Psychopharmacology (2010) 209:285–290
DOI 10.1007/s00213-010-1783-1

ORIGINAL INVESTIGATION

Dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy by perospirone: a positron emission tomography study in patients with schizophrenia and healthy subjects

Ryosuke Arakawa · Hiroshi Ito · Akihiro Takano · Masaki Okumura · Hidehiko Takahashi · Harumasa Takano · Yoshiro Okubo · Tetsuya Suhara

Received: 3 September 2009 / Accepted: 18 January 2010 / Published online: 27 March 2010

Abstract
Rationale Perospirone is a novel second-generation antipsychotic drug with high affinity to dopamine D_2 receptor and short half-life of plasma concentration. There has been no investigation of dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy in patients with schizophrenia and the time course of occupancy by antipsychotics with perospirone-like properties.
Objective We investigated dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy by perospirone in patients with schizophrenia and the time course of occupancy in healthy subjects.
Materials and methods Six patients with schizophrenia taking 16–48 mg/day of perospirone participated. Positron emission tomography (PET) scans using [^{11}C]FLB457 were performed on each subject, and dopamine D_2 receptor occupancies were calculated. Moreover, baseline and three serial PET using [^{11}C]raclopride were performed at 1.5, 8, and 25.5 h after administration of a single dose of 16 mg of perospirone on four healthy male subjects, and occupancy was calculated for each scan.
Results Dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy in the temporal cortex of patients ranged from 39.6% to 83.8%. Especially, occupancy in two patients who took 16 mg of perospirone 2.5 h before PET was over 70%. Mean occupancy in the striatum of healthy subjects was 74.8% at 1.5 h, 60.1% at 8 h, and 31.9% at 25.5 h after administration.
Conclusion Sixteen milligrams of perospirone caused over 70% dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy near its peak level, and then occupancy dropped to about half after 22 h. The time courses of receptor occupancy and plasma concentration were quite different. This single dosage may be sufficient for the treatment of schizophrenia and might be useful as a new dosing schedule choice.

Keywords Dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy · Perospirone · Positron emission tomography · Schizophrenia · Time course

R. Arakawa · H. Ito · A. Takano · M. Okumura · H. Takahashi · H. Takano · T. Suhara (✉)
Molecular Neuroimaging Group, Molecular Imaging Center, National Institute of Radiological Sciences,
4-9-1, Anagawa, Inage-ku,
Chiba 263-8555, Japan
e-mail: suhara@nirs.go.jp

R. Arakawa · M. Okumura · Y. Okubo
Department of Neuropsychiatry, Nippon Medical School,
Tokyo, Japan

Introduction

Perospirone is a novel second-generation antipsychotic drug used in Japan (Onrust and McClellan 2001). This drug shows high affinity to dopamine D_2 receptor (K_i= 1.77 nM) and serotonin 5-HT_2 receptor (K_i=0.06 nM; Takahashi et al. 1998), and its plasma concentration has a short half-life ($T_{1/2}$=1.9 h; Yasui-Furukori et al. 2004). A previous positron emission tomography (PET) study using [^{11}C]raclopride and [^{11}C]NMSP in healthy subjects with single 8 mg of perospirone showed blockage of both dopamine D_2 receptor and serotonin 5-HT_2 receptor (Sekine et al. 2006), but the optimal dose of perospirone in patients with schizophrenia has not been investigated.

Kapur et al. (2000b) reported that transient high dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy by quetiapine showed clinical effects for patients with schizophrenia. They suggested that this transient occupancy was related to "atypical" features of second-generation antipsychotics

with low affinity for dopamine D_2 receptor (Kapur and Seeman 2001). Plasma pharmacokinetics and affinity for receptor were considered to affect the time course of receptor occupancy (Kapur and Seeman 2001; Takano et al. 2004). However, the time course of receptor occupancy by antipsychotics with high affinity for dopamine D_2 receptor and a short half-life of plasma concentration has not been investigated.

In this study, we investigated dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy by several doses of perospirone in patients with schizophrenia. Moreover, we investigated the time course of dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy by perospirone with serial PET scanning in healthy subjects.

Materials and methods

This study was approved by the Ethics and Radiation Safety Committee of the National Institute of Radiological Sciences, Chiba, Japan. After complete explanation of this study, written informed consent was obtained from all subjects.

