ANXIETY DISORDERS

Family Medicine Forum
Montreal, Quebec
November 11, 2017.

Jon Davine, CCFP, FRCP(C)
McMaster University
DISCLOSURE

• Speaker/Presenter Disclosure
  • Not applicable

• Disclosure of Commercial Support
  • Not applicable
PANIC DISORDER

- Lifetime prevalence 15% of panic attacks
- Lifetime prevalence 4.7% panic disorder
- Up to 50% have agoraphobia
- Women > men
- Late adolescence/early adulthood
DSM-V Criteria for Panic Attacks

A discrete period of intense fear or discomfort, in which 4 or more of the following symptoms developed abruptly and reached a peak within minutes.

1. Palpitations, pounding heart, or accelerated heart rate
2. Sweating
3. Trembling or shaking
4. Sensations of shortness of breath or smothering
5. Feeling of choking
DSM-V Criteria for Panic Attacks

- Chest pain or discomfort
- Nausea or abdominal distress
- Feeling dizzy, light-headed
- Chills or heat sensations
- Paresthesias
- Derealization/depersonalization
- Fear of losing control or going crazy
- Fear of dying
PANIC ATTACK VS PANIC DISORDER

• “Out of the blue” vs situational
• if linked only to social situations, then social phobia
• if linked to past traumatic memories, then post traumatic stress disorder
• if linked to specific stimuli, then specific phobia
DSM-V Diagnosis of PD

The person has experienced both of the following:

• Recurrent unexpected panic attacks
• One or more of the attacks has been followed by 1 month or more of one or more of the following:
  • Persistent concern about having additional attacks (anticipatory anxiety)
  • A significant change in behaviour related to the attacks (e.g. behaviours designed to avoid panic attacks)
DSM-V Diagnosis of PD

- The panic attacks are not due to substance abuse, a medication, or a general medical condition.

- The panic attacks are not better accounted for by another mental disorder.
DIAGNOSIS:

- R/O medical problems eg.
  - hyperthyroid (TSH)
  - cardiac arrhythmia's (EKG)
  - carcinoid syndrome (5HIAA)
  - pheochromocytoma (MHPG)
  - hypoglycemia (Glucose)
  - alcohol, barbiturate, benzodiazepine withdrawal
  - caffeine use
  - cocaine, amphetamines, marijuana use
  - Cushing’s Syndrome
  - Menopausal symptoms
Screening Questions

Panic Attacks

• Do you have panic attacks or anxiety attacks, and by that I mean a sudden attack of anxiety with physical sensations. It’s hard to breathe, your heart pounds, you are sweating, shaking.

• Does that happen to you?
Screening Questions

Agoraphobia

• Do you avoid going to certain places because you are fearful of having a panic attack and thus have restricted your activities.
TAKING A HISTORY

• do you get anxiety attacks
• Can they occur out of the blue, or do they happen in certain specific situations
• how long do they last
• how long have they been happening
• what physical symptoms do you experience
• are you avoiding doing any activities because of these anxiety attacks
• Are you nervous about when your next panic attack may happen?
“THE GREAT IMITATOR”

- cardiac - SOB, palpitations, CP
- neuro - lightheaded, dizzy, ataxia
- GI - vomiting, nausea, bouts of GI distress
CBT

• psychoeducation: explain what is happening, a common condition, effective treatment is available. This can decrease stress.
• cognitive distortions corrected e.g. fears of sudden death, going crazy, etc; not life threatening ↓
• teach relaxation techniques eg. progressive muscle relaxation
Systematic Desensitization

- If agoraphobia present, can use systematic desensitization techniques
- Hierarchy of behaviours to be approached, paired with relaxation training
- Make sure behaviour is conquered before stopping activity
STRESS DIATHESIS MODEL

Biologic vulnerability

Stress

Supports

Expression of panic disorder

• Often panic attacks are precipitated by stressful life events, and this can be dealt with in psychotherapy
I START WITH:

