Reviewer's report

Title:Aripiprazole for the Treatment of Tic Disorder in Children: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Version:2 Date:4 January 2015

Reviewer:Atsurou Yamada

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Comment

This is an important and topical paper. This study has merits in clarifying the efficacy and safety of aripiprazole for the treatment of children with tic disorder in the lacking studies. However, there are few randomized controlled trials using placebo as control in this field.

1. Major Compulsory Revisions

2. Minor Essential Revisions

2.1. Randomized controlled trials in this study involve both Tourette syndromes and tic disorders. In general Tourette syndrome often associated with behavioral problems and is more difficult to treat than other tic disorders. The difference of diagnosis should be described in discussion.

2.2. P. 15 line 15: I suggest “which” instead of “swhich”.

2.3. Table 2: There are many “unclear” in blinding. Some randomized controlled trials are open-label. “Open-label” or “not blinded” should be described.

2.4. Table 3: Put abbreviation list under the table. Suggest “Gastrointestinal” instead of “GI”.

2.5. P. 17 Reference 10: I suggest “adolescents with” instead of “adolescentswith”.

3. Discretionary Revisions

3.1. If any studies involve other non-pharmacological interventions, it should be described.

3.2. P. 15 line 17: Because of lacking of long term evaluation, it is not enough to assess long term adverse events such as tardive dyskinesia. More should be discussed.

3.3. P. 15 line 18: Because of lacking of clinical trial registration, publication bias should be described.

Level of interest:An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.