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Title (type in CAPITAL LETTERS): **PATIENT COMPLIANCE TO TREATMENT OF OVERACTIVE BLADDER WITH TOLTERODINE vs OXYBUTYNIN**

Aims of Study: Patient compliance is critical in the treatment of chronic diseases such as overactive bladder. A high discontinuation rate in the medium term period has been reported with oxybutynin, mainly due to the incidence of adverse events, such as dry mouth. Tolterodine is a new antimuscarinic agent endowed with a selectivity for the bladder over salivary glands. Administration of tolterodine is associated with a lower incidence of adverse effects. This study evaluated compliance in patients receiving tolterodine and oxybutynin in the medium term period.

Methods: Compliance to treatment with tolterodine and oxybutynin in 2 patient cohorts naïve to both drugs was followed over a 3-month period. Both cohorts were defined as all patients identified within the NDC source database that filled a prescription for tolterodine or oxybutynin in May 1998 and had no previous prescriptions for these drugs. Patients were considered compliant in each month if they filled a prescription for the same product in the month.

Results: 3,270 patients receiving tolterodine and 5,504 patients receiving oxybutynin were followed over 3 months. The incremental persistency; ie, the incremental percentage of patients remaining under treatment with tolterodine versus oxybutynin is shown in the table.

	Month 2	Month 3
Tolterodine/oxybutynin	13%	40%*

* p = 0.001.

At the end of the 3rd month, the percentage of patients remaining on treatment with tolterodine was 40% higher than that of patients remaining on treatment with oxybutynin, and the difference was statistically significant.

Conclusions: Patient compliance with tolterodine over a 3-month period was significantly higher than that with oxybutynin. This study confirms clinical study results that showed tolterodine offers a significantly superior efficacy/tolerability profile to oxybutynin.

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