• d/c caffeine, alcohol, marijuana
• correct cognitive distortions
• relaxation training
• provide supportive counselling (increase support, decrease stress)
• if not effective after a few weeks, start SSRI, NSRI
• sooner, if patient requests.
Recommendations for Pharmacotherapy for PD

First Line
Citalopram, escitalopram, fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, paroxetine, paroxetine CR, sertraline, venlafaxine XR

Second-Line
Alprazolam, clomipramine, clonazepam, diazepam, imipramine, lorazepam, mirtazapine, reboxetine
Recommendations for Pharmacotherapy for PD

**Third-line**
Bupropion SR, divalproex, duloxetine, gabapentin, levetiracetam, milnacipran, moclobemide, olanzapine, phenelzine, quetiapine, risperidone, tranylcypromine

**Adjunctive Therapy:**
- **Second-Line:** alprazolam ODT, clonazepam
- **Third-Line:** aripiprazole, divalproex, olanzapine, pindolol, risperidone

**Not recommended**
Buspirone, propranolol, tiagabine, trazodone
meds

- SSRI or NSRI
- Benzodiazepine as adjunct. Here I would use lorazepam 0.5-1.0 mg. po or s/l prn
Agoraphobia

- Marked fear or anxiety about two or more of the following:
  - Using public transportation
  - Being in open places (bridges, marketplaces)
  - Being in enclosed places (shops, cinemas, theatres)
  - Standing in line or being in a crowd
  - Being outside of the home alone
Agoraphobia

- Avoids these situations because of a fear of panic attacks or other embarrassing symptoms
- Situations are avoided or require presence of a companion, or endured with intense fear
- Lasts for >6 months
- Causes distress/impairment of functioning
Generalized Anxiety Disorder

- Lifetime prevalence is 6%
- Women > men
- High rates of comorbidity
- GAD-7
DSM-V Diagnosis of GAD

- Excessive anxiety and worry (apprehensive expectation) occurring for at least 6 months about several events or activities
- Person finds it difficult to control the worry
- The anxiety and worry are associated with 3 (or more) of the following:
  - Restlessness or feeling on edge, fatigue, difficulty concentrating, irritability, muscle tension, sleep disturbance
GAD

- Anxiety and worry are not due to substance abuse or another medical or mental disorder (took out mood disorders)
- The anxiety, worry, or physical symptoms cause clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning
Screening Questions

• Would you describe yourself as a chronic worrier? Would others see you as a worry wart?
• Do you worry about anything and everything as opposed to just one or two things?
• How long has this been going on for?
• Some people tell me that they are worriers but they can usually handle it; other people tell me that they are such severe worriers that they find that it gets in the way of their life or simply paralyzes them. Is this the case for you?
GAD and Somatizing

Watch for:

- Somatic presentations, e.g., “irritable bowel syndrome”, fatigue, aches and pains.

Unexplained GAD is underdiagnosed.
R/O Organic:
- Caffeine use
- Hyperthyroid (TSH)
- Alcohol withdrawal/Benzo withdrawal
- Amphetamine/Cocaine use
Lifestyle Issues

- Discontinue Caffeine
Caffeine

Discontinue caffeine!!!

I mean it!

• coffee
• tea
• cola
• chocolate
Caffeine

Mg. Caffeine/6 oz or 120 ml)

**Coffee:** Filter Drip 108 - 180
- Automatic percolated 72 - 144
- Instant 60 - 90

**Tea:** Strong 78-108

**Cola:** 1 can (12 oz or 355 ml) 28-64
- Dr. Pepper - YES
- Mountain Dew - NO - in Canada; YES in USA
# Caffeine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cocoa</th>
<th>6 oz. Or 180 ml.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hot chocolate</td>
<td>6 – 30 mg.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dark chocolate (56g)</td>
<td>30-40 mg.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk chocolate (56g)</td>
<td>3 – 20 mg.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lifestyle Changes

- Increase exercise
- Improved sleep habits
- Changes in job environment/home stressors
Psychological Treatments

