

Prescription Pattern of Antidepressant Drugs in a Tertiary Care Centre of Central India

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.18049/jcmad/223>

Abstract

Objective: In psychiatric practice, antidepressant drugs are widely used group of drugs. Number of drugs is available in this group with diverse type of mechanisms and efficacy/safety profile. The objective for the study was to identify the prescription pattern of antidepressant drugs in the centre for determination of current trends.

Materials and Methods: The retrospective study was conducted at NKP Salve Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Centre, Nagpur. Case records of all the patients suffering depression and other psychiatric disorders and treated with antidepressants during the period of 2012-13 by institutional psychiatrists were analyzed for prescription pattern of antidepressant drugs.

Results: A total of 400 patients received antidepressant drugs. Out of which 128 (32%) patients treated with Escitalopram, 82 (20.5%) with Fluoxetine, 71 (17.75%) with Nortriptyline, 29 (7.25%) Venlafexine, 16 (4%) with Sertraline, 14 (3.5%) with Dothiepin, and 17 (4.25%) with Paroxetine. **Conclusion:** Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs) are still a very popular group of antidepressant drugs in this region. Escitalopram followed by Fluoxetine and Nortriptyline were the most preferred drugs among psychiatrist for the management of depression because of their efficacy/safety profile and best usefulness for the local population.