Role of Antipsychotic Medications in the Long-Term Treatment of Psychosis

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CHICAGO FOLLOW-UP STUDY LONGITUDINAL RESEARCH DESIGN

Phase of Disorder Studied

Index First Second Third Fourth Fifth Sixth Hospital-
$$\rightarrow$$
 FU \rightarrow (20 yrs)

PATIENT POPULATION STUDIED AT 20 YEAR FOLLOWUPS

Sample = 139 Psychotic Patients

Diagnostic Groups

70 Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders (SZ)

69 Psychotic Mood Disorders

Median Age at Index Hospitalization = 23 Years

2 Important Subgroups:

25 SZ Patients Prescribed Antipsychotics at All Followups (over 20 Years)

15 SZ Patients Not On Antipsychotics at Any Followup (over 18 Years)

PERCENT OF SCHIZOPHRENIA PATIENTS ON ANTIPSYCHOTIC MEDICATIONS AND PERCENT NOT IN TREATMENT

	Antipsychotics	Other Psychiatric Medications No Antipsychotics	In Treatment No Medications	No Mental Health Treatment
2 Year FU	64%	6%	11%	19%
4.5 Year FU	63%	12%	5%	19%
7.5 Year FU	59%	16%	2%	24%
10 Year FU	59%	16%	3%	22%
15 Year FU	61%	8%	6%	25%
20 Year FU	52%	14%	10%	24%

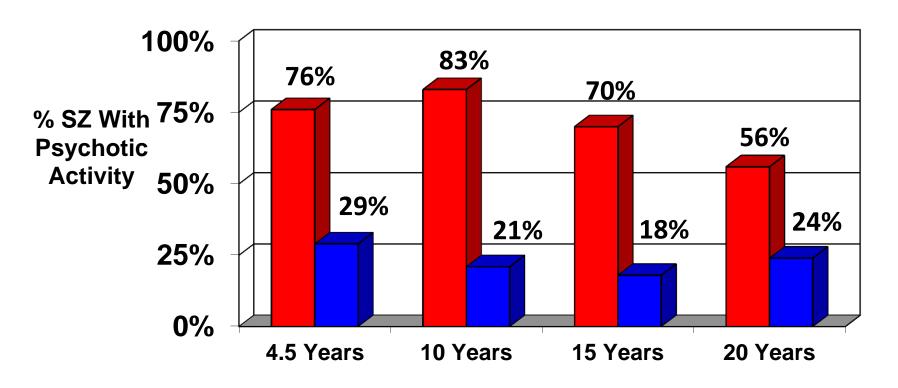
PREVIEW OF OUR DATA ON RELATION OF ANTIPSYCHOTIC MEDICATIONS TO RECOVERY IN SCHIZOPHRENIA

- <u>Surprise:</u> Multiple aspects of our data indicate that longitudinally SZ patients off antipsychotics for prolonged periods are functioning significantly better.
- The data indicate that after the first 2 years antipsychotics do not diminish psychosis.
- Even when controlling for psychosis, SZ prescribed antipsychotics had poorer work functioning (p<.01).

WHAT FACTORS ARE INVOLVED HERE?