**CBT** - cognitive Therapy
- identify automatic thoughts that cause worry
- challenge these (evidence for and against)
- Reformulate

**Behavioural**
- Progressive muscle relaxation
Recommendations for Pharmacotherapy for GAD

First-line
Agomelatine, duloxetine, escitalopram, paroxetine, paroxetine CR, pregabalin, sertraline, venlafaxine XR

Second-line
Alprazolam, bromazepam, bupropion XL, diazepam, hydroxyzine, imipramine, lorazepam, quetiapine XR, vortioxetine

Third-line
Citalopram, divalproex, chrono, fluoxetine, mirtazapine, trazodone
Recommendations for Pharmacotherapy for GAD

**Adjunctive Therapy**
Second-line: pregabalin
Third-line: aripiprazole, olanzapine, quetiapine, quetiapine XR, risperidone
Not recommended: Ziprasidone

**Not recommended:**
Beta blockers (propranolol), pexacerfont, tiagabine
Note: Benzos

- Benzos can be used for GAD, if other meds not effective
- Tolerance has been widely overstated (APA study group). Most people do not need continuing increased dosages
- Would recommend clonazepam as long acting
- May be on for long period. That’s Okay!
Meds

- SSRI, NSRI
- Benzodiazepines--here I would try clonazepam
SOCIAL ANXIETY DISORDER

- Lifetime prevalence 8-12%
- Women > men
- Peaks between 0-5, 11-15
- Onset after age 15 is rare
- Social phobia inventory (SPIN)
DSM-V Diagnosis of SAD

- Marked and persistent fear of social or performance situations
- Fear of negative judgment
- Avoidance of feared situation or endurance with distress
- Persistent, >6 months
DSM-V Diagnosis of SAD

- Avoidance or fear cause significant distress or impaired functioning
- Fear or avoidance are not due to another medical or mental disorder
- Specify if:
  - Performance only
Screening Questions

- Do you generally avoid social situations, especially with people you don’t know well, such as parties?
- Can you eat in restaurants in front of other people?
- Can you do presentations in front of others?
- Do your social fears get in the way of your life?
Common Components of CBT for SAD

Education

- Education about the disorder and its treatment
- Recommends self-help materials
Common Components of CBT for SAD

Exposure

- Offers imaginal exposure to situations that are difficult to practice regularly in real life.

- Offers in vivo (real life) exposure to situations that provoke social anxiety during treatment
Common Components of CBT for SAD

Cognitive Restructuring

- Aims to reduce negative beliefs about self and others

- Works to reduce the excessive self-focus that is characteristic of social anxiety disorder
Recommendations for Pharmacotherapy for SAD

**First Line**
Escitalopram, fluvoxamine, fluvoxamine CR, paroxetine CR, pregabalin, sertraline, venlafaxine XR

**Second Line**
Alprazolam, bromazepam, citalopram, gabapentin, phenelzine
Recommendations for Pharmacotherapy for SAD

**Third-Line**
- Atomoxetine, buproprion SR, clomipramine, divalproex, duloxetine, fluoxetine, mirtazapine, moclobemide, olanzapine, selegiline, tiagabine, topiramate

**Adjunctive Therapy:**
- Third-line: aripiprazole, buspirone, paroxetine, risperidone
- Not recommended: clonazepam, pindolol

**Not recommended**
- Atenolol, buspirone, imipramine, levetiracetam, propranolol, quetiapine
OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE AND RELATED DISORDERS
OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE DISORDER

- Lifetime prevalence 1.6%
- Age of onset is 14 to 30 (median 19)
- 60% female
- Can occur in kids
- (Y-BOCS) Yale-Brown Obsessive Compulsive Scale
DSM-V Diagnosis of OCD

Either obsessions or compulsions:

• Obsessions as defined by the following:
  
  • Recurrent and persistent thoughts, urges or images that are experienced as intrusive and inappropriate and that cause marked anxiety or distress

  • Not simply excessive worries about real-life problems
DSM-V Diagnosis of OCD

• Compulsions as defined by the following:

