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### Why Should PCPs be Proactive in Evaluating SLEEP?

Sleep Problems...

- ...are very **prevalent** in primary care
  - But patients don't tell you
- ...have **serious consequences**
  - Day-to-day life
  - Poor outcome on mental and physical health
- ...are a **clue to other medical conditions**
  - Most insomnias are co-morbid
- ...are **easy to identify**

Effective management may **improve outcomes**

- **Majority is done by PCPs**

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### Prevalence of Sleep Problems in America

Poll of 1503 individuals (age range of 13–64 years) reveals 87% report at least 1 sleep problem for at least a few nights/week.

Sleep Problem	Every night/day or almost every night/day	Few nights/weeks a week	Total
Not Any	60%	27%	87%
Wakes up during the night	39%	24%	64%
Wakes up feeling unrefreshed	24%	31%	55%
Severely	24%	16%	40%
Had difficulty falling asleep	14%	24%	38%
Wakes up too early and cannot get back to sleep	11%	23%	34%

National Sleep Foundation. 2011 Sleep in America Poll. Available at: [https://sleepfoundation.org/sites/default/files/sleepinamericapollSIAP\\_2011\\_Summary\\_of\\_Findings.pdf](https://sleepfoundation.org/sites/default/files/sleepinamericapollSIAP_2011_Summary_of_Findings.pdf)

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## Epidemiology of Insomnia

### Prevalence of insomnia

- 40–70 million adults in the United States have insomnia (approximately up to 30% of general population)
- 10% of population has associated symptoms of daytime functional impairment
- Up to 50% prevalence in clinical practices
- Greater prevalence in postmenopausal women

NIH, NIH Consensus State Sci Statements. 2005;22(2):1-30.  
Qaseem A, et al. *Ann Intern Med*. 2016;165:125-133.  
Buscemi N, et al. Evidence report/technology assessment number 125. Rockville, MD: AHRQ. Publication 05-E021-2. June 2005.  
<https://effective.aahr.gov/links/epcsums/insomniareum.htm>

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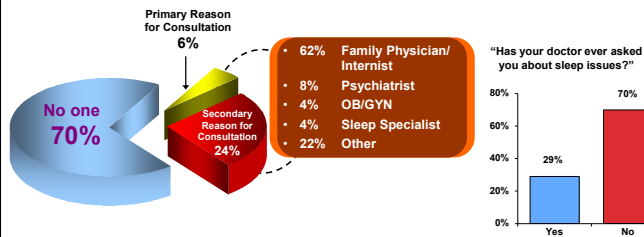
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## Where do Patients with Insomnia Go for Management?



Amcolli-Israeli S, Roth T. *Sleep*. 1999;22:S347-S353. The Gallup Organization for the National Sleep Foundation, 1995.  
National Sleep Foundation. "Sleep in America" Poll. March 2005. Available at: <https://sleepfoundation.org/sleep-polls-data/sleep-in-america-poll/2005-adult-sleep-habits-and-styles>

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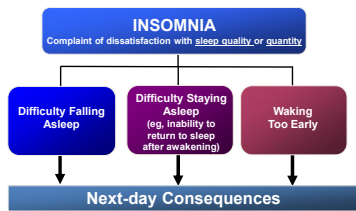
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## The Many Aspects of Insomnia Complaints



*Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association Press, 2013. *The International Classification of Sleep Disorders: Diagnostic & Coding Manual, ICSD-3*. 3rd ed. Westchester, IL: American Academy of Sleep Medicine, 2014.

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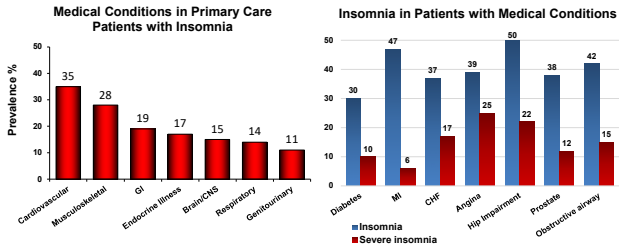
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## How Frequent are Comorbidities in Patients?



