

QUESTION

Should commencing antimuscarinic agents vs. no treatment be used for patients reporting lower urinary tract symptoms with Friedreich ataxia?

POPULATION: patients reporting lower urinary tract symptoms with Friedreich ataxia

INTERVENTION: commencing antimuscarinic agents

COMPARISON: no treatment

MAIN OUTCOMES: LUT related quality of life; Lower urinary tract symptoms;

ASSESSMENT

Problem

Is the problem a priority?

JUDGEMENT	RESEARCH EVIDENCE	ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> No<input type="radio"/> Probably no<input type="radio"/> Probably yes<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<input type="radio"/> Varies<input type="radio"/> Don't know	LUTS are common in Friedreich ataxia (Lad, 2017) and therefore this problem is important.	

Desirable Effects

How substantial are the desirable anticipated effects?

JUDGEMENT	RESEARCH EVIDENCE	ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Trivial<input type="radio"/> Small<input checked="" type="radio"/> Moderate<input type="radio"/> Large<input type="radio"/> Varies<input type="radio"/> Don't know	A search of four databases (CENTRAL, MEDLINE, EMBASE, CINAHL) identified no randomized, non-randomized controlled, cohort and case studies published from 2014 through to 13 July 2020. No further published evidence meeting the search criteria was identified in the Consensus Clinical Management Guidelines for Friedreich's ataxia, 2014.	Clinical experience supports the use of antimuscarinics in managing LUT symptoms including frequency and incontinence (if the patient is not in urinary retention).

Undesirable Effects

How substantial are the undesirable anticipated effects?

JUDGEMENT	RESEARCH EVIDENCE	ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS
-----------	-------------------	---------------------------

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Large ○ Moderate ● Small ○ Trivial ○ Varies ○ Don't know 	<p>A search of four databases (CENTRAL, MEDLINE, EMBASE, CINAHL) identified no randomized, non-randomized controlled, cohort and case studies published from 2014 through to 13 July 2020. No further published evidence meeting the search criteria was identified in the Consensus Clinical Management Guidelines for Friedreich's ataxia, 2014.</p>	<p>The use of these drugs may result in retention, particularly in those patients that have substantial residual volume of urine, hence the need for bladder U/S to estimate residual urine volume.</p> <p>Antimuscarinics often cause the GI effects of constipation and dry mouth.</p>
---	--	--

Certainty of evidence

What is the overall certainty of the evidence of effects?

JUDGEMENT	RESEARCH EVIDENCE	ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Very low ○ Low ○ Moderate ○ High ● No included studies 	<p>No published evidence.</p>	

Values

Is there important uncertainty about or variability in how much people value the main outcomes?

JUDGEMENT	RESEARCH EVIDENCE	ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Important uncertainty or variability ○ Possibly important uncertainty or variability ● Probably no important uncertainty or variability ○ No important uncertainty or variability 	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Outcomes</th> <th>Importance</th> <th>Certainty of the evidence (GRADE)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>LUT related quality of life - not measured</td> <td>IMPORTANT^a</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lower urinary tract symptoms - not measured</td> <td>IMPORTANT^a</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>a. Identified as important by expert authors on this topic</p>	Outcomes	Importance	Certainty of the evidence (GRADE)	LUT related quality of life - not measured	IMPORTANT ^a	-	Lower urinary tract symptoms - not measured	IMPORTANT ^a	-	
Outcomes	Importance	Certainty of the evidence (GRADE)									
LUT related quality of life - not measured	IMPORTANT ^a	-									
Lower urinary tract symptoms - not measured	IMPORTANT ^a	-									

--	--	--

Balance of effects

Does the balance between desirable and undesirable effects favor the intervention or the comparison?

JUDGEMENT	RESEARCH EVIDENCE	ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Favors the comparison <input type="radio"/> Probably favors the comparison <input type="radio"/> Does not favor either the intervention or the comparison <input checked="" type="radio"/> Probably favors the intervention <input type="radio"/> Favors the intervention <input type="radio"/> Varies <input type="radio"/> Don't know 	No published evidence.	

Acceptability

Is the intervention acceptable to key stakeholders?

JUDGEMENT	RESEARCH EVIDENCE	ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Probably no <input checked="" type="radio"/> Probably yes <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Varies <input type="radio"/> Don't know 	No published evidence.	

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PROBLEM	JUDGEMENT						
	No	Probably no	Probably yes	Yes		Varies	Don't know
DESIRABLE EFFECTS	Trivial	Small	Moderate	Large		Varies	Don't know
UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS	Large	Moderate	Small	Trivial		Varies	Don't know
CERTAINTY OF EVIDENCE	Very low	Low	Moderate	High			No included studies
VALUES	Important uncertainty or variability	Possibly important uncertainty or variability	Probably no important uncertainty or variability	No important uncertainty or variability			

JUDGEMENT							
BALANCE OF EFFECTS	Favors the comparison	Probably favors the comparison	Does not favor either the intervention or the comparison	Probably favors the intervention	Favors the intervention	Varies	Don't know
ACCEPTABILITY	No	Probably no	Probably yes	Yes		Varies	Don't know

TYPE OF RECOMMENDATION

Strong recommendation against the intervention <input type="radio"/>	Conditional recommendation against the intervention <input type="radio"/>	Conditional recommendation for either the intervention or the comparison <input type="radio"/>	Conditional recommendation for the intervention <input checked="" type="radio"/>	Strong recommendation for the intervention <input type="radio"/>
---	--	---	--	---

CONCLUSIONS

Recommendation

We conditionally recommend consideration of a trial of antimuscarinic agents in individuals with Friedreich ataxia with LUT symptoms reporting urinary storage symptoms.

Justification

Clinical experience indicates that LUT symptoms can significantly impact on quality of life and antimuscarinic agents can help to alleviate urinary storage symptoms.

Subgroup considerations

This recommendation is for individuals with Friedreich ataxia with LUT symptoms reporting urinary storage symptoms. Measurement of post-void residual volume should be done before commencement of an antimuscarinic agent.

Research priorities

Studies to examine the efficacy and safety of individual antimuscarinic agents in patients with Friedreich ataxia reporting LUT symptoms. **References**

Lad M, Parkinson MH, Rai M, Pandolfo M, Bogdanova-Mihaylova P, Walsh RA, et al. Urinary, bowel and sexual symptoms in a cohort of patients with Friedreich's ataxia. *Orphanet J Rare Dis.* 2017;12(1):158.