Patient study

Subjects and study protocol

Six patients aged 26–44 years (34.9±7.1, mean ± SD), diagnosed with schizophrenia according to Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders-IV criteria, participated in this study (Table 1). Exclusion criteria were current or past substance abuse, brain tumor or vascular disease, and history of severe head injury or epilepsy. Subjects with severe liver or renal dysfunction, or having undergone electroconvulsive therapy within 90 days prior to this study were also excluded. The patients had been taking fixed dosages of perospirone for more than 2 weeks before this study. Doses of perospirone were 16 mg/day in one patient, 24 mg/day in two patients, and 48 mg/day in three patients. The interval between the last administration of perospirone and PET scan was from 2.5 to 17.5 h. Clinical symptoms were assessed by positive and negative symptom scale (PANSS). Venous blood samples were taken before and after PET scanning to measure the plasma concentration of perospirone and ID-15036, an active metabolite of perospirone (hydroxyperospirone). The average values of pre- and post-PET scanning were used.

PET procedure

A PET scanner system, ECAT EXACT HR+ (CTI-Siemens, Knoxville, TN, USA), was used for all subjects. A head fixation device was used to minimize head movement. Before the dynamic scan, a transmission scan for attenuation correction was performed using a ^{68}Ge-^{68}Ga source. The dynamic PET scan was performed for 90 min after intravenous bolus injection of 204.0–225.0 MBq (218.5± 7.7 MBq, mean ± SD) of [^{11}C]FLB 457. The specific radioactivity of [^{11}C]FLB 457 was 129.6–219.4 MBq/nmol (175.4±34.3 MBq/nmol, mean ± SD). Magnetic resonance images of the brain were acquired with 1.5 Tesla magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), Gyroscan NT (Philips Medical Systems, Best, Netherlands). T1-weighted images at 1-mm slices were obtained.

Data analysis

All emission scan data were reconstructed with a Hanning filter. Regions-of-interest (ROIs) were defined for the temporal cortex and cerebellar cortex. ROIs were drawn manually on PET images with reference to the individual MR images. The values of ROIs for right and left sides were averaged. Binding potential (BP_{ND}), defined as the specific binding compared to nondisplaceable uptake, of dopamine D_2 receptor in the temporal cortex was calculated using a three-parameter simplified reference tissue model (SRTM; Innis et al. 2007; Lammertsma and Hume 1996). The cerebellum was used as reference tissue because of its negligible density of dopamine D_2 receptors (Suhara et al. 1999).

Table 1 Patient characteristics, plasma concentration, and dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy

Number	Age (year)	Sex	PANSS	Dose (mg/day)	Interval: last dose–PET (h)	Last dose (mg)	Plasma concentration		Receptor occupancy (%)
							Perospirone (ng/ml)	ID-15036 (ng/ml)	
1	38	M	59	16	2.5	16	4.5	23.3	83.8
2	30	F	69	24	7.5	8	0.6	3.05	61.8
3	44	F	62	24	9.0	8	0	0.75	39.6
4	26	M	81	48	2.5	8	1.25	8.45	60.8
5	30	F	46	48	2.5	16	0.25	8.35	70.1
6	42	F	80	48	17.5	32	0.85	2.1	65.0

Receptor occupancy of perospirone is expressed as follows: Occupancy(%) = $(BP_{baseline} - BP_{drug})/BP_{baseline} \times 100$, where $BP_{baseline}$ is BP_{ND} in the drug-free state, and BP_{drug} is BP_{ND} after administration of the drug. Mean BP_{ND} of age-matched ten normal male subjects (age range 25–43 years; 34.8±6.7 years, mean ± SD) measured by the same procedure as for the patients was used as BP_{base} because of the lack of individual baseline BP_{ND}.

The relationship between receptor occupancy and plasma concentration of antipsychotic drug can be expressed as follows: Occupancy(%) = $C/(C + EC_{50}) \times 100$, where C is the plasma concentration of perospirone or ID-15036, and EC_{50} is the concentration required to induce 50% occupancy.

Measurement of plasma concentration of perospirone

Plasma concentrations of perospirone and ID-15036 were determined using a validated high performance liquid chromatography method (Yasui-Furukori et al. 2003; MP-Technopharma Corporation, Fukuoka, Japan). The lower limit of quantification was 0.1 ng/ml for both perospirone and ID-15036.