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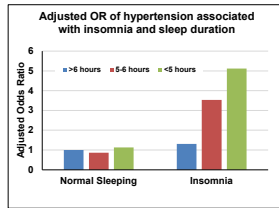
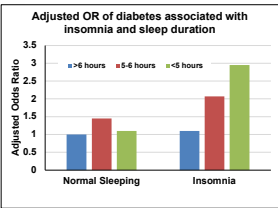
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## Insomnia Increases Risk for Diabetes and Hypertension

- Analysis of 1741 random adults from Central Pennsylvania who were studied in a sleep laboratory
  - Insomnia defined as complaint of insomnia with duration of at least 1 year
- Compared to normal sleeping, insomnia with a sleep duration of <5 hours was associated with:
  - ~3-fold higher risk of diabetes
  - 5-fold higher risk of hypertension



Vgontzas AN, et al. Diabetes Care. 2009;32:1990-5.

Vgontzas AN, et al. SLEEP. 2009;32:491-497.

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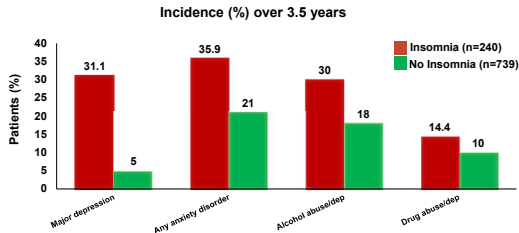
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## Does Insomnia Increase Risk for Psychiatric Disorders?



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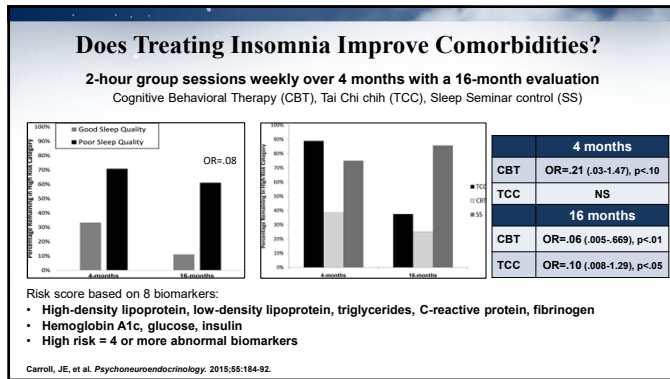
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## When Do You Ask About Sleep Problems?

- When applicable
  - During **Acute Visit**
  - During **Follow-up Visit**
- During **Periodic Health Assessment Visit**
- During Review of Systems
  - Case Finding Initial Questions**
- Sleep Schedule:
  - Do you have trouble getting to sleep, staying asleep, or waking up too early?
- Daytime consequences:
  - Do you feel like you have slept well throughout the day?

**Risk Factors**

- Age (↑ in older individuals)
- Female gender (especially post- and perimenopausal females)
- Divorce/separation/widowhood
- Psychiatric illness
- Medical conditions
- Cigarette smoking
- Alcohol and coffee consumption
- Certain prescription drugs

NW Consensus State Sci Statements. 2005;22:1-30. Young T, et al. *Sleep*. 2003;26:667-672. Satlin MJ, et al. *Sleep*. 2000;23:1-66. Erlwin WK, in: *Sleep Disorders: Diagnosis and Treatment*. Totowa, NY: Humana Press; 1999; pp. 21-91.