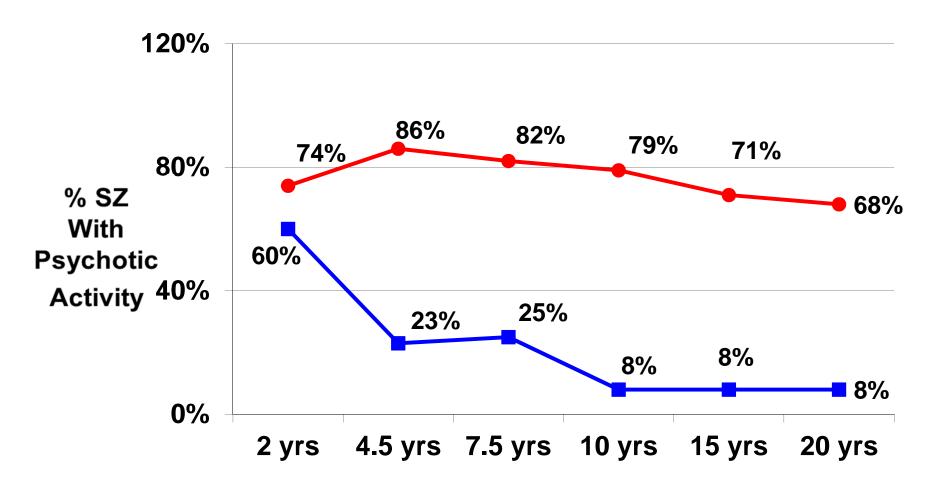
- The subsample of SZ patients who have left treatment are not included in double blind drug-placebo studies.
- Double-blind studies of SZ previously in treatment for over a year are withdrawal studies.

IN MEDICATED AND UNMEDICATED SCHIZOPHRENIA PATIENTS



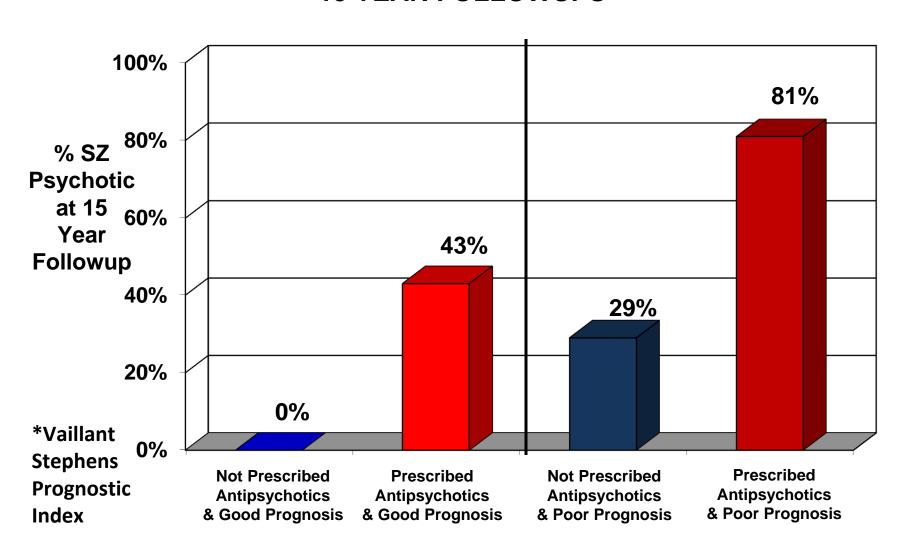
- Prescribed Antipsychotics at Followup
- Not On Psychiatric Meds at Followup

