

Efficacy and safety of an efavirenz-containing regimen in the management of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) in a psychiatric prison population

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BACKGROUND

- As many as 37% of individuals with HIV also have a diagnosis of a mood disorder or schizophrenia.^{1,2}
- It is unclear whether efavirenz (EFV)-based antiretroviral therapy (ART) should be initiated in patients with an underlying mood disorder due to the potential worsening of symptoms or suicidality.
- Conflicting data exist regarding the association of worsening of psychiatric symptoms and suicidality in those with mood disorders and receiving EFV-based ART.^{3,4}
- A recent analysis concluded that initial treatment with EFV-containing ART was associated with a 2-fold increased hazard of suicidality in those with a documented psychiatric illness.⁴
- For individuals incarcerated in a predominantly psychiatric correctional institution, a controlled environment allows for close follow-up and monitoring of patients on EFV with an underlying mood disorder.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVE

- Evaluate whether an EFV-containing regimen is safe to continue in patients with underlying mood disorders or schizophrenia compared to patients without these disorders.

SECONDARY OBJECTIVES

- Compare CD4 count and viral suppression at baseline and 12 months.
- Identify the number of patients required to switch from an EFV-containing regimen due to concern for worsening psychiatric effects.

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODS

- Single-center, non-randomized study at the University of Illinois Hospital and Health Sciences System.
- Retrospective, electronic chart review of HIV-positive detainees incarcerated at a known psychiatric prison in the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) between January 1, 2011, and December 31, 2012.

Inclusion Criteria:

- Adults males (≥ 18 years of age)
- Managed and treated at our interdisciplinary HIV telemedicine clinic in IDOC
- Received an EFV-containing regimen

Exclusion Criteria:

- Children <18 years of age
- Antiretroviral regimens that did not contain EFV

RESULTS

- 31 individuals receiving an EFV-containing regimen were included in the analysis.

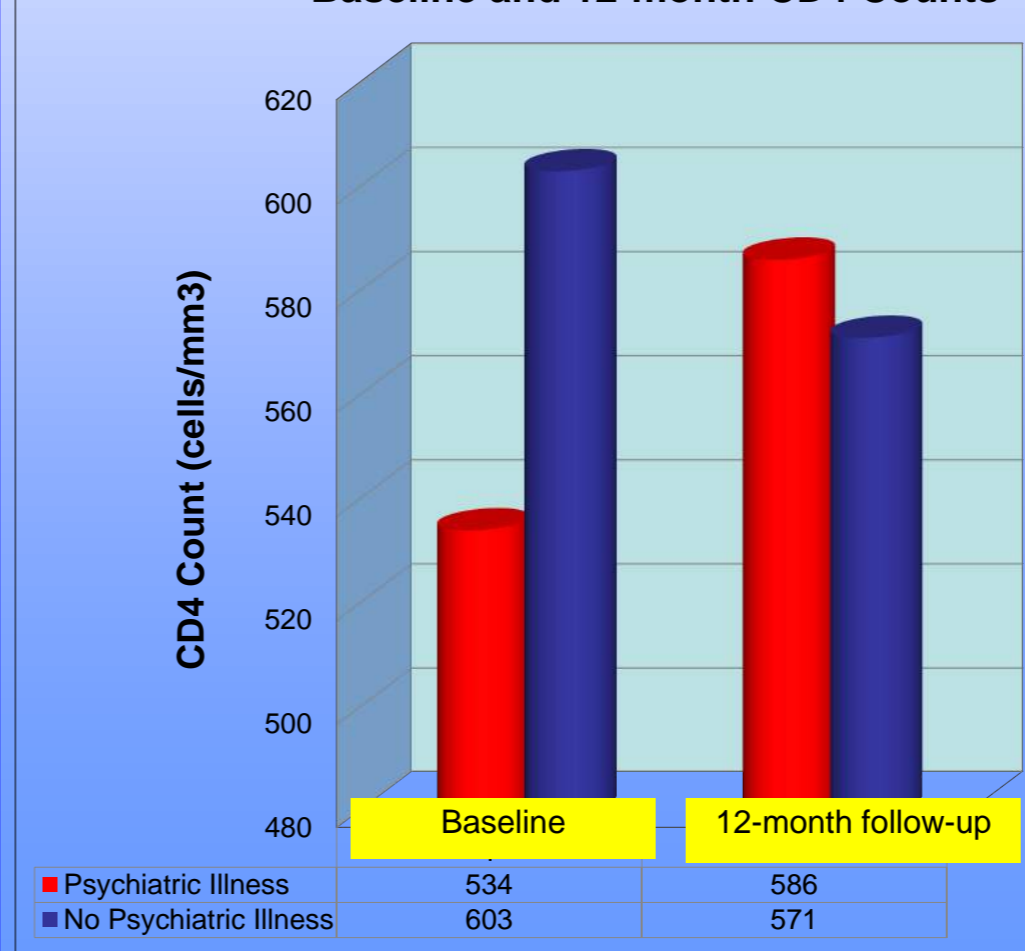
BASELINE DEMOGRAPHICS

Race/Ethnicity	Psychiatric Disorder	No Psychiatric Disorder
Black	13 (42%)	11 (35%)
White	3 (10%)	3 (10%)
Hispanic	0	1 (3%)
Age (years)	41 (Range: 29-53)	42 (Range: 19-61)
CD4 Count (cells/mm ³)	534 (Range: 158-925)	586 (Range: 215-1186)
Viral Load (copies/mL)	19,497 (range: <75-283,763)	9,133 (range: <75 -136,517)
Psychiatric Illness		
Mood Disorder	7 (23%)	
Schizophrenia	7 (23%)	
Mood Disorder + Schizophrenia	2 (6%)	
None	15 (48%)	

RESULTS

Number of Virologically Suppressed Patients at 12 months		
Mood Disorder and/or Schizophrenia (%)	No Mood Disorder or Schizophrenia (%)	
16 (100)	13 (87)	
Number of Patients Experiencing a CNS Side Effect Requiring Discontinuation of EFV		
Mood Disorder and/or Schizophrenia	No Mood Disorder or Schizophrenia	p-value
1	2	p=0.51

Baseline and 12-month CD4 Counts



CONCLUSIONS

- Our small study showed no differences in CNS/psychiatric side effects between those with and those without underlying mood disorders/schizophrenia.
- Efavirenz-containing regimens appear safe and efficacious in patients with underlying mood disorders and/or schizophrenia in a predominantly psychiatric correctional setting under close supervision and follow-up.

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DISCLOSURES

The authors of this presentation have no disclosures concerning possible financial or personal relationships with commercial entities that may have a direct or indirect interest in the subject matter of this presentation.