

DIAGNOSIS

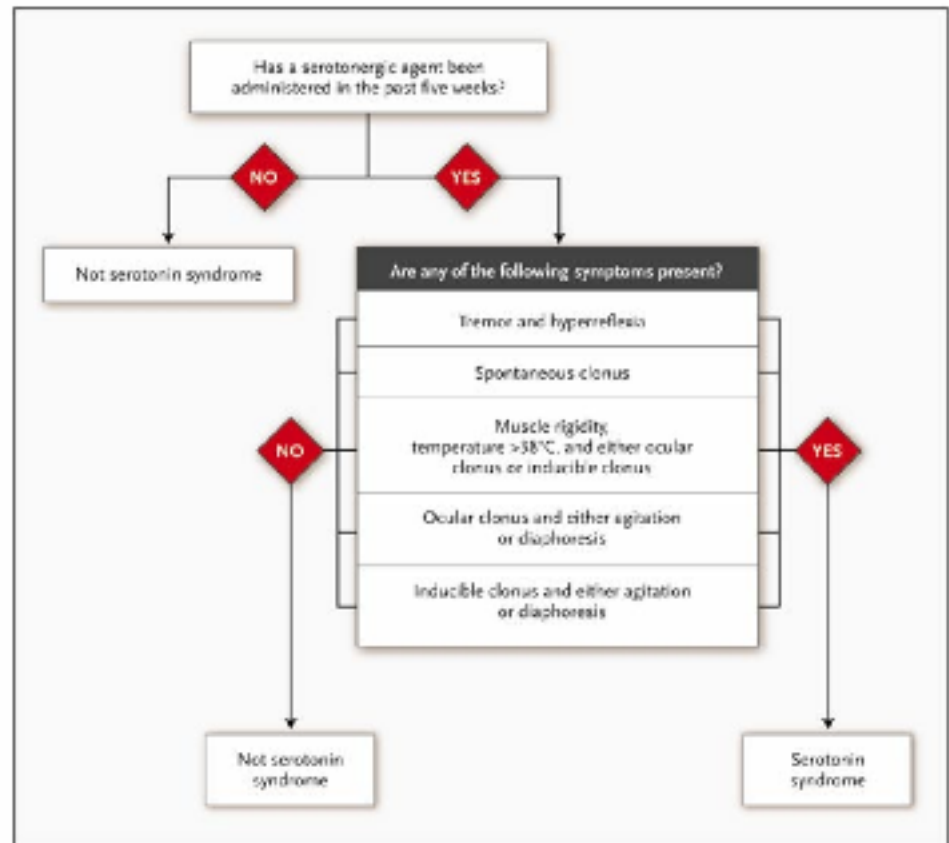
- Sternbach criteria

1. Recent addition or increase in a known serotonergic agent
2. Absence of other possible aetiologies (infection, substance abuse)
3. No recent addition or increase of a neuroleptic agent
4. At least three of the following symptoms:
 - Mental status changes (confusion, hypomania)
 - Agitation
 - Myoclonus
 - Hyperreflexia
 - Diaphoresis
 - Shivering
 - Tremor
 - Diarrhoea
 - Incoordination
 - Fever

- Laboratory findings

- Leucocytosis
- ↑ CK
- ↓ serum bicarbonate

- Hunter criteria



NATURAL HISTORY

- Rapid onset
- Variable progression
- Resolution typically <24 hours of initiation of therapy and cessation of precipitant but duration is influenced by other factors