

# OCD Treatment

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โรคย้ำคิดย้ำทำเป็นโรคหนึ่งที่มีรักษายาก  
มีผู้ป่วยเพียงไม่กี่คนที่จะรักษาหายจากอาการทั้งหมด

## OCD Treatment

- Pharmacotherapy
- Non-pharmacotherapy

## Pharmacotherapy

Drugs	Starting dose	Target dose	Maximum Dose	Higher maximum dose
Cloimipramine	25	100-250	250	-
Escitalopram	10	20	40	60
Fluoxetine	20	40-60	80	120
Fluvoxamine	50	200	300	450
Paroxetine	20	40-60	60	100
Sertraline	50	200	200	400



## Non-pharmacotherapy

### Psychotherapy

- Exposure and Response prevention
- Cognitive Therapy
- Group Therapy
- Other : Yoga, mindfulness



## Non-pharmacotherapy

### Other Somatic Therapy

- Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS)
- Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT)
- Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS)
- Neurosurgical Stereotactic Lesion Procedures



## First line treatment for OCD

### Serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SRIs)

- **Clomipramine**
- SSRIs: fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, paroxetine, sertraline, escitalopram

### Cognitive behavior therapy (CBT)

- Exposure and response / ritual prevention (EX/RP or ERP)



## How to choose treatment modality

### ERP alone

- Not too depressed, anxious, severely ill to cooperate
- Prefer not to take medication
- Willing to do the work in ERP
- Not able to cooperate with ERP
- Has previously responded to drugs
- Prefer SRIs alone

### SRI alone



## How to choose treatment modality

### Combined treatment

- Unsatisfied response to monotherapy
- Severely ill
- Co-morbid conditions for which SRIs are effective
- Pts wish to limit the duration of SRIs

APA. Practice Guideline for the Treatment of patients with OCD, 2007



## Pharmacotherapy

- Most patients will not experience substantial improvement until **4–6** weeks after starting medication
- Some who will ultimately respond will experience little improvement for as many as **10–12** weeks.



## Response VS Remission

- **No standard criteria for response and remission**
- **No Recovery**
- **Typically chronic, waxing and waning course**

Simpson HB, et al. J Clin Psychiatry 2006;67:269–76



## Pharmacotherapy

- Some clinicians prefer to titrate doses more rapidly (in weekly increments to the maximum recommended dose -- if tolerated), rather than waiting for **1–2** months before each dose increment to evaluate results.

APA. Practice Guideline for the Treatment of patients with OCD, 2007



## Pharmacotherapy

"Higher doses of SSRIs

α improved treatment efficacy  
α significantly higher proportion of dropouts due to side-effects."

MH Bloch, et al. Mol Psychiatry. 2010 August ; 15(8) : 850–855.



## Outcome of SRIs

Response

- ~ 30% responded to first drug trial

- Minimal symptoms (Remission)

- ???



## What to do next?

### Response

- Continue for 1-2 yr, then consider gradual taper off

### Little or no response

- Switch to
  - different SSRI (may try more than one)
  - Clomipramine
  - Venlafaxine
  - Mirtazapine

### Partial response

- Augment with SGA
- Add ERP

APA. Practice Guideline for the Treatment of patients with OCD, 2007



## What to do next?

### Consider

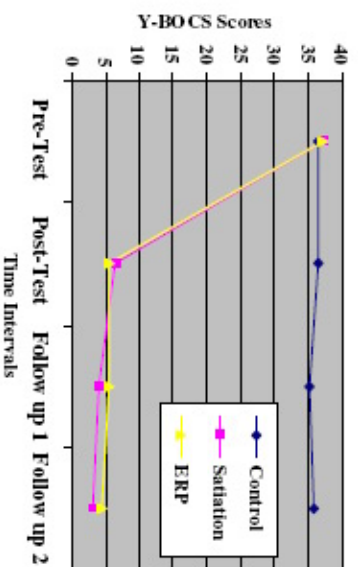
- Switch to different SRI, different augmenting with SGA
- Augment with Clomipramine, Buspirone, Pindolol, Morphine, Inositol, Glutamate antagonist, MAOI

- CBT (ERP) if not already provided.

