

Review of: "Pharmacologically Altering the Minds of the Old, Sick, and Dying"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I have some comments on the manuscript entitled "Pharmacologically Altering the Minds of the Old, Sick, and Dying," which are as follows.

How has the percentage of the world's elderly population changed over the past few decades, and what are the projected trends for the future?

What are some of the common psychotropic drugs prescribed to elderly populations worldwide, and what are their intended effects?

How does the sensitivity of the aged central nervous system to psychotropic drugs differ from that of younger individuals, and what are the potential consequences of this heightened sensitivity?

What are the known risks associated with the use of psychotropic drugs in the elderly, particularly in terms of falls, fractures, fainting, and hospital admissions?

Can you explain the concept of psychotropic polypharmacy and how it relates to the elderly population? What are the potential dangers of this practice?

What defines potentially inappropriate medication when considering the elderly population, and why is it particularly concerning in this demographic?

How do the mind-altering effects of psychotropic drugs manifest in the elderly population, and what are the implications for their overall well-being and quality of life?

In what ways are psychotropic drugs commonly used in end-of-life protocols, such as those employed in palliative care, hospice, and end-of-life treatment centers? What are the goals of using these drugs in such contexts?

Are there any studies or experimental data that demonstrate the efficacy and safety of psychotropic drugs specifically in elderly populations? What are the key findings?

How do healthcare professionals and caregivers navigate the decision-making process regarding the prescription of psychotropic drugs to elderly individuals, considering the potential risks and benefits involved?

What factors contribute to the higher prevalence of psychotropic drug usage among the elderly compared to middle-aged

adults?

Can you elaborate on the specific challenges faced by the elderly population, both physically and mentally, that may necessitate the use of psychotropic drugs?

How does the increased sensitivity of the elderly brain to psychotropic drugs impact their overall health and well-being?

What are some of the most commonly prescribed psychotropic drugs for the elderly, and what are their potential side effects, particularly in terms of falls, fractures, fainting, and hospital admissions?

How does the incidence of Potentially Inappropriate Medication use coincide with psychotropic polypharmacy in the elderly population, and what are the associated risks?

Can you provide examples of mind-altering side effects experienced by elderly individuals due to commonly prescribed psychotropic drugs?

In end-of-life care settings such as palliative care and hospice, why are psychotropic drugs frequently administered to elderly patients, and what are the intended outcomes of their usage?

Are there any studies or experimental data that demonstrate the efficacy and safety of psychotropic drugs specifically in elderly populations, particularly in the context of end-of-life care?

Some chemical compounds like Ursolic acid (PMID: 32787765, PMID: 31016688, PMID: 26686287) & Chlorogenic acid (PMID: 36814486, PMID: 32566093, PMID: 30127737) also exhibited similar therapeutic response in Parkinson's disease and might be beneficial as anti-psychotic drugs. Cite and relate these PubMed IDs in your manuscript.

How do healthcare professionals and caregivers weigh the benefits and risks of administering psychotropic drugs to elderly individuals, especially considering the potential alterations in mental state and associated adverse events?

What are some potential alternatives or complementary approaches to managing physical and mental discomfort in the elderly population, particularly towards the end of their lives, that could reduce reliance on psychotropic drugs?