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## Follow-Up Questions

- Sleep timing:**
  - When do you go to bed? ...Wake up? ...Middle of the night awakening? ...How long does it take you to fall back to sleep?
- Duration, frequency, prior such:**
  - How long has this been going on?...How often have you had this sleep problem?...Have you had it before?...
- Any sleep hygiene/lifestyle issues?**
  - Sleep environment? Alcohol? Smoking? Exercise? Medications?
- Medical/psychiatric associations**
- Treatments:**
  - What remedies have you tried? Any previous Rx's?
- Other sleep disorders**
  - Snoring, daytime sleepiness, restless legs
- Family History of sleep difficulties**

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### Approaches to Improve Sleep Quality

- Education
- Sleep hygiene measures
- Behavioral and cognitive therapy techniques
- Neurofeedback
- Pharmacotherapy
- Sleep medicine specialist consultation and sleep laboratory testing

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### Patient Education: The Most Powerful Tool

- **Inform WHY management is so important**
  - Consequences
- **Emphasize keeping regimented sleep schedule**
  - Wake up same time every day
  - Naps usually not a good idea
- **Emphasize sleeping long enough**
  - Can't catch up on weekends
- **Emphasize lifestyle measures**
  - Alcohol, exercise, smoking, caffeine, diet (no large meals)

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### Principles of Sleep Hygiene

- Regular sleep/wake cycle
- Regular exercise morning/afternoon
- Increase exposure to bright light during day
- Avoid exposure to bright light during night
- Avoid heavy meals/drinking <3 hours before bedtime
- Enhance sleep environment
- Avoid caffeine, alcohol, nicotine
- Relaxing routine

National Sleep Foundation. Sleep Hygiene. Available at: <https://sleepfoundation.org/sleep-topics/sleep-hygiene>.  
Irish L.A. et al. Sleep Med Rev. 2016;22:23-34.

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## Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

- Multicomponent approach
  - Sleep education and sleep hygiene advice
  - Stimulus control and sleep restriction
  - Cognitive psychotherapy
- Individual or group format: 5–6 weekly sessions
- Numerous studies and meta-analyses demonstrate efficacy and long-term benefits
- Primarily relieves the PERPETUATING aspects of insomnia

Morin CM. *Insomnia: Psychological Assessment and Management*. New York, NY: The Guilford Press;1993.  
Smith MT, et al. *Am J Psychiatry*. 2002;159:5-11.

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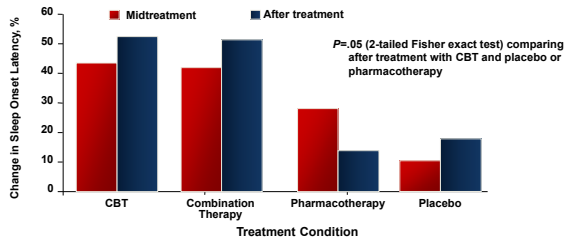
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## Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT-I) Changes in Sleep-Onset Latency



Jacobs GD, et al. *Arch Intern Med*. 2004;164:1899-96.

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## When to Consider Pharmacotherapy vs. CBT-I

- **Consider CBT**
  - Specific cognitive or behavioral problem identified
  - Symptoms not pressing
  - Patient can actively participate in treatment
  - Multiple comorbidities and medications
  - Prior failure of pharmacotherapy
- **Consider pharmacotherapy**
  - Significant interference with daytime function
  - Need for rapid clinical improvement
  - CBT not available, not affordable, or previously failed
  - Lack of physician familiarity with CBT

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### Summary

- Sleep disorders are highly prevalent and impact quality of life and increase the risk of comorbid conditions
- PCPs are at the forefront of managing sleep disorders and must take a proactive approach in evaluating patient sleep quality
  - Communication is key!
- Patient education on sleep hygiene and CBT options can be effective initial approaches in improving patient sleep quality

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## Pharmacologic Management of Insomnia

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### What do People Take to Improve Sleep Quality?