Healthy subject study

Subjects and study protocol

Four healthy male subjects aged 22–32 years (26.8±4.1, mean ± SD) participated in the other part of this study. None had a history of psychiatric, neurological, or somatic disorders. None had taken any medication for at least 2 weeks prior to this study. The baseline PET scan was performed within 2 weeks before taking perospirone. All subjects took a single dose of 16 mg of perospirone, and then three serial PET scans were performed at 1.5, 8, and 25.5 h after its administration. Venous blood samples were taken 11 times, at 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.5, 3.5, 5.0, 6.5, 8.0, 9.0, 25.5, and 26.5 h after perospirone administration, to measure the plasma concentrations of perospirone and ID-15036.

PET procedure

A PET scanner system, ECAT EXACT HR+, was used for all subjects. A head fixation device was used to minimize head movement. Before the dynamic scan, a transmission scan for attenuation correction was performed using a ^{68}Ge-^{68}Ga source. The dynamic PET scan was performed for 60 min after intravenous bolus injection of 179.6–246.8 MBq (217.0±16.5 MBq, mean ± SD) of [^{11}C] raclopride. The specific radioactivity of [^{11}C]raclopride was 138.0–320.9 MBq/nmol (235.4±65.8 MBq/nmol, mean ± SD). T1-weighted images at 1-mm slices of the brain were acquired with 1.5 Tesla MRI, Gyroscan NT.

Data analysis

All emission scan data were reconstructed with a Hanning filter. ROIs were defined for the striatum and cerebellar cortex and were drawn manually on the PET images with reference to individual MR images. The values of ROIs for right and left sides were averaged. BP_{ND} of dopamine D_2 receptor in the striatum was calculated using SRTM. The cerebellum was used as reference tissue. Receptor occupancy was calculated using the individual BP_{ND} values of baseline and drug administration.

Results

Patient study

Dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy of patients with schizophrenia in the temporal cortex ranged from 39.6% to 83.8% (Table 1). Plasma concentrations of perospirone and ID-15036 ranged from 0 to 4.5 and 0.75 to 23.3 ng/ml, respectively. The plasma concentrations of perospirone and ID-15036 were fitted curvilinearly to the dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy (Fig. 1a, b). Estimated EC_{50} values of perospirone and ID-15036 were 0.31 and 1.90 ng/ml, respectively. The total PANSS score ranged from 46 to 81, and the average score of all patients was 66.2±13.4.

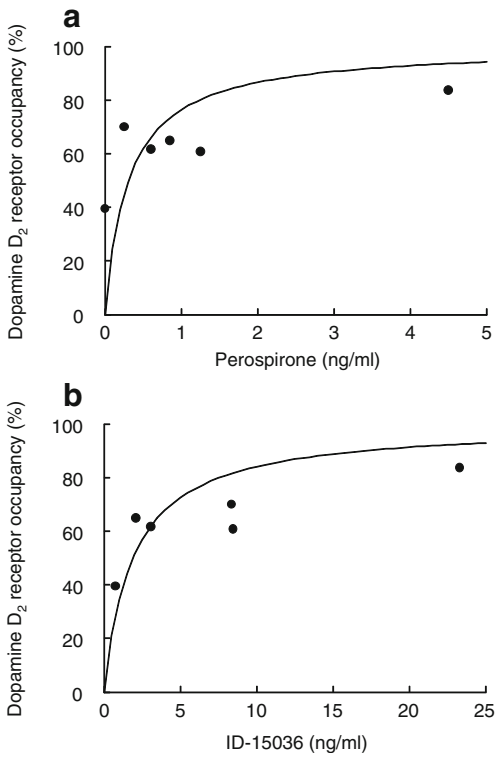

Fig. 1 Relationship between dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy and perospirone (**a**) and ID-15036 (**b**) in the patients study

Healthy subject study

Mean dopamine D_2 receptor occupancies in the striatum were 74.8±8.0% at 1.5 h, 60.1±5.6% at 8 h, and 31.9±6.4% at 25.5 h after administration of 16 mg of perospirone in healthy subjects (Fig. 2). The mean plasma concentrations of both perospirone and ID-15036 reached a peak at 1 h after administration, then rapidly decreased, and were not detectable at 25.5 h after (Fig. 3a, b). Estimated half-lives of plasma concentrations of perospirone and ID-15036 were 2.2 and 1.9 h, respectively. No subject complained of severe side effects such as extrapyramidal symptoms or sleepiness.

