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A double-blind placebo-controlled case study of the use of donepez

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Neurocase. 2001;7(2):105-10.



A double-blind placebo-controlled case study of the use of donepezil to improve cognition in a schizoaffective disorder patient: functional MRI correlates.

Risch SC<sup>1</sup>, McGurk S, Horner MD, Nahas Z, Owens SD, Molloy M, Gilliard C, Christie S, Markowitz JS, DeVane CL, Mintzer J, George MS.

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## **Abstract**

Cognitive impairment in multiple domains is common in patients with schizophrenia and may be a powerful determinant of poor **functional** ability and quality of life. We report a **double-blind**, **placebo-controlled**, cross-over **study** of **donepezil** augmentation in a **schizoaffective disorder patient** stabilized on olanzapine pharmacotherapy. The **patient** showed significant improvements in several cognitive measures and increased activation of prefrontal cortex and basal ganglia on **functional MRI** during the **donepezil** augmentation. In addition, the **donepezil** augmentation resulted in a reduction of depressive symptoms and in significant improvements in **functional** abilities and quality of life. Further studies of **donepezil** augmentation of neuroleptics in schizophrenia are warranted.

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