescents with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). The results of a study of "atypical antipsychotic" drug use among youths with ADHD, comparing age



groups, Medicaid eligibility, and presence in foster care are presented in *Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychopharmacology*.

Mehmet Burcu and Julie Zito, University of Maryland, Aloysius Ibe, Morgan State University, and Daniel Safer, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, MD, report that nearly one-third of the ADHDdiagnosed foster care youth ages 2-17 years of age included in the assessment received atypical antipsychotics during the study period. The most common medications given were risperidone, aripiprazole, and quetiapine, according to the article "Atypical Antipsychotic Use Among Medicaid-Insured Children and Adolescents: Duration, Safety, and Monitoring."

"This study adds critical hard data to our understanding of a persistent and unacceptable trend in pediatric psychiatry," says Harold S. Koplewicz, MD, Editor-in-Chief of *Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychopharmacology*, and President, Child Mind Institute, New York, NY. "Our poorest, most vulnerable children, lacking access to evidencebased care, are receiving potentially harmful treatment with little oversight. The highlight of Burcu et al.'s paper for any reader should be the simple but necessary recommendations for antipsychotic prescribing and monitoring in these populations."

More information: The <u>article</u> is available free on the <u>Journal of</u> <u>Child and Adolescent Psychopharmacology</u> website.

Provided by Mary Ann Liebert, Inc

Citation: Antipsychotic drug use among ADHD-diagnosed foster care youth is increasing (2014, April 7) retrieved 12 April 2023 from <u>https://medicalxpress.com/news/2014-04-antipsychotic-drug-adhd-diagnosed-foster-youth.html</u>



This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.