  • Repetitive behaviours (for example, hand washing, ordering, checking) or mental acts (for example, praying, counting, repeating words silently) that the person feels driven to perform in response to an obsession, or according to rigid rules
DSM-V Diagnosis of OCD

- The obsessions or compulsions cause marked distress, are time consuming (take > 1 hour daily), or significantly interfere with the person’s normal routine, or occupational, academic, or social functioning

- The obsessions or compulsions are not due to substance abuse, or another medical or mental disorder
OCD

Specify if:
- With good or fair insight
- With poor insight
- With absent insight/delusional beliefs

Specify if:
- Tic related
Screening Questions

Do you have any unusual or silly thoughts that you know are silly but you simply cannot stop thinking about them, such as being contaminated by germs? Do you feel there are certain rituals you have to do such as tap your hand a certain way or do things in sets of threes or touch certain things before you can enter the room or things like that?
Common Components of CBT for OCD

Education

• Educate about OCD, including typical obsessions, compulsions, and coping strategies

• Recommends relevant self-help readings or manuals.
Common Components of CBT for OCD

Exposure

- Offers in vivo (real life) exposure to situations that provoke anxiety and compulsive behaviour (for example, touching contaminated objects)

- Offers imaginal exposure to feared obsessive thoughts (for example, especially concerning religious, aggressive, or sexual content)
Common Components of CBT for OCD

Response Prevention

• Gradually reduces and eliminates:
  • Compulsive behaviour (for example, hand washing) including mental compulsions or rituals (for example, saying a prayer after having a harmful thought)
  • Excessive safety behaviour (for example, wearing gloves or other protective clothing to avoid coming in contact with contaminated objects)
Common Components of CBT for OCD

Cognitive Interventions

• Reappraisal of beliefs concerning the danger involved in situations that provoke obsessions and compulsions. This involves estimation of likelihood of a negative outcome occurring.
Recommendations for Pharmacotherapy for OCD

First-line
  Escitalopram, fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, paroxetine, sertraline

Second-Line
  Citalopram, clomipramine, mirtazapine, venlafaxine XR

Third-Line
  IV citalopram, IV clomipramine, duloxetine, phenelzine, tramadol, tranylcypromine
Recommendations for Pharmacotherapy for OCD

**Adjunctive Therapy:**

First-Line: aripiprazole, risperidone
Second-Line: memantine, quetiapine, topiramate
Third-Line: amisulpride, celecoxib, citalopram, granisetron, haloperidol, IV ketamine, mirtazapine, N-acetylcysteine, olanzapine, ondansetron, pindolol, pregabalin, riluzole, ziprasidone
Not recommended: buspirone, clonazepam, lithium, morphine

Not recommended: Clonazepam, clonidine, desipramine
Body Dysmorphic Disorder

• Preoccupation with one or more defects in physical appearance that are not observable or appear slight
• Has performed repetitive behaviours in response to appearance concerns
• Gets in the way of social/occupational functioning
• Not about concerns with body weight
BDD

Specify if:
  - With muscle dysmophia

Specify if:
  - With good or fair insight
  - With poor insight
  - With absent insight/delusional beliefs
Hoarding Disorder

- Persistent difficulty discarding or parting with possessions
- Results in congestion and clutter of active living areas
- Causes distress and impairment
- Not due to another medical or mental disorder
Hoarding

- Specify:
  - With excessive acquisition

- Specify
  - With good or fair insight
  - With poor insight
  - With absent insight/delusional beliefs
Trichotillomania (Hair-Pulling Disorder)

- Recurrent pulling out of one’s hair, resulting in hair loss
- Repeated attempts to decrease/stop
- Causes distress/impaired functioning
- Not due to another mental or physical disorder
Excoriation (Skin-Picking) Disorder

- Recurrent skin picking resulting in skin lesions
- Repeated attempts to stop/decrease
- Causes distress/impairment of functioning
- Not due to another medical or mental disorder