20 YEAR LONGITUDINAL ASSESSMENT OF PSYCHOSIS IN SCHIZOPHRENIA

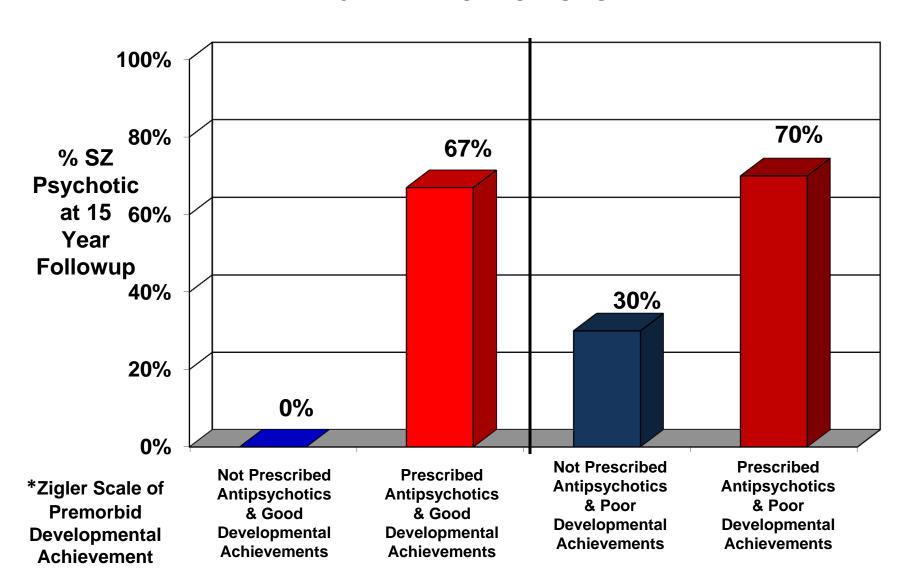


- Always Prescribed Antipsychotic Medications
- -Not Prescribed Psychiatric Medications at Any Assessment

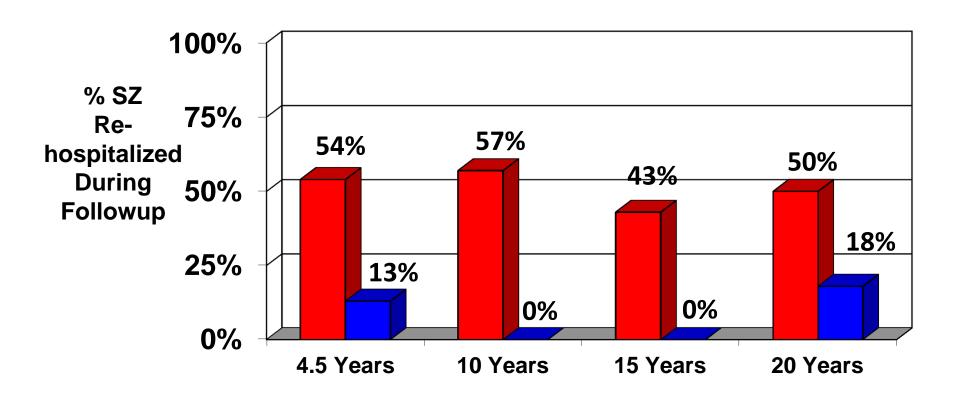
DO ANTIPSYCHOTICS DIMINISH PSYCHOSIS IN SCHIZOPHRENIA? CONTROLLING FOR POTENTIAL FAVORABLE PROGNOSIS* 15 YEAR FOLLOWUPS



DO ANTIPSYCHOTICS DIMINISH PSYCHOSIS IN SCHIZOPHRENIA? CONTROLLING FOR PREMORBID DEVELOPMENTAL ACHIEVEMENTS* 15 YEAR FOLLOWUPS