- TMS, DBS, ablative neurosurgery

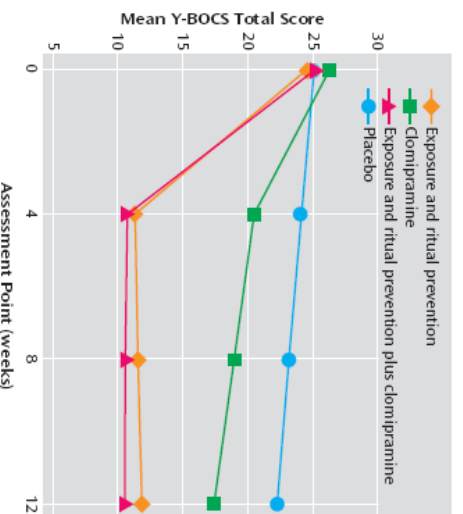
APA. Practice Guideline for the Treatment of patients with OCD, 2007

## Outcome of ERP in OCD



Khodarahimi S. J Contemp Psychother 2009; 39: 203-7

## Comparing SRI VS ERP



Foa, et al. Am J Psychiatry 2005;162:151-61

## Outcome of ERP in OCD

- ERP > Waiting list
  - Fiedler, Hecker & Lueke, 1997
  - van Balkom et al., 1998
  - McLaren et al., 2001
  - Vogel, Silles, & Gotestam, 2004
  - Khoshdel, 2009
- ERP > anxiety management Lindsay et al., 1997
  - > Progressive Muscle Relaxation
    - Fals-Stewart et al., 1993
    - Marks et al., 2000
    - Greist et al., 2002
  - > Stress Management Simpson et al., 2008b

## Augmentation

## Augmentation: Antipsychotics

### • Antipsychotics

Study or sub-category	Antipsychotic n/N	Placebo n/N	RD (fixed) 95% CI	Weight %	RD (fixed) 95% CI
McDougle 1994	5/17	0/17		12.30	0.29 [0.07, 0.52]
McDougle 2000	7/20	0/16		12.86	0.35 [0.13, 0.57]
Hollander 2003	3/10	0/6		5.43	0.30 [-0.03, 0.63]
Bystritsky 2004	4/13	0/13		9.40	0.31 [0.04, 0.57]
Denny 2004	8/20	2/20		14.47	0.30 [0.05, 0.55]
Shapira 2004	5/22	4/22		15.91	0.05 [-0.19, 0.28]
Carey 2005	8/20	7/21		14.82	0.07 [-0.23, 0.36]
Ezazepasi 2005	5/10	2/10		7.23	0.30 [-0.10, 0.70]
Fliebing 2005	1/11	0/10		7.58	0.09 [-0.13, 0.31]
Total (95% CI)	143	135		100.00	0.22 [0.12, 0.31]
Total events: 46 (Antipsychotic), 15 (Placebo)					
Test for heterogeneity: Chi <sup>2</sup> = 7.35, df = 8 (P = 0.50), I <sup>2</sup> = 0%					
Test for overall effect: Z = 4.52 (P < 0.00001)					

Favours placebo Favours antipsychotic

## Augmentation: Antipsychotics

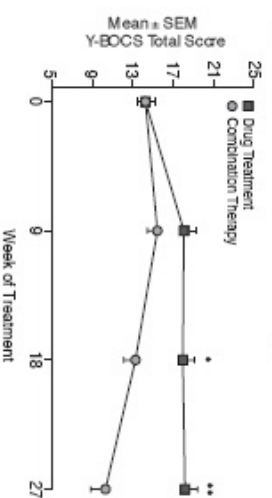
### • Antipsychotics

- Meta-analyses estimate that about **one-third** of patients with OCD receiving SRIs will respond.
- Among **SGA**, **risperidone** appears to have the strongest effects. (3 small studies + 1 meta-analysis)

Int J Neuropsychopharmacol. 2013 Apr;16(3):557-74

## Augmentation: ERP

Figure 1. Mean Y-BOCS Scores at Weeks 0, 9, 18, and 27 for Drug Treatment and Combination Therapy



\*P < .01 for drug treatment vs. combination therapy.  
 \*\*P < .001 for drug treatment vs. combination therapy.  
 Abbreviation: Y-BOCS = Yale-Brown Obsessive Compulsive Scale.