- Alcohol
- Herbals
- Melatonin
- Dietary supplements
- OTC sleep aids
- Antihistamines
- Antidepressants
- Assorted psychotropics
- Sedative-hypnotics

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### Dietary Supplement Sleep Aids

- Dietary supplements, herbal preparations, homeopathic formulations
- Often considered complementary and alternative medicine
- Two broad types
  - Melatonin
  - Everything else (eg, valerian)
- Limited efficacy data
- Few safety concerns
- Huge number of products marketed as sleep aids

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### Dietary Supplement Sleep Aids (cont)

- None are regulated by the FDA
- Safety questions
  - Purity
  - Concentration
  - Toxicity

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### Melatonin Meta-Analysis in Primary Sleep Disorders

- 19 placebo-controlled studies, 1683 subjects.  
Melatonin demonstrated efficacy in:
  - Reducing sleep latency (WMD= 7.06 minutes)
  - Increasing total sleep time (WMD = 8.25 minutes)
    - Effects magnified with longer duration and higher doses
  - Improved sleep quality (standardized mean difference = 0.22)
    - No significant effects of trial duration and melatonin dose

Ferracioli-Oda E, et al. *PLoS One*. 2013;8:e63773.

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## Prescription Agents for Insomnia

- **FDA-non-approved for insomnia**
  - Sedating antidepressants
  - Antipsychotics like quetiapine
  - Anticonvulsants
- **FDA-approved hypnotics**
  - Benzodiazepine-receptor agonists (BzRAs)
    - Benzodiazepines
    - Non-benzodiazepines
  - Melatonin-receptor agonist
  - H1-receptor antagonist
  - Orexin-receptor antagonist

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## Low-Dose Sedating Antidepressants for Insomnia

### Trazodone, doxepin, mirtazapine, paroxetine

- **Advantages**
  - Sedating side effects
  - Low abuse risk
  - Large dose range
- **Disadvantages**
  - Efficacy not well established for insomnia
  - Side effects include daytime sedation, anticholinergic effects, weight gain, drug-drug interactions

These agents are not FDA-approved for insomnia.  
Kupfer DJ, Reynolds CF III. *N Engl J Med*. 1997;336:341-346.  
Sharpley AL, et al. *Biol Psychiatry*. 2000;47:466-470.  
Karam-Hage M, Brower KJ. *Psychiatry Clin Neurosci*. 2003;57:542-544.  
National Institutes of Health. *Sleep*. 2005;28:1049-1057.

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## Low-Dose Atypical Antipsychotics for Insomnia

### Quetiapine, olanzapine

- **Advantages**
  - At appropriate doses, effective for psychotic disorders
  - Low abuse potential
  - Sedation
- **Disadvantages**
  - Not well investigated in insomnia disorder
  - Daytime sedation, anticholinergic effects, weight gain
  - Risk of extrapyramidal symptoms, possible tardive dyskinesia
  - Glucose and lipid abnormalities

These agents are not FDA-approved for insomnia.  
Kupfer DJ, Reynolds CF III. *N Engl J Med*. 1997;336:341-346.  
Sharpley AL, et al. *Biol Psychiatry*. 2000;47:466-470.  
Karam-Hage M, Brower KJ. *Psychiatry Clin Neurosci*. 2003;57:542-544.  
National Institutes of Health. *Sleep*. 2005;28:1049-1057.

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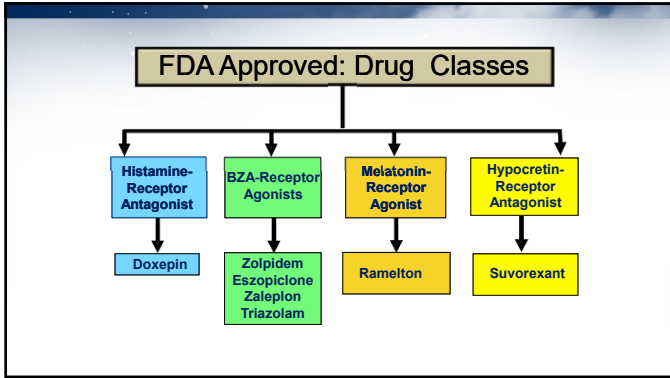
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### 2017 AASM Treatment Recommendations