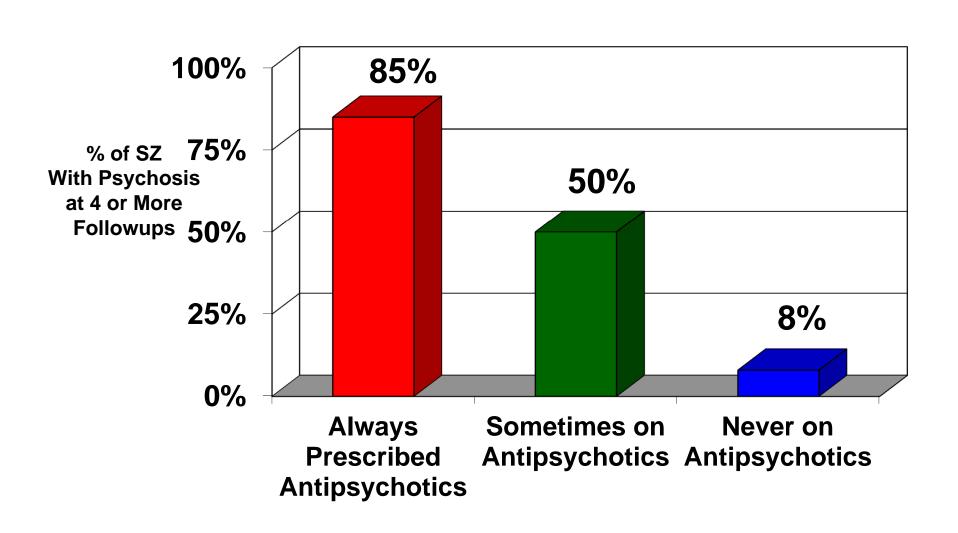


20 YEAR LONGITUDINAL ASSESSMENT OF REHOSPITALIZATION IN SCHIZOPHRENIA

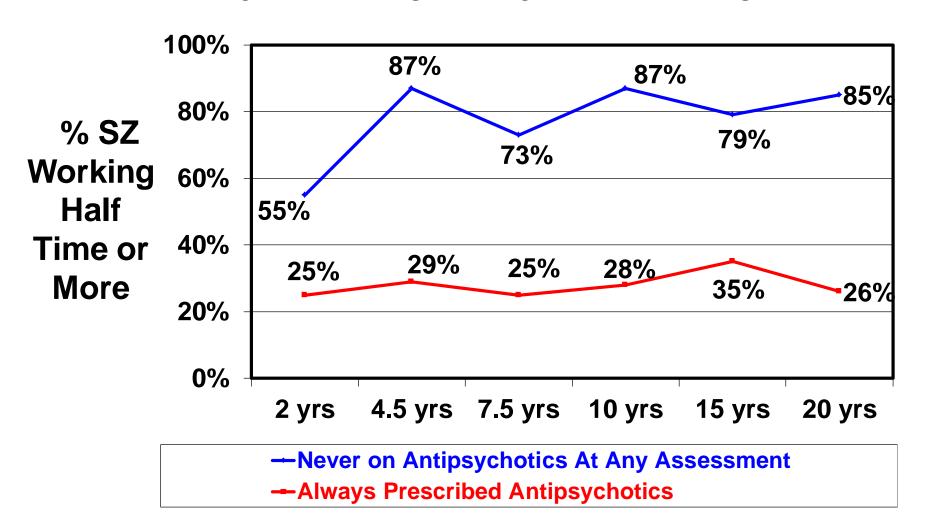


- Prescribed Antipsychotics at Followup
- Not on Psychiatric Meds at Followup

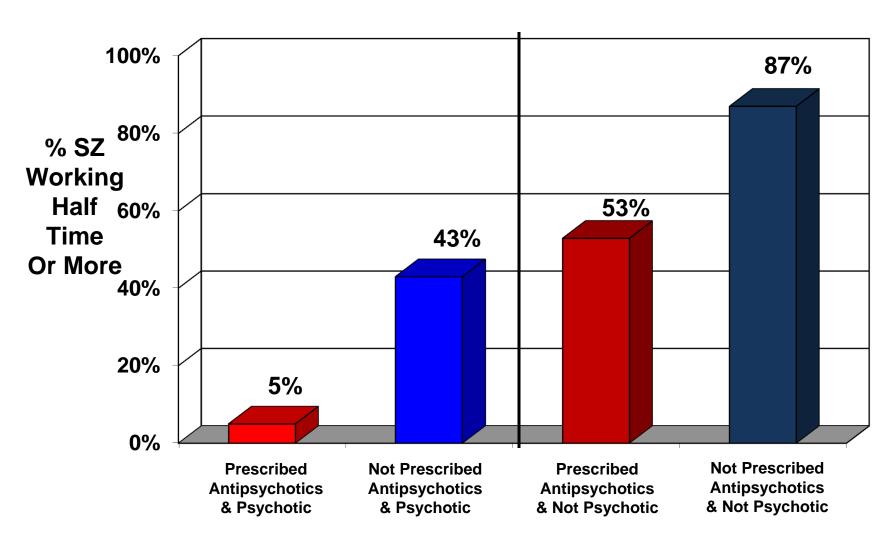
SZ WITH PSYCHOTIC ACTIVITY AT 4 OR MORE FOLLOWUPS



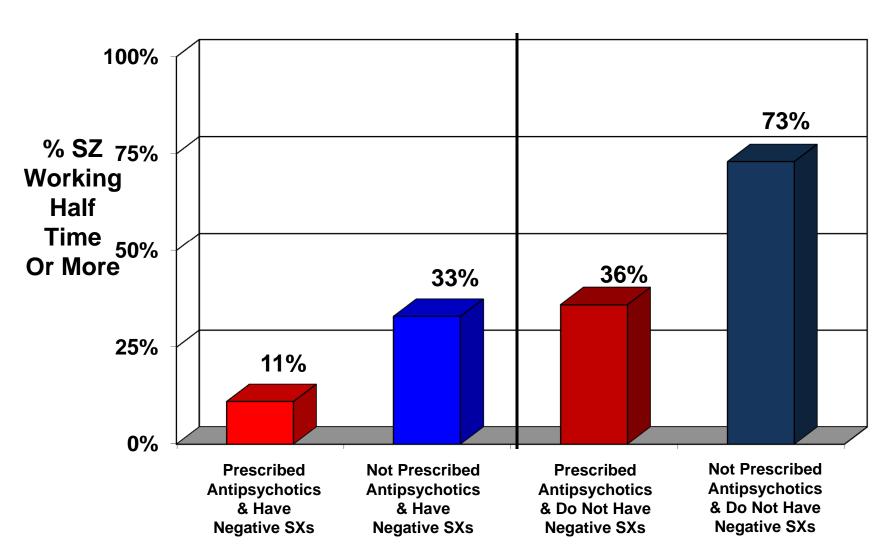
