Table E26. Benefits and risks of SGA switches for MDD in adults not responding to an initial adequate SGA treatment attempt as a function of baseline severity

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Outcomes | Anticipated absolute effectsa:  *Benefit and risk with higher severity* | Anticipated absolute effectsa (95% CI):  *Benefit and risk with lower severity* | Relative effect (95% CI) | Number of participants  (Trials) | Strength of evidence | Comments |
| **Response** | NA | NA | NA | 0 (0 trials) | Insufficient | None |
| **Remission**  Assessed with  HAM-D-17  Followup: 12 to 14 weeks | NA | NA | Not estimable | 1,123 (2 trials47,48,51)b | Insufficient c,d | Comparisons limited to venlafaxine vs. citalopram switch strategies or to bupropion vs. sertraline vs. venlafaxine switch strategies. Conflicting results from 2 studies (data not reported). |
| **Quality of life** | NA | NA | NA | 0 (0 trials) | Insufficient | None |
| **Functional capacity** | NA | NA | NA | 0 (0 trials) | Insufficient | None |
| **Suicidal ideas or behaviors** | NA | NA | NA | 0 (0 trials) | Insufficient | None |
| **Serious adverse events** | NA | NA | NA | 0 (0 trials) | Insufficient | None |
| **Risk for overall adverse events** | NA | NA | NA | 0 (0 trials) | Insufficient | None |
| **Overall discontinuation** | NA | NA | NA | 0 (0 trials) | Insufficient | None |
| **Discontinuation because of adverse events** | NA | NA | NA | 0 (0 trials) | Insufficient | None |

a The benefit or risk in the intervention group (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed benefit or risk in the comparison group and the relative effect of the intervention (and its 95% CI).

b Two secondary analyses of two different RCTs.

c Downgraded two steps for risk of bias: less than 80% of sample provided outcomes at study completion (~50% did), medication options not all maximized.

d Downgraded for inconsistency: two studies reported contrasting results.

CI = confidence interval; CT = cognitive therapy; HAM-D-17 = Hamilton Depression Scale – 17; NA = not applicable; OIS = optimal information size; QIDS-SR-16 = = Quick Inventory of Depressive Symptoms – Self Report-16; RR = risk ratio; SGA = second-generation antidepressant