

Advanced Pharm NR566

Week 6 Quiz

1. A patient taking an MAOI is prescribed venlafaxine for another medical condition. What should the healthcare provider do with the MAOI?

Answer: Discontinue the MAOI before starting venlafaxine

Rationale: Combining MAOIs with SNRIs like venlafaxine can cause serotonin syndrome. A 14-day washout period is required to prevent this life-threatening interaction.

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2. Which of the following populations is cautioned to be particularly monitored for an increased risk of suicide when taking SSRIs?

Answer: B. Children and adolescents

Rationale: SSRIs carry a black box warning for increased suicidal ideation in children, adolescents, and young adults, especially during early treatment.

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3. Which of the following symptoms is characteristic of neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS), a rare but serious reaction to antipsychotic medications?

Answer: A. Sudden high fever and autonomic instability

Rationale: NMS is a medical emergency marked by hyperthermia, muscle rigidity, altered mental status, and autonomic dysfunction.

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4. A patient with depression presents with significant somnolence after starting mirtazapine therapy. Which of the following measures should be taken to manage this side effect?

Answer: B. Adjust the mirtazapine dosage

Rationale: Mirtazapine is more sedating at lower doses due to antihistaminic effects. Increasing the dose may reduce sedation.

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5. A patient presents with symptoms of severe headache, nausea, and profuse sweating after consuming aged cheese while taking an MAOI. What should the healthcare provider suspect?

Answer: C. Hypertensive crisis

Rationale: Tyramine-rich foods like aged cheese can trigger a hypertensive crisis in patients on MAOIs due to impaired tyramine metabolism.

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6. A patient with schizophrenia presents with extrapyramidal side effects after starting a first-generation antipsychotic. Which category of FGAs is most likely responsible for these side effects?

Answer: A. High-potency drugs

Rationale: High-potency FGAs (e.g., haloperidol) strongly block dopamine receptors, increasing the risk of extrapyramidal symptoms (EPS).

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7. A 30-year-old patient with bipolar disorder is beginning lithium therapy. Baseline labs are within normal limits. After 10 days, the patient reports nausea, fine hand tremors, and mild confusion. What is the most appropriate next step in management?