Reviewer's report

Title: Excessive weight gain after remission of depression in a schizophrenic patient treated with risperidone: Case report

Version: 1 Date: 18 May 2006

Reviewer: David C Henderson

Reviewer's report:

General:

An interesting case report of a woman treated with risperidone who gained a significant amount of weight over a 3 year period.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

1. On page 3, please provide a review of the literature on the long-term treatment with risperidone and the impact on weight gain. Also, please clarify the length of time in the studies that cite 2-2.5Kg of weight gain with risperidone.

2. Page 4: It does not appear that the fluoxetine had a significant effect on her weight gain as she gained 5 Kg the first year and then 3Kg in nine months of treatment with both risperidone and fluoxetine. Please clarify this.

3. I would de-emphasize the role of fluoxetine in this report. Please provide information on other factors that could have contributed to the weight gain following a discontinuation of fluoxetine and a reduction in risperidone to 2 mg? Did she have life style change? Move to a different housing setting; physical problems that limited activity and exercise? Significant change in diet? Was compliance with risperidone assessed?

4. Please provide the prolactin levels and time points during her treatment with risperidone.

5. Page 7; I would limit the statement regarding excessive weight gain following a discontinuation of fluoxetine as it she was gaining weight prior to fluoxetine initiation and no data is provided on diet and exercise (other than the observation of carbohydrate cravings and binging episodes.

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

Research grants: Pfizer, BMS, Astra Zenica, Janssen, Eli Lilly;
Honorarium for lectures and advisory boards: Pfizer, BMS, Astra Zenica, Janssen, Eli Lilly;