

August 2014

Greetings!

Here's a recap of blog posts and other news from the past month.

July saw the publication of three papers based on research undertaken on data submitted to RxISK:

[120 cases of enduring sexual dysfunction following treatment with SSRIs, Isotretinoin, or Finasteride](#)

There is an intriguing overlap in the problems arising from these three different drug groups. But the most intriguing thing of all is trying to find a pharmacological mechanism that can explain such enduring effects - and a treatment for a terrible condition.

[93 cases of alcohol dependence following SSRI treatment](#)

The world of antidepressants and alcohol is a timebomb waiting to explode. It is highly likely that SSRIs affect the metabolism and the central effects of alcohol in a range of ways that will ultimately shed light on addictions but in the meantime will be of great medico-legal interest.

[Sudden cardiac death and the Reverse Dodo verdict](#)

As [Vanessa's Law](#) works its way through the Canadian Parliament, RxISK outlines a new treatment-related problem: What happens when combinations of drugs lead

to an adverse event? No one company is responsible. None are likely to have to post warnings. But people still die. Solving this might transform the field of adverse event monitoring.

Thank you for your support.

Your feedback, as always, is greatly appreciated.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David". The letter 'D' is large and stylized, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

David Healy, MD

RxISK stories

[Thalidomide: From Disaster to Recovery](#)

A Quiet Man A few months ago Martin Johnson retired as the Director of Britain's Thalidomide Trust. Under his stewardship, UK Thalidomiders have become a major force for global drug safety. In a world where Brands are everything and even ... [\[Read More...\]](#)...»

[Back in Olanzapine Waters](#)

Courtesy of Fast Forward, here is a 12 month follow up to Sally's Story; some good, some OK and some awful. Sounds and Speech Twelve months later, I continue to have problems with my hearing. The serious sensitivity ... [\[Read More...\]](#)...»

[Olanzapine Withdrawal: Sally's Story](#)

How long does withdrawal last? How much overlap is there between antipsychotic, benzodiazepine and antidepressant withdrawal? This is the first of two posts covering these issues. All answers later this week in Part Two. For Antipsychotic Withdrawal - ... [\[Read More...\]](#)...»

[Girl on a Hot Tin Roof: Drug Withdrawal Syndrome](#)

There are two reasons to run Katie B-T's story here. One is the phenomenon of burning feet she reports. This seems common with benzodiazepine like drugs, including gabapentin and pregabalin. We would love to hear from others who ... [Read More...][...»](#)

[Why You Should Report to RxISK rather than Health Canada or FDA](#)

This post by John Scheel follow on his Sticks in the Throat and Sticks in the Throat: Boxology posts. The driving force behind these posts - a demand that people should be accountable - can be seen in ... [Read More...][...»](#)



From David's blog...

[Doctor Munchausen and Sense about Science](#)

This is the fifth in a series of Doctor Munchausen posts that include: Dr Munchausen, I presume Dying for a Cure Dear Luise Father Munchausen They followed a Sense about Science

series of posts that included: Sense about Science: Follow the Rhetoric Sense about Science: First Admit no Harm Sense about Science: Follow [...][...»](#)

[Father Munchausen, I presume!](#)

This is the fourth of seven Doctor Munchausen posts - Doctor Munchausen, I presume, Dying for a Cure, Dear Louise and the forthcoming Doctor Munchausen as a Sense about Science Trustee, and Doctor Munchausen Joins your local Hospital Board. I've had some criticism of the recent Doctor Munchausen posts. They're not fair on [...][...»](#)

[Doctor Munchausen: Dear Luise](#)

This is a third post in the six post Doctor Munchausen series. See Doctor Munchausen, I Presume and Dying for a Cure. A variation on this post first featured on RxISK.org some months ago Dear Luise by Dorrit Cato Christensen is one of most extraordinary books about healthcare ever written. Medical books are usually about [...]...»

[Doctor Munchausen: Dying for a Cure](#)

This is the second in a Doctor Munchausen series of posts - meditations on the fact that medicine is likely the place where the greatest amount of abuse on earth happens - but no-one notices and no-one intervenes. The post below comes from the foreword to Dying for a Cure, Rebekah Beddoe's book [...]...»

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