20 YEAR LONGITUDINAL ASSESSMENT OF WORK FUNCTIONING IN SCHIZOPHRENIA PATIENTS: MEDICATED AND UNMEDICATED PATIENTS



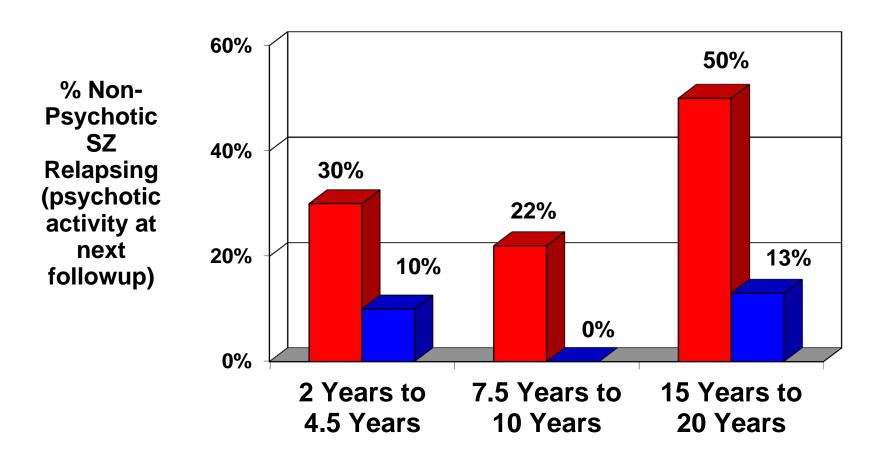
COMBINATION OF ANTIPSYCHOTIC MEDICATIONS AND PSYCHOSIS IN SZ: RELATION TO WORK FUNCTIONING AT 20 YEAR ASSESSMENTS



COMBINATION OF ANTIPSYCHOTIC MEDICATIONS AND NEGATIVE SYMPTOMS IN SZ: RELATION TO WORK FUNCTIONING AT 20 YEAR ASSESSMENTS