## Augmentation to SRIs

### ERP VS antipsychotic

## Augmenting SRIs:ERP vs Risperidone

- 100 OCD patients on SRIs > 12 wks
- Moderate severity (YBOCS  $\geq 16$ )

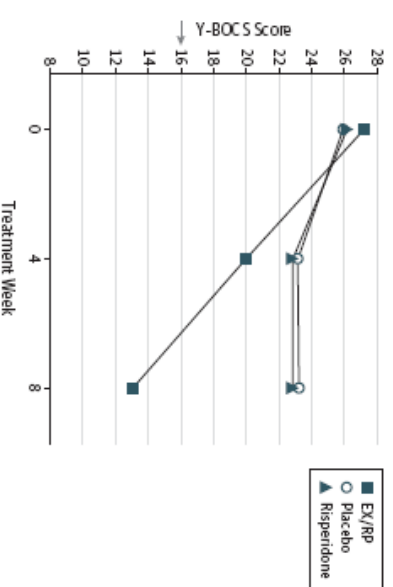
RCT

- ERP=40, Risperidone=40, placebo=40

Simpson, Foa et al. JAMA 2013;70(11):1190-8

## Augmenting SRIs:ERP vs Risperidone

Figure 2. Change in Symptom Severity During Augmentation



Simpson, Foa et al. JAMA 2013;70(11):1190-8

## Patients' views

- Overestimate the power of medication
- ERP is more difficult and challenging

ERP has superior efficacy and less negative adverse effect profile than antipsychotics

# How could we do ERP?

## Basic principle of ERP

- Pt should fully confront the feared stimulus without engaging in safety behaviors (rituals)
- Pt should stay in the situation until the distress has been reduced by at least half

## ERP

- Too aversive
- Pts need
  - Therapeutic relationship
  - sufficient support by therapist
  - Trust and safe environment

## ERP

- Psycho-education is very important



## ERP rationale

- The distress from exposure has a limited lifespan
- Ritual can reduce distress rapidly, but pts will rely on ritual

“The more you use it, the more you need it”

- This diminishes their sense of self-efficacy and self-control

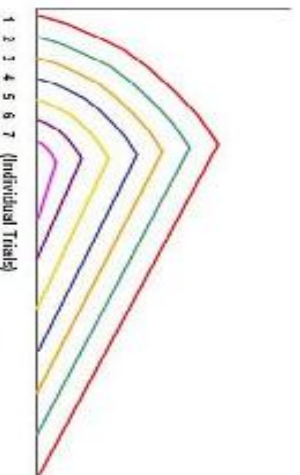
## ERP rationale

- Anxiety gradually diminishes
- Sitting with distress
  - may not be pleasant,
  - but can be tolerated,
  - and has many powerful positive outcome

“relaxation is not for OCD”

## ERP

Exposure & Response Prevention Therapy



## Setting up - Hierarchy

- Collaborative process
- Have client's snapshot of a typical day to assist with inventing the items
- This is a team effort



## Setting up - Hierarchy

- Often pts will choose
  - most interfering area
- It is also possible to address: trigger
- Agree & start hierarchy construction
- Make sure – small increments on the distress scale



## SETTING UP - HIERARCHY

“Be Creative”

“Being warm and supportive  
VS

Being challenging and directive”



“เข้าใจแล้ว แต่ขอไปทำตารางหน้าได้ไหมหมอ”



“แล้วถ้ามันกลัวต่อไปเรื่อยๆ  
ไม่หยุดชะงักทำอย่างไรละ”



## In-session ERP

- The 'discussion' usually acts as a distraction → ERP ineffective
- Pt might talk about their fear → escalate distress
- What should we do then?
  - Ensure pt to be 'present'
  - "How are you feeling right now?"
  - Recording pt's SUS rating - useful



## Treatment maintenance

### For medication

- Continue for 1-2 yrs, then gradual taper over several months

### For ERP

- Provide periodic booster sessions for 3-6 months



## ERP visits

### CBT expert

- 13-20 sessions (weekly)
- 3 weeks (daily)



## Typical error

- Poor hierarchy construction
- Ceasing exposure before habituation has occurred
- Poor explanation of the rationale for ERP
- Combining too many different target areas in one hierarchy



# Group Therapy for OCD

## Advantage

- Encourage participants to engage in ERP
- Save time & cost
- Reduce sense of being different, defective, and pathological



Thank You

