

APRU Global Health Conference 2021

GLOBAL URBAN HEALTH

16-18 November 2021

The University of Hong Kong, Pokfulam, Hong Kong

Abstract No. 106 Multimorbidity In Randomized Controlled Trials Of Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors: A Systematic Review Protocol

Theme A. Non-communicable diseases

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Purpose / Background:

➤ Multimorbidity

- The population with multimorbidity has increased globally over the years.
- As healthcare systems continue to develop, the global aging population has also increased, leading to multimorbidity becoming a growing healthcare burden in society.
- Randomized controlled trials (RCTs) are prone to exclude subjects with multiple chronic illnesses, substantially limiting their generalizability.

➤ Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors

- Serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) are common antidepressants used to treat neuropsychiatric disorders.
- While the efficacy of SSRIs on depression is well-established, a comprehensive review of consideration of multimorbidity in these RCTs has never been conducted.

➤ Study objective

- To determine the frequency with which participants with multimorbidity are represented in RCTs looking at the use of SSRI as the intervention for depressed patients



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Methods:

➤ Electronic Data Sources:

- PubMed, PsycINFO, Embase, and Cochrane Central will be searched

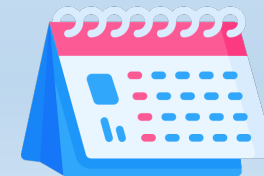


Embase®



➤ Inclusion Criteria:

- Studies in English language that were published between 1st January 2011 to 1st January 2021
- RCTs examining any type of SSRIs as the intervention on treating major depressive disorder with multimorbidity



➤ Review Procedure:

- Two independent reviewers will extract information according to the eligibility criteria and evaluate the reporting and consideration of multimorbidity in RCT analyses.
- Risk of bias will be assessed using the Cochrane Collaboration Risk of Bias Tool.



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Clinical Implication:

- This systematic review will be **among the first to systematically summarize** the handling of multimorbidity in published RCTs of SSRI in the past decade.
- The results of this systematic review will provide important information on the **generalizability** of the extant RCTs examining the efficacy of SSRIs.
- Given the scarce evidence and the public health relevance, this work not only provides significant insights for clinicians in **prescription practices**, but also highlights the potential necessity to enhance **the consideration of multimorbidity in future SSRI clinical trial research**.