**USE**

1. Suvorexant as a treatment for sleep maintenance insomnia.
2. Eszopiclone as a treatment for sleep onset and sleep maintenance insomnia.
3. Zaleplon as a treatment for sleep onset insomnia.
4. Zolpidem as a treatment for sleep onset and sleep maintenance insomnia.
5. Triazolam as a treatment for sleep onset insomnia.
6. Temazepam as a treatment for sleep onset and sleep maintenance insomnia.
7. Ramelteon as a treatment for sleep onset insomnia.
8. Doxepin as a treatment for sleep maintenance insomnia

**DO NOT USE:**

1. Trazodone as a treatment for sleep onset or sleep maintenance insomnia.
2. Tiagabine as a treatment for sleep onset or sleep maintenance insomnia.
3. Diphenhydramine as a treatment for sleep onset and sleep maintenance insomnia.
4. Melatonin as a treatment for sleep onset or sleep maintenance insomnia.
5. Tryptophan as a treatment for sleep onset or sleep maintenance insomnia.
6. Valerian as a treatment for sleep onset or sleep maintenance insomnia.

Data Compares: Versus no treatment, in adults. Level of Evidence: WEAK

Sateia MJ, et al. J Clin Sleep Med. 2017;13:307-49.

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### AASM Chronic Insomnia Clinical Guideline Consensus Recommendations

- **Not Recommended:** OTC antihistamine, barbiturates, chloral hydrate for the treatment of insomnia.
- Use: lowest effective maintenance dosage, taper Rx when conditions allow.
- Chronic hypnotic Rx: Severe/refractory insomnia or chronic comorbid illness
- Long-term use may be nightly, intermittent, or as needed in an “on demand pattern.”

Schutte-Rodin S, et al. J Clin Sleep Med. 2008;4:487-504.

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## Benzodiazepine-Receptor Agonists: The Benzodiazepines

Medication	Dosage Range <sup>†</sup> (mg)	Onset of Action	Half-life (h)	Short-term Limitation?
Estazolam	0.5 – 2	Rapid	10 - 24	Yes
Flurazepam	15 – 30	Rapid	47 - 100	Yes
Quazepam	7.5 – 15	Rapid	39 - 100	Yes
Temazepam	7.5 – 15	Slow-Intermediate	9.5 -12.4	Yes
Triazolam	0.25 – 0.50	Rapid	1.5 - 5.5	Yes

<sup>†</sup>Normal adult dose. Dosage may require individualization  
 MICROMEDEX. Available at: <http://www.micromedex.com>  
 Prescriber's Digital Reference. Available at: [www.PDR.net](http://www.PDR.net).

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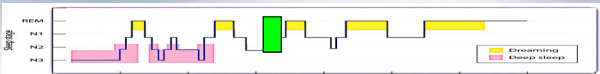
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Agent	Initiates Sleep	Maintains Sleep	Sleep with limited opportunity	Required inactivity (hr)	Dose (mg)
Eszopiclone	✓	✓		8+	1,2,3
Zaleplon	✓		✓	4	5,10
Zolpidem	✓			7-8	5,10
Extended release		✓		7-8	6.25, 12.5
Intermezzo (Sublingual)		✓	✓ (4 hrs)	4	1.75, 3.5
Zolpimist (oral spray)	✓			4	5, 10
Elduar (Sublingual)	✓			4	5, 10
Doxepin (Ultra-low dose)		✓		7-8	3, 6
Ramelteon	✓			-	8
Suvorexant	✓	✓		7	5, 10, 15, 20

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## Medication Selection by Sleep Complaint

- Sleep onset:
  - Eszopiclone, zaleplon, zolpidem
  - Ramelteon
  - Suvorexant
- Sleep maintenance:
  - Eszopiclone, zolpidem ER
  - Doxepin
  - Suvorexant
- Onset *and* maintenance:
  - Zolpidem ER, eszopiclone, suvorexant

Prescriber's Digital Reference. Available at: [www.PDR.net](http://www.PDR.net).

