History of alcohol abuse reduces response to antipsychotics in people with first episode psychosis


What is the prevalence of substance use disorder among people with first episode psychosis, and does substance use disorder affect response to antipsychotic drugs?

METHODS

Prevalence of SUD: 37% had a lifetime SUD diagnosis, most commonly with cannabis (38%), then alcohol (21%), cocaine (6%), hallucinogen/PCP (5%), and opioids (1%). People with SUD were more likely to be male and have had longer periods of untreated psychosis than their non-SUD counterparts. Response to antipsychotics: people with alcohol use disorder (AUD) were significantly less likely to respond compared with people without AUD: differences in response were not significant for people with or without SUD or cannabis use disorders (see http://www.ebmentalhealth.com/supplemental for table). People with AUD were less likely to respond to olanzapine compared with haloperidol (9% vs 27%, p<0.02).

MAIN RESULTS

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Discussion

People with AUD were significantly less likely to respond compared with people without AUD: differences in response were not significant for people with or without SUD or cannabis use disorders (see http://www.ebmentalhealth.com/supplemental for table). People with AUD were less likely to respond to olanzapine compared with haloperidol (9% vs 27%, p<0.02).