Discussion

Clinical dose of perospirone

A previous study reported that dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy using [^{11}C]raclopride was 44.4% with 8 mg of perospirone at 1 h post-administration (Sekine et al. 2006). PET studies have suggested that more than 70% dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy is necessary for antipsychotic effect and that 80% occupancy causes extrapyramidal symptoms (Farde et al. 1992; Kapur et al. 2000a; Nordstrom et al. 1993). Two patients (numbers 1 and 5) administered perospirone at 16 mg 2.5 h before PET scanning showed over 70% occupancy. On the other hand, one patient (number 4) taking 8 mg did not reach 70% occupancy in spite of a short interval between the last administration and PET scan. In healthy subjects, a peak of about 75% occupancy was also obtained with 16 mg of perospirone. Although some patients could be maintained at less than 70% occupancy, 16 mg of perospirone seems to be the necessary dose for achieving antipsychotic effect. The plasma concentrations of perospirone and ID-15036 inducing 70% occupancy (EC_{70}) were 0.72 and 4.43 ng/ml, respectively. Side effects could not be evaluated in this study because some patients were taking benzodiazepines or anti-Parkinson drugs, and plasma prolactin levels were not measured.

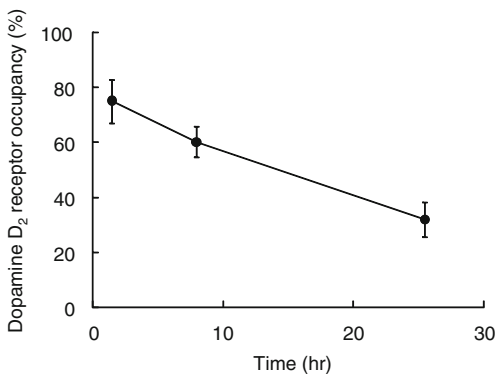

Fig. 2 Time course of mean dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy in healthy subject study. *Bars* represent standard deviation of mean

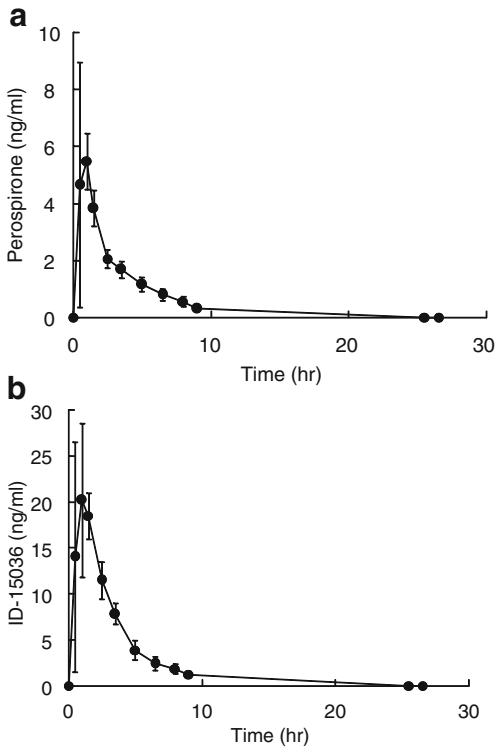

Fig. 3 Time course of mean plasma concentrations of perospirone (**a**) and ID-15036 (**b**) in healthy subjects study. *Bars* represent standard deviation of mean

Pharmacokinetics and contributions to receptor occupancy of perospirone and ID-15036

In healthy subjects, plasma concentrations of perospirone and ID-15036 peaked at 1 h after administration, with the half-lives of plasma concentrations being 2.2 and 1.9 h, respectively. The plasma concentration of ID-15036 was fourfold that of perospirone. These results were in good agreement with the previous study showing that the T_{max} values were 0.8 (perospirone) and 1.1 h (ID-15036), and $T_{1/2}$ was 1.9 h (perospirone; Yasui-Furukori et al. 2004). As ID-15036 has affinity for the dopamine D_2 receptor (K_i= 5.84 nM) and blocks the dopamine D_2 receptor of the in vivo rat brain (Takahashi et al. 1998), both perospirone and ID-15036 contributed to dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy, and the plasma concentrations of both were fitted to the occupancy curve.