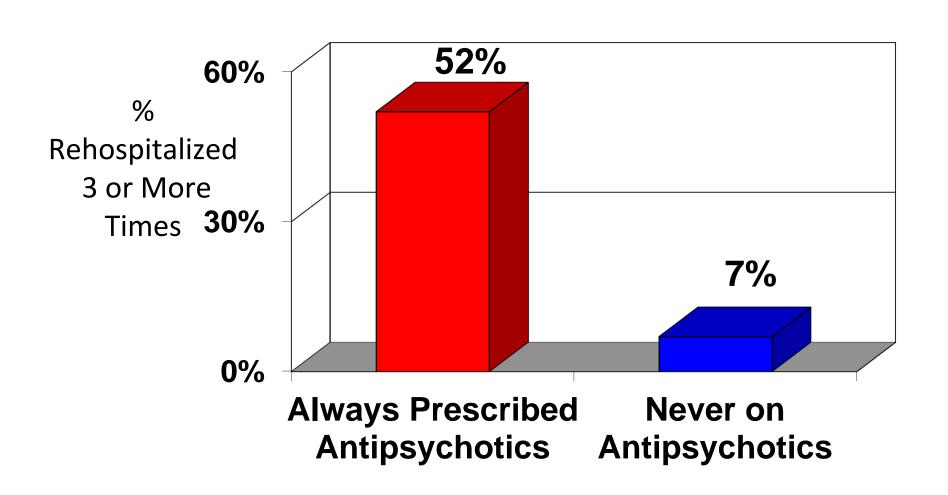
HOW PROTECTIVE ARE ANTIPSYCHOTICS AGAINST RELAPSE?



