





ANTIDEPRESSANT MEDICATION MANAGEMENT

| Eligible Population | STAR Plus recipients | |
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| Key Components | Recommendations • Complete history, gathering information from all possible sources • Physical examination • Severity of illness • Risk of harm to self and others • Comorbid substance use/dependence • Personality factors • Mental Status Examination • Level of functioning-work dysfunction • Treatment history, response to previous medication trials, compliance, side effects, etc. | |
| Assessment and evaluation | | |
| Treatment setting | Consider inpatient care in case of suicidality, malnutrition, catatonia, comorbid general medical conditions making management difficult at the outpatient setting Outpatient and Inpatient Non-Pharmacological Management -Psychoeducation -Psychotherapeutic intervention | |
| Factors that determine the selection of Antidepressant Drug | Patient Specific Other medications being taken/drug interactions Previous history of response/tolerability to medication Comorbid psychiatric disorders/symptoms Drug Specific Side Effects Safety in medication overdose (relative toxicity), fatal overdoctost Dosing strategy Type of formulation- Tablet, cap, syrup | -Gender issues-sexual dysfunction -Past side effects with medication -Patient preference ose is significantly lower with SSRIs than with trycyclic antidepressants |

| Measures which can | When and how often to take medicines | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| improve Medication | Preferably give once-a-day dosing | |
| Compliance | Always ask the patient about kind of formulation which they would prefer to take | |
| · | Prescribe minimum number of medications Explain that the beneficial effect will be seen only after 2-4 weeks of intake of medications Explain the need to take medication even after feeling better Explain side effects Encourage to report side effects | |
| Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) | Assess patient's and caregivers beliefs about cause of illness and treatment Assessment for social support, stigma, coping skills Assessment for caregiver burden, coping and distress | |

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