Effects of affinity and pharmacokinetics of antipsychotics on time course of receptor occupancy

Dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy was about 75% at 1.5 h after perospirone administration and then showed a rela-

tively rapid decline. After 25.5 h, about 30% occupancy remained, although plasma concentrations of perospirone and ID-15036 were not detectable. The time to reach half of the peak occupancy of 75% was 22 h. The time courses of receptor occupancy and plasma concentration were quite different. In comparison, risperidone and olanzapine showed sustained occupancy; about 80% occupancy 5 or 6 h after administration decreased to only 70% after 24 h (Takano et al. 2004; Tauscher et al. 2002). On the other hand, quetiapine showed transient occupancy; 64% occupancy after 2 h decreased to 0% after 24 h (Kapur et al. 2000b). Some factors such as the time course of plasma concentration of antipsychotics or affinity for dopamine D_2 receptor were considered to affect the time course of receptor occupancy (Kapur and Seeman 2001; Takano et al. 2004). For example, high affinity and long half-life of plasma concentration (e.g., risperidone (K_i=1.1 nM, $T_{1/2}$=17.8 h) and olanzapine (K_i=5.1 nM, $T_{1/2}$=19.5 h)) expressed sustained occupancy, and low affinity and short half-life of plasma concentration (e.g., quetiapine (K_i=122 nM, $T_{1/2}$=3.2 h)) expressed transient occupancy (Gefvert et al. 1998; Seeman 2002; Takano et al. 2004; Tauscher et al. 2002). Perospirone has high affinity for dopamine D_2 receptor and a short half-life of plasma concentration (Takahashi et al. 1998; Yasui-Furukori et al. 2004). These features may cause relatively rapid decrease in occupancy, from 75% at 1.5 h of perospirone administration to 32% after 25.5 h, but the occupancy did not completely disappear within a day. In patients taking 32 mg perospirone (number 6), dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy was 65% at 17.5 h after, supporting an intermediate time course between sustained and transient occupancy.

Possibility of new dosing schedule with perospirone

There are several opinions concerning the dosing schedule of antipsychotics. A recent clinical study reported that extended antipsychotic dosing (every second or third day) was effective and decreased side effects for chronic patients with schizophrenia (Remington et al. 2005). An animal study reported that transient antipsychotic medication was more effective for amphetamine-induced behavioral abnormality than continuous one (Samaha et al. 2008). These findings indicate that sustained occupancy might not necessarily be required for antipsychotic therapy of schizophrenia. In prodromal episode-based intervention, antipsychotic drugs were used occasionally, and long antipsychotic-free periods were sometimes inserted. However, some studies reported that intermittent medication increased the relapse rate in schizophrenia (Gaebel et al. 2002; Herz et al. 1991; Schooler et al. 1997). Because perospirone shows an intermediate time course between sustained and transient occupancy, its single administration may become a new dosing schedule choice for an antipsychotic drug. Indeed, the administration of perospirone once a day indicated antipsychotic effects and preventions from relapse for chronic patients with schizophrenia (Kusumi et al. 2008). Four patients in the present study (numbers 1, 4, 5, and 6) taking 16 mg or more at least once a day were maintained for more than 6 months. Further study of relationships between clinical response and receptor occupancy of various dosing schedules in patients with schizophrenia will be needed.

Regional difference of dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy

Regional differences of dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy between the striatum and extrastriatum in some second-generation antipsychotic drugs have been discussed (Arakawa et al. 2008; Ito et al. 2009; Pilowsky et al. 1997; Talvik et al. 2001). In the present study, the mean occupancy of four healthy subject and two patients (number 1 and 5) in a short interval between the administration of 16 mg of perospirone and PET scanning seemed to differ very little (75.1% in the striatum with [^{11}C]raclopride and 77.0% in the temporal cortex with [^{11}C]FLB 457). It is suggested that there were no regional differences of dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy between the striatum and extrastriatum with perospirone despite the subjects, study protocols, and radioligands being different.

Conclusion

Sixteen milligrams of perospirone caused over 70% dopamine D_2 receptor occupancy near its peak level, then becoming about half after 22 h. The time courses of receptor occupancy and plasma concentration were quite different. This single dosage may be sufficient for the treatment of schizophrenia and might be useful as a new dosing schedule choice.