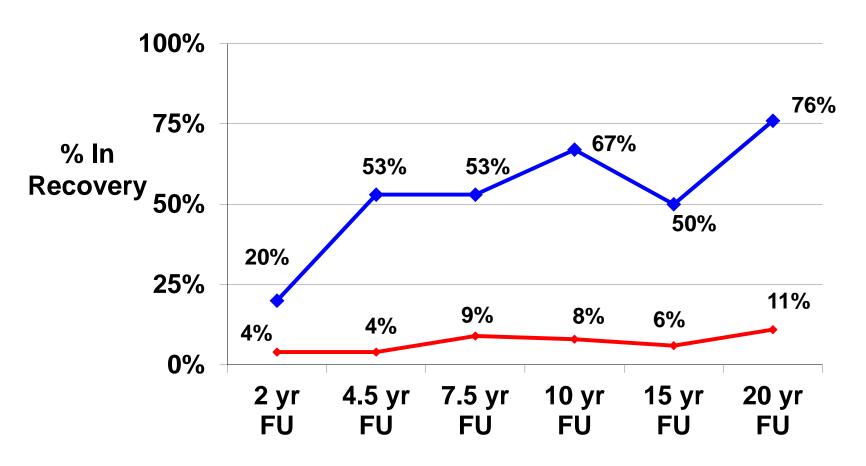
■ SZ Patients Prescribed Antipsychotics

■ SZ Patients NOT on Antipsychotics

% SCHIZOPHRENIA PATIENTS (SZ) REHOSPITALIZED AT 3 OR MORE (OF THE 6) FOLLOWUPS OVER THE 20 YEAR PERIOD



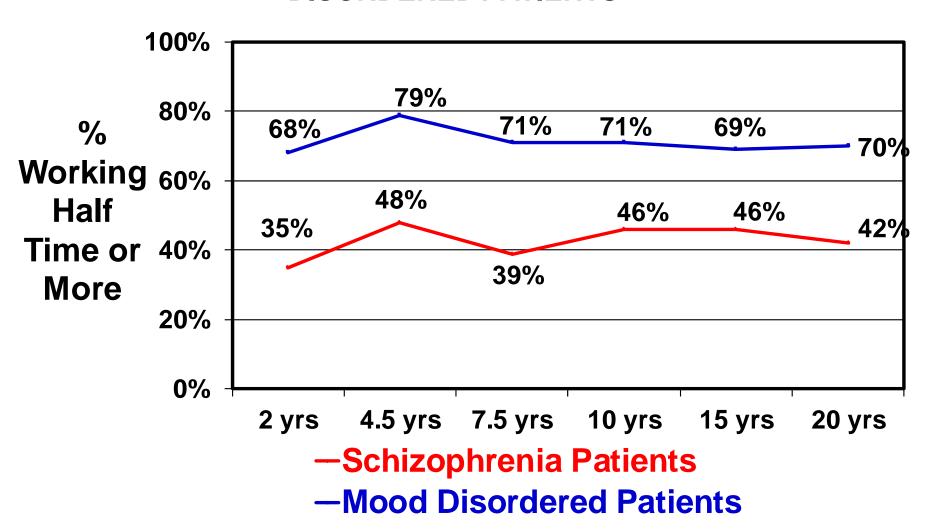
% SCHIZOPHRENIA PATIENTS IN COMPLETE RECOVERY DURING FOLLOWUP YEAR: LONG-TERM MEDICATION STATUS



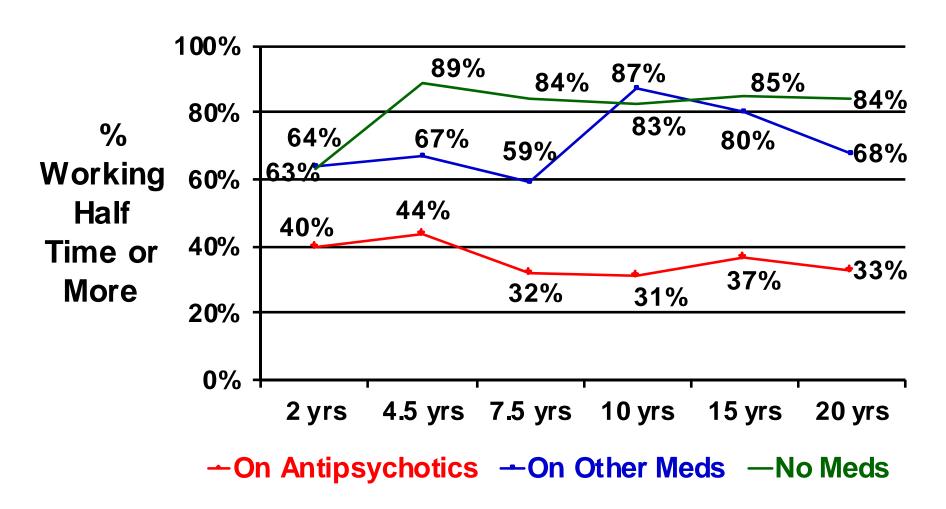
→Always Prescribed Antipsychotics

→Not on Antipsychotics at Any Assessment

20 YEAR LONGITUDINAL ASSESSMENT OF WORK FUNCTIONING IN SCHIZOPHRENIA AND MOOD DISORDERED PATIENTS



20 YEAR LONGITUDINAL ASSESSMENT OF WORK FUNCTIONING IN MOOD DISORDERED PATIENTS



Conclusions

Our longitudinal data indicate that 1) not all SZ need long-term antipsychotic treatment 2) and data on psychosis indicate that multiyear antipsychotic treatment does not eliminate psychosis for most SZ. None of the 25 SZ prescribed antipsychotics continually throughout the 20 years were completely psychosis free throughout the 20 years. A number of SZ who had left long-term treatment experienced periods of recovery.

Conclusions (Cont.

The 20 year data for the SZ continuously prescribed antipsychotics did not show improvement over time in terms of less or "milder" psychosis at the 15 year and 20 year assessments than at the 2 and 4.5 year assessments.

In view of the high percent of SZ with psychotic symptoms at most of the 20 years of followups, our data suggest that continuous post-hospital antipsychotic treatment does not reduce the number of SZ with psychotic activity.

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To Be Continued...