CLINICAL CONTROLLED STUDY OF VENLAFAXINE AND FLUOXETINE IN TREATMENT OF OBSESSIVE-COMPULSIVE DISORDER

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Objective: The aim of this study was to compare the clinical efficacy and the safety of venlafaxine and fluoxetine in the treatment of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD).

Methods: One hundred and Eight inpatients who met the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, the Forth Edition (DSM-IV) for OCD were involved in this study. The subjects were randomly divided into venlafaxine group or fluoxetine group. Efficacy of venlafaxine and fluoxetine in treatment of OCD were assessed with Yale-Brown Obsessive Compulsive Scale (Y-BOCS) and Clinical Global Impression-Severity (CGI-S), the side effects were evaluated with Treatment Emergent Symptom Scale (TESS).

Results: The therapeutic efficacy in venlafaxine group was similar to that in fluoxetine (70.36% vs 68.29%, P > 0.05) after eight weeks' therapy. The improve-rates of Y-BOCS after 2 weeks' therapy of venlafaxine were significant higher than those of baseline, while the improve-rates of Y-BOCS after 4 weeks' therapy of fluoxetine were significant higher than those of baseline (P < 0.05). The side effects of venlafaxine group were similar to fluoxetine group (P > 0.05).

Conclusion: The results indicate that both venlafaxine and fluoxetine is effective in the treatment of OCD, but venlafaxine work faster than fluoxetine.

Key words: Venlafaxine; Fluoxetine; Obsessive-compulsive disorder; efficacy; side effects