Acknowledgments This study was supported by a consignment expense for the Molecular Imaging Program on "Research Base for PET Diagnosis" from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japanese Government. The sponsors of the study had no role in the study design, collection, analysis, and interpretation of data, in the writing of the report, or in the decision to submit the paper for publication. All authors took part in the study design, collection, analysis, and interpretation of data, in the writing of the report, and in the decision to submit the manuscript for publication. All authors saw and approved the final version of the manuscript. All authors reported no biomedical financial interests or potential conflicts of interest. We thank Mr. Katsuyuki Tanimoto, Mr. Takahiro Shiraishi, and Mr. Toshio Miyamoto for their assistance in performing the PET experiments, and Ms. Yoshiko Fukushima for her help as clinical research coordinator at the National Institute of Radiological Sciences. We thank also Mr. Yoshimasa Inoue for measurement of plasma concentration of perospirone at MP-Technopharma Corporation.

References

Arakawa R, Ito H, Takano A, Takahashi H, Morimoto T, Sassa T, Ohta K, Kato M, Okubo Y, Suhara T (2008) Dose-finding study of paliperidone ER based on striatal and extrastriatal dopamine D2 receptor occupancy in patients with schizophrenia. Psychopharmacology (Berl) 197:229–235

Farde L, Nordstrom AL, Wiesel FA, Pauli S, Halldin C, Sedvall G (1992) Positron emission tomographic analysis of central D1 and D2 dopamine receptor occupancy in patients treated with classical neuroleptics and clozapine. Relation to extrapyramidal side effects. Arch Gen Psychiatry 49:538–544

Gaebel W, Janner M, Frommann N, Pietzcker A, Kopcke W, Linden M, Muller P, Muller-Spahn F, Tegeler J (2002) First vs multiple episode schizophrenia: two-year outcome of intermittent and maintenance medication strategies. Schizophr Res 53:145–159

Gefvert O, Bergstrom M, Langstrom B, Lundberg T, Lindstrom L, Yates R (1998) Time course of central nervous dopamine-D2 and 5-HT2 receptor blockade and plasma drug concentrations after discontinuation of quetiapine (Seroquel) in patients with schizophrenia. Psychopharmacology (Berl) 135:119–126

Herz MI, Glazer WM, Mostert MA, Sheard MA, Szymanski HV, Hafez H, Mirza M, Vana J (1991) Intermittent vs maintenance medication in schizophrenia. Two-year results. Arch Gen Psychiatry 48:333–339

Innis RB, Cunningham VJ, Delforge J, Fujita M, Gjedde A, Gunn RN, Holden J, Houle S, Huang SC, Ichise M, Iida H, Ito H, Kimura Y, Koeppe RA, Knudsen GM, Knuuti J, Lammertsma AA, Laruelle M, Logan J, Maguire RP, Mintun MA, Morris ED, Parsey R, Price JC, Slifstein M, Sossi V, Suhara T, Votaw JR, Wong DF, Carson RE (2007) Consensus nomenclature for in vivo imaging of reversibly binding radioligands. J Cereb Blood Flow Metab 27:1533–1539

Ito H, Arakawa R, Takahashi H, Takano H, Okumura M, Otsuka T, Ikoma Y, Shidahara M, Suhara T (2009) No regional difference in dopamine D2 receptor occupancy by the second-generation antipsychotic drug risperidone in humans: a positron emission tomography study. Int J Neuropsychopharmacol 12:667–675

Kapur S, Seeman P (2001) Does fast dissociation from the dopamine d2 receptor explain the action of atypical antipsychotics? A new hypothesis. Am J Psychiatry 158:360–369

Kapur S, Zipursky R, Jones C, Remington G, Houle S (2000a) Relationship between dopamine D2 occupancy, clinical response, and side effects: a double-blind PET study of first-episode schizophrenia. Am J Psychiatry 157:514–520

Kapur S, Zipursky R, Jones C, Shammi CS, Remington G, Seeman P (2000b) A positron emission tomography study of quetiapine in schizophrenia: a preliminary finding of an antipsychotic effect with only transiently high dopamine D2 receptor occupancy. Arch Gen Psychiatry 57:553–559

