

When the Goal Is Recovery: Managing Long-term Schizophrenia One Patient at a Time

Original Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2008
Enduring Materials Expiration Date: November 19, 2009

Participate in this psychLINK™ CME/CE activity via Webcast/CD-ROM.

For more information, please call our psychLINK™ Network at 800-242-6309.

Target Audience: Physicians, Nurses, and Pharmacists

Program Overview:

Approximately 80% of patients with schizophrenia will relapse within 5 years of first episode in the absence of appropriate treatment. Antipsychotics are highly effective in the prevention of relapse in remitted first-episode patients, with 1-year relapse risk varying from 0% to 46%. Many experts are now in favor of continuous use of antipsychotics for patients who have had multiple episodes of schizophrenia, although the recommendation remains controversial. Long-term use of antipsychotics may cause adverse effects that interfere with drug adherence and affect social adjustment. Thus, it is paramount to identify appropriate pharmacotherapy and nonpharmacological options for long-term maintenance of schizophrenia.

This psychLINK™ program will update clinicians on the latest available evidence-based studies and guidelines regarding maintenance therapy for patients diagnosed with schizophrenia, with the goal of achieving full remission and significantly reducing relapse rates.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this activity, participants should be able to:

- Outline the relapse and rehospitalization rates that typically occur during the maintenance phase of schizophrenia treatment
- Identify comprehensive rehabilitation strategies to prevent relapse, including long-acting, injectable medications and psychosocial rehabilitation
- Communicate effectively with patients regarding the need for and duration of maintenance phase treatment

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CME/CE Credit Instructions and Accreditation Information:

Successful completion of this CE/CME activity includes the following:

- Viewing (or listening to) the presentation and reviewing the course materials
- Completing and returning (or submitting online) the appropriate CE/CME application and activity evaluation form
- Scoring 70% or above on the posttest

Participants may print a statement of credit online after successful completion of the activity and submission of the required forms. There is no fee for participating in this activity.

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ACPE Universal Program Number:

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