

PubMed

Display Settings:  AbstractDrugs. 1981 Jun;21(6):401-29.**Trazodone: a review of its pharmacological properties and therapeutic use in depression and anxiety.**Brogden RN, Heel RC, Speight TM, Avery GS.**Abstract**

Trazodone is a triazolopyridine derivative with antidepressant activity, that is chemically unrelated to other currently available antidepressants. Its pharmacological properties differ from those of most other antidepressants. Trazodone exhibits antiserotonin activity in animal studies, but its mechanism of action in depressive illness in humans is not clear. It has an overall therapeutic efficacy comparable with imipramine and amitriptyline in depressive illness but, at dosages which have achieved a similar overall clinical improvement, trazodone causes fewer anticholinergic side effects than the tricyclic antidepressants. Trazodone appears also to have activity against the concomitant anxiety in depressed patients and in limited studies was comparable with diazepam and chlordiazepoxide in anxiety neurosis. Trazodone has been reported to be of value in tremors and chronic alcoholism. Studies in animals, limited human studies and the low incidence of cardiovascular side effects in controlled therapeutic trials, suggest that trazodone is less likely than imipramine to cause cardiotoxicity at therapeutic doses, but the effects of overdosage are not known at present. Trazodone appears to be well tolerated by the elderly, seldom aggravates psychotic symptoms and does not produce neurological side effects.

PMID: 7018873 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

Publication Types, MeSH Terms, Substances



LinkOut - more resources

**PubMed Commons**[PubMed Commons home](#)

0 comments

[How to join PubMed Commons](#)