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## Adverse Effects of Hypnotics

- **Benzodiazepine-receptor agonists**
  - Daytime sedation, psychomotor and cognitive impairment (depending on dose and half-life)
  - Rebound insomnia
  - Respiratory depression in vulnerable populations
- **Melatonin-receptor agonist**
  - Headache, somnolence, fatigue, dizziness
  - Not recommended for use with fluvoxamine due to CYP 1A2 interaction
- **H1-receptor antagonist**
  - Somnolence/sedation
  - Nausea
  - Upper respiratory tract infection
- **Orexin-receptor antagonist**
  - Somnolence
  - Risk of impaired alertness and motor coordination, including impaired driving; increases with dose
  - Contraindicated in narcolepsy

Mittler MM. *Sleep*. 2000;23:S39-S47.  
Holbrook AM, et al. *CMAJ*. 2000;162:228-233.  
MICROMEDEX. Available at: [www.micromedex.com](http://www.micromedex.com); Package inserts for various compounds.  
Chaney DS, et al. In: Hardman JG, Limbird LE, eds. *Goodman and Gilman's The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics*. 10th ed. 2001:399-427.

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## Selected Guidelines for Hypnotic Use

- Comprehensive evaluation; specific treatment for comorbidities
- Caution in patients with respiratory and hepatic impairment, substance use disorders, or who are already taking sedatives; avoid alcohol; not approved for children; avoid during pregnancy
- Use lowest effective dose, lower dose in elderly (and in women for certain compounds)
- Take at bedtime (or MOTN for zolpidem SL low dose)
- 7–8 hours in bed (or minimum of 4 hours for zolpidem SL low dose)
- Efficacy may be improved on empty stomach
- Gradual discontinuation
- Follow-up visits to evaluate efficacy, adverse events; change therapy/adjust dose if necessary

MOTN, middle-of-the-night; SL, sub-lingual  
Neubauer DN. Pharmacotherapeutic approach to insomnia in adults. In: Barkoukis et al, eds. *Therapy in Sleep Medicine*. Elsevier Saunders, 2012, pp. 172-180.

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## Selected Considerations in Choosing a Hypnotic Agent

- Insomnia therapy needs to be tailored to meet patient's expectations and needs
  - Consider half-life (benzodiazepines), mechanism of action, adverse effects
  - Age and co-morbidities
- Respiratory compromise; safety in mild to moderate OSA/COPD
  - Ramelteon, suvorexant
- Abuse potential
  - Lowest: Ramelteon, doxepin
- Prior failure of selected medications
- Patient preference

Prescriber's Digital Reference. Available at: [www.PDR.net](http://www.PDR.net).  
Sun H, et al. *J Clin Sleep Med*. 2010;12(1):9-17.  
Kryger M, et al. *Sleep Breath*. 2007;11:169-184.

