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## Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Psychotropics Versus Placebo or Other Psychotropics Used as Rapid Tranquilization for Aggression in Children and Adolescents with Mental Disorders

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**Introduction:** Aggression is common in children and adolescents on psychiatric units. Rates of aggression are 27% to 78% on forensic adolescent units, and similar on non-forensic units. Sometimes rapid tranquilization is needed for managing this problem – but no good quality systematic reviews exist for this population.

**Objectives:** We planned to do a systematic review of psychotropics compared to placebo or other psychotropics by any route used as rapid tranquilization in aggression in children and adolescents with any mental disorder.

**Aims:** The aim is to provide evidence based and generalisable knowledge.

**Methods:** The 'PICO' is as follows: **P**opulation is children and adolescents up to the age 18 with aggression and a mental disorder; **I**nterventions are psychotropics by any route; **C**omparisons are placebo or other psychotropics by any route; and **O**utcomes are efficacy and safety. Only RCTs are eligible. A comprehensive search is carried out of Medline, Embase, Psychinfo and other databases. Articles selection and data extraction is carried out by two reviewers independently for reliability. Articles are assessed for quality. Meta-analysis is preferred if warranted by heterogeneity assessment; otherwise narrative synthesis will be done using GRADE evaluation.

**Results:** The review is underway. The effect sizes would be as follows: for dichotomous outcomes relative risk, absolute risk change and numbers needed; and for continuous outcomes mean difference or standardized mean difference. These would be sensitivity analyzed. If meta-analysis were not warranted, then narrative synthesis will be presented.

**Conclusions:** Conclusions will be drawn for relative efficacy and safety of the psychotropics.