



# Comparative survey of use of long acting dopamine agonists in current clinical practice: ongoing survey across Europe.

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## OBJECTIVE:

To address comparative tolerability/retention rates (minimum 6 months use) of longer acting dopamine agonists (DA) such as rotigotine skin patch (RTG), ropinirole (ROP) and pramipexole (PPX) extended release in an European real life population base (target=500).

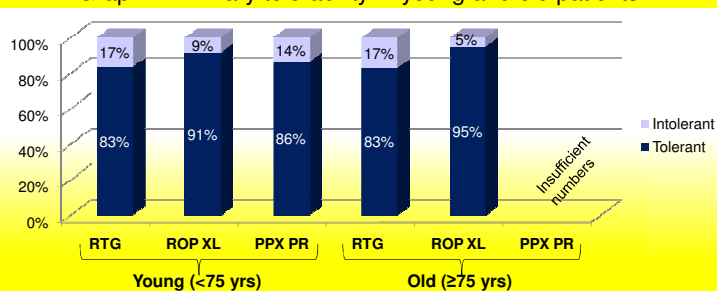
## BACKGROUND:

- Tolerability/ retention rate of recently introduced longer acting DA are unknown in real life clinical populations which include patients over 75 years of age.
- Tolerability can be addressed by criteria as used by Shulman et al.<sup>1</sup> (treatment classed as "tolerated" if sustained for six months or more)
- Specifically side effect issues such as development of impulse control disorder (ICD) during treatment with longer acting DA and tolerability of non oral DA such as RTG in patients with swallowing difficulties have not been studied.

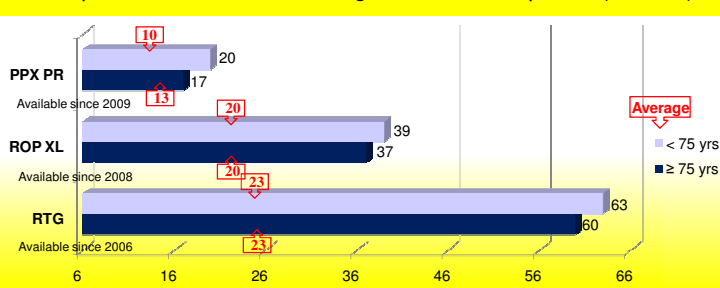
## RESULTS 1:

- 89 of 107 assessable patients (83.2%) on RTG tolerated the drug, 82/89 (92.1%) tolerated ROP XL and 25/28 tolerated PPX PR (89.3%).
- 26 of the 282 evaluated cases (9.3%) report successful tolerability of 2 DA (oral plus patch).

Graph 2: Primary tolerability in young and old patients



Graph 3: Maximum and average maintenance period (months)



## REFERENCES:

- <sup>1</sup> Shulman LM et al., Mov Disord 2000; 15(4): 661-668  
<sup>2</sup> Appiah-Kubi L et al., J Applied Research 2003; 3: 356-362

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

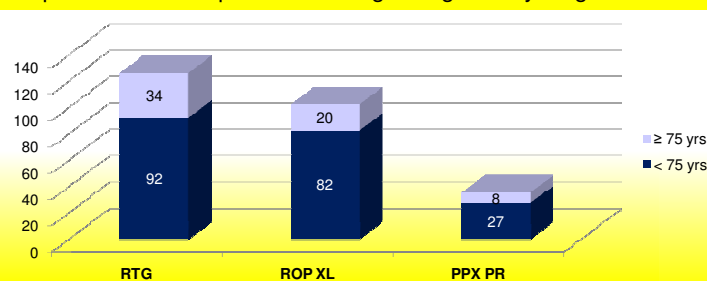
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## METHODS:

- Retrospective/prospective case note survey of cases initiated on DA using audit based questionnaire (as per Cabergoline study<sup>2</sup>)
- RTG used in 127 (average dose 8.9 mg), ROP XL (n=102; 13.7 mg), PPX PR (n=35; 2.4 mg)

Demographics	Mean/ No	Range/ %/ Median
Patients (Males: Females)	281 (167: 114)	(59.4%: 40.6%)
Age (yrs) (Males: Females)	67.7 (65.9: 70.2)	37-89 (37-89: 42-89)
Young (<75 yrs): Old (≥75 yrs)	206: 75	73.3%: 26.7%
Duration of Disease (yrs)	8.0	0-26
Hoehn & Yahr Stage	2.8	3.0 ±1.0

Graph 1: Number of patients on long acting DA in young and old PD



## RESULTS 2:

- 22 cases (7.8%) reported impulse control disorders (ICD), most were exposed to oral DA.
- Discontinuation due to ICD was reported in 2/126 cases (1.6%) on RTG, 3/109 cases (2.8%) on ROP XL and 1/34 cases (2.9%) on PPX PR.
- 4 cases with ICD on PPX /ROP reported attenuation of ICD when started on RTG patch.
- 19 of 69 assessed patients suffered from swallowing difficulties, 17 of which preferred patch to oral therapy. 69% of those tolerated RTG.

Main reason for discontinuation (% of total on therapy)	RTG (n=126)		ROP XL (n=109)		PPX PR (n=35)	
	Young (n=92)	Old (n=34)	Young (n=89)	Old (n=20)	Young (n=27)	Old (n=8)
Age: young <75 yrs old ≥75 yrs						
Skin reaction	11.9%	0.8%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hallucination	1.6%	1.6%	1.8%	0.9%	5.7%	N/A
Sleepiness	0%	0%	2.8%	0%	5.7%	N/A
Confusion	0.8%	2.4%	2.8%	0.9%	0%	N/A

## CONCLUSIONS: This ongoing survey reveals a good tolerability rate of all longer acting DAs

particularly in older (≥ 75yrs) PD including dual agonist use. RTG use is particularly tolerated in those with swallowing difficulties. ICD rates are low and in some, reversal is reported after switching to RTG.