

AKATHISIA DURING THERAPY WITH ZUCLOPENTIXOL: CASE REPORT

O. Kozumplik & S. Uzun

*University Department, Vrapce Psychiatric Hospital, Bolnicka cesta 32, 10090 Zagreb, Croatia
e-mail: suzana.uzun@bolnica-vrapce.hr*

We present a case of akathisia during therapy with zuclopentixol in a patient with diagnose of schizophrenia.

Patient, 27 years old, was treated under diagnose of schizophrenia during previous 8 years. He was taking fluphenazine in therapy (daily dosage 5 mg) and was able to work and be socially active. The patient reported auditory hallucinations with unpleasant content and thought that it was because of the tablets he was taking. He became tensed and he was scared. He said he wanted to take medications as intramucular therapy because he read that such therapy was effective. Hospital treatment was initiated and zuclopentixol was introduced in therapy. After the first application of zuclopentixol, symptoms of akathisia appeared - the patient felt very restless and could not be still in one place; he was frequently standing up and walking. He described his condition as very unpleasant. Therapy with zuclopentixol was discontinued because of symptoms of akathisia. Clozapine was introduced in therapy and patient's mental condition improved gradually. Alternatives of treatment were discussed with the patient, as well as possible side effects and their treatment. Symptoms of akathisia disappeared during the following two days after the change in therapy. Along with clozapine, the patient had lorazepam (2.5 mg in the evening) in therapy. He said that he was feeling much calmer, and that he can sit still, which was noticed during hospital treatment.

He denied having auditory hallucinations. After discharge, regular outpatient treatment was continued.