Kusumi I, Masui T, Koyama T (2008) Long-term perospirone treatment with a single dose at bedtime in schizophrenia: relevant to intermittent dopamine D2 receptor antagonism. Prog Neuropsychopharmacol Biol Psychiatry 32:520–522

Lammertsma AA, Hume SP (1996) Simplified reference tissue model for PET receptor studies. Neuroimage 4:153–158

Nordstrom AL, Farde L, Wiesel FA, Forslund K, Pauli S, Halldin C, Uppfeldt G (1993) Central D2-dopamine receptor occupancy in relation to antipsychotic drug effects: a double-blind PET study of schizophrenic patients. Biol Psychiatry 33:227–235

Onrust SV, McClellan K (2001) Perospirone. CNS Drugs 15:329–337, discussion 338

Pilowsky LS, Mulligan RS, Acton PD, Ell PJ, Costa DC, Kerwin RW (1997) Limbic selectivity of clozapine. Lancet 350:490–491

Remington G, Seeman P, Shammi C, Mann S, Kapur S (2005) "Extended" antipsychotic dosing: rationale and pilot data. J Clin Psychopharmacol 25:611–613

Samaha AN, Reckless GE, Seeman P, Diwan M, Nobrega JN, Kapur S (2008) Less is more: antipsychotic drug effects are greater with transient rather than continuous delivery. Biol Psychiatry 64:145–152

Schooler NR, Keith SJ, Severe JB, Matthews SM, Bellack AS, Glick ID, Hargreaves WA, Kane JM, Ninan PT, Frances A, Jacobs M, Lieberman JA, Mance R, Simpson GM, Woerner MG (1997) Relapse and rehospitalization during maintenance treatment of schizophrenia. The effects of dose reduction and family treatment. Arch Gen Psychiatry 54:453–463

Seeman P (2002) Atypical antipsychotics: mechanism of action. Can J Psychiatry 47:27–38

Sekine Y, Ouchi Y, Takei N, Yoshikawa E, Okada H, Minabe Y, Nakamura K, Suzuki K, Iwata Y, Tsuchiya KJ, Sugihara G, Mori N (2006) Perospirone is a new generation antipsychotic: evidence from a positron emission tomography study of serotonin 2 and D2 receptor occupancy in the living human brain. J Clin Psychopharmacol 26:531–533

Suhara T, Sudo Y, Okauchi T, Maeda J, Kawabe K, Suzuki K, Okubo Y, Nakashima Y, Ito H, Tanada S, Halldin C, Farde L (1999) Extrastriatal dopamine D2 receptor density and affinity in the human brain measured by 3D PET. Int J Neuropsychopharmacol 2:73–82

Takahashi Y, Kusumi I, Ishikane T, Koyama T (1998) In vivo occupation of dopamine D1, D2 and serotonin2A receptors by novel antipsychotic drug, SM-9018 and its metabolite, in rat brain. J Neural Transm 105:181–191

Takano A, Suhara T, Ikoma Y, Yasuno F, Maeda J, Ichimiya T, Sudo Y, Inoue M, Okubo Y (2004) Estimation of the time-course of dopamine D2 receptor occupancy in living human brain from plasma pharmacokinetics of antipsychotics. Int J Neuropsychopharmacol 7:19–26

Talvik M, Nordstrom AL, Nyberg S, Olsson H, Halldin C, Farde L (2001) No support for regional selectivity in clozapine-treated patients: a PET study with [11C]raclopride and [11C]FLB 457. Am J Psychiatry 158:926–930

Tauscher J, Jones C, Remington G, Zipursky RB, Kapur S (2002) Significant dissociation of brain and plasma kinetics with antipsychotics. Mol Psychiatry 7:317–321

Yasui-Furukori N, Inoue Y, Tateishi T (2003) Determination of a new atypical antipsychotic agent perospirone and its metabolite in human plasma by automated column-switching high-performance liquid chromatography. J Chromatogr B Analyt Technol Biomed Life Sci 789:239–245

Yasui-Furukori N, Furukori H, Nakagami T, Saito M, Inoue Y, Kaneko S, Tateishi T (2004) Steady-state pharmacokinetics of a new antipsychotic agent perospirone and its active metabolite, and its relationship with prolactin response. Ther Drug Monit 26:361–365