Reviewer's report

Title: Health-related quality of life among patients treated with lurasidone: results from a switch trial in patients with schizophrenia.

Version: 2  Date: 21 November 2013

Reviewer: Joshua Kantrowitz

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Quality of life is important is understudied in schizophrenia. However, I have significant concerns over the presentation of this open label study.

I have reviewed previous versions of this study focusing on other outcomes, and again I am concerned over the artificial distinction of sedating vs non-sedating. I am aware that this was an a priori distinction, but it is particularly misleading in this article when it allows the two most efficacious pre-switch agents (olanzapine and risperidone) to be split up for the analysis. For the present study, numerically less improvement was noted in subjects who were on olanzapine, and to a lesser extent, risperidone. The non-sedating/sedating dichotomy dilutes this finding, and is misleading. If this dichotomy is kept, then the outcomes for the individual agents needs to be further highlighted, including in the abstract.

Nevertheless, I think the finding of presumably significant improvement in Qol in the combined non-olanzapine/risperidone group is of interest. In particular, a direct comparison with aripiprazole and ziprasidone would be enlightening, as they are the most similar agents in terms of side effects. The finding of superiority over these agents on Qol is interesting. I would strongly suggest reformatting this article to focus on the differences in outcomes amend the individual agents.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.