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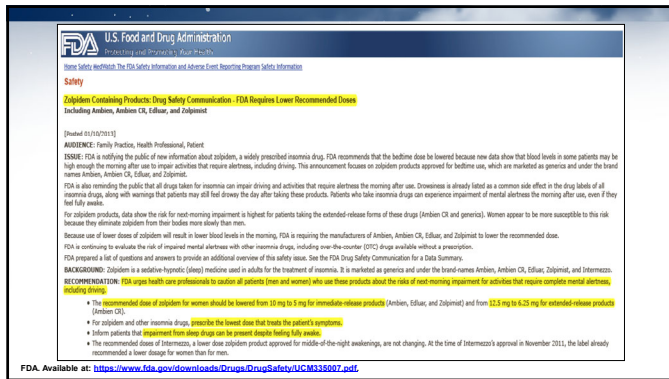
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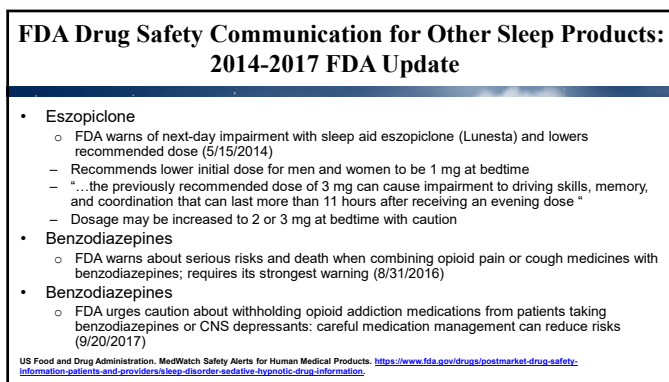
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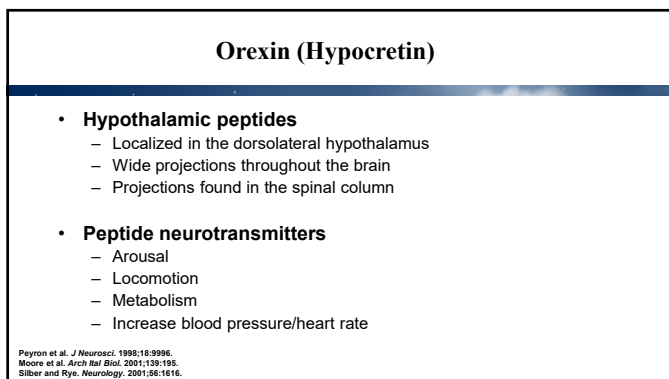
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### Novel Agents for Insomnia: Clinical Application of Orexin Receptor Antagonists

- Single and dual orexin receptor antagonists (SORAs and DORAs, respectively) have been evaluated in animal models and shown to modulate sleep/wake states
- DORAs have progressed to clinical development as pharmaceutical candidates for insomnia
- Suvorexant is the first DORA FDA-approved for the treatment of insomnia
  - Safety, efficacy, and tolerability were demonstrated in phase 3 randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, 3-month trials in nonelderly (18-64 years) and elderly (≥65 years) patients with insomnia
  - Compared with placebo, suvorexant improved sleep onset and maintenance over 3 months of nightly treatment

Winrow C.J. Renger J.J. Br J Pharmacol. 2014;171:283-293.  
BELSOMRA® (suvorexant) Prescribing information. Available at: [https://www.merck.com/product/usa/pi\\_circulars/b/belsomra/belsomra\\_pi.pdf](https://www.merck.com/product/usa/pi_circulars/b/belsomra/belsomra_pi.pdf).

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### Emerging Agents for Insomnia: Orexin Receptor Antagonists – Lemborexant (LEM)

- LEM is a DORA in development for treatment of insomnia and irregular sleep-wake rhythm disorder
  - NDA submitted January 2019
- Two pivotal phase 3 trials:

**SUNRISE-1:**

- Efficacy and safety of LEM for the treatment of insomnia in older individuals ≥55yrs (ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT02783729) (N=1006)
  - Randomized, double-blind, double-dummy, parallel group, placebo-controlled, and active comparator (zolpidem ER) design. Duration 35 days
  - Subjects randomized (5:5:5:4 ratio) to receive LEM 5 mg, LEM 10 mg, zolpidem tartrate (ZOL) extended release 6.25 mg (ZOL: Ambien® CR), or PBO

LEM, Lemborexant NDA, new drug application: PBO, placebo  
ClinicalTrials.gov. <https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT02783729>.  
Press Release: Extensive analyses of phase 3 data for investigational lemborexant assess efficacy and safety profile for the potential treatment of insomnia in adults. <http://isai.mediaroom.com/2019-06-11/Extensive-Analyses-of-Phase-3-Data-for-Investigational-Lemborexant-Assess-Efficacy-and-Safety-Profile-for-the-Potential-Treatment-of-Insomnia-in-Adults>.

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### Emerging Agents for Insomnia: Orexin Receptor Antagonists - Lemborexant

- **SUNRISE-1 Results:**
  - LEM significantly improved both sleep onset and sleep maintenance compared with both PBO and ZOL
  - Improved sleep maintenance in the latter part of the sleep period
  - Improvements were observed at both the beginning and end of 1 month of treatment, indicating that LEM works immediately and over time
  - LEM significantly shortened awakenings during the night and increased total sleep time
  - LEM was well tolerated
    - The most common AEs were headache and somnolence

Press Release: Extensive analyses of phase 3 data for investigational lemborexant assess efficacy and safety profile for the potential treatment of insomnia in adults. <http://isai.mediaroom.com/2019-06-11/Extensive-Analyses-of-Phase-3-Data-for-Investigational-Lemborexant-Assess-Efficacy-and-Safety-Profile-for-the-Potential-Treatment-of-Insomnia-in-Adults>.  
ClinicalTrials.gov. <https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT02783729>.

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## Emerging Agents for Insomnia: Orexin Receptor Antagonists - Lemborexant

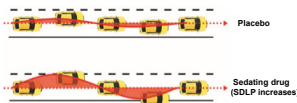
- **SUNRISE-2:**
  - Long-term (12 months) study of LEM in adults aged  $\geq 18$  y with insomnia disorder (NCT02952820)
  - Global, multicenter, randomized, PBO-controlled, double-blind, 2-dose, parallel-group study (N=959)
- **Results:**
  - LEM significantly improved sleep onset and sleep maintenance that persisted through 12 months
  - Subjects reported higher quality of sleep and morning alertness from baseline through 12 months
  - The most common treatment-emergent AE (>5%) was nasopharyngitis

Press Release, Three New Analyses of Data Expand Understanding of the Potential Role of Investigational Agent Lemborexant in Insomnia and Irregular Sleep-Wake Rhythm Disorder, September 2019, <http://esaj.mediaroom.com/2019-09-27-Three-New-Analyses-of-Data-Expand-Understanding-of-the-Potential-Role-for-Investigational-Agent-Lemborexant-in-Insomnia-and-Irregular-Sleep-Wake-Rhythm-Disorder>  
 Yedley J, et al. Efficacy of Lemborexant Compared With Placebo in Adult and Elderly Subjects With Insomnia: Results From a Phase 3 Study (SUNRISE-2). Poster presented at the Advances in Sleep and Circadian Science (ASCS)/Sleep Research Society (SRS), February 1-4, 2019, Clearwater, FL. Abstract 10.

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## Standard Deviation of Lateral Position (SDLP): An Index of “Weaving” Is Lower With LEM

- Effect of lemborexant on next-morning driving performance was investigated in 48 healthy volunteers, 23 to 78 years (ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT02583451)
  - Randomized, double-blind, double-dummy placebo and active increased errors and accidents
- Patients received at bedtime for 8 nights lemborexant, zopiclone, or placebo
- Drug-placebo difference in SDLP  $>2.4$  cm considered as clinically meaningful driving impairment



Change in SDLP vs Placebo  $\geq 2.4$

	Day 2 N (%)	Day 9 N (%)
Lemborexant (10 mg)	6 (18.8) P=.51	6 (18.8) P=.51
Zopiclone (7.5 mg)	20 (41.7) P<.0001	24 (50) P<.0001

- No significant or clinically meaningful effects of single and repeated dose of LEM on next-morning driving performance
- Did not differ between adults and the elderly or between males and females

Vermeeren A, Jongen S, Murphy P, et al., Sleep. 2019;42: pii: zsy260. doi: 10.1093/sleep/zsy260.

Zopiclone not available in the US.

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## Take-Home Messages

- Insomnia is highly prevalent and can impact the general well-being of patients
  - Poor sleep quality can increase the risk of chronic medical conditions (e.g., diabetes, hypertension, depression)
- Evaluation of sleep should be a routine part of acute care and well visits
- Patient education and non-pharmacologic approaches can be an effective initial strategy to improve sleep
- When needed, pharmacologic therapy should be tailored to a patient's needs and preferences
- Follow-up and therapeutic adjustment is an important part of sleep management

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