

A Case Report of compulsive biting and chewing with mixed amphetamine salts: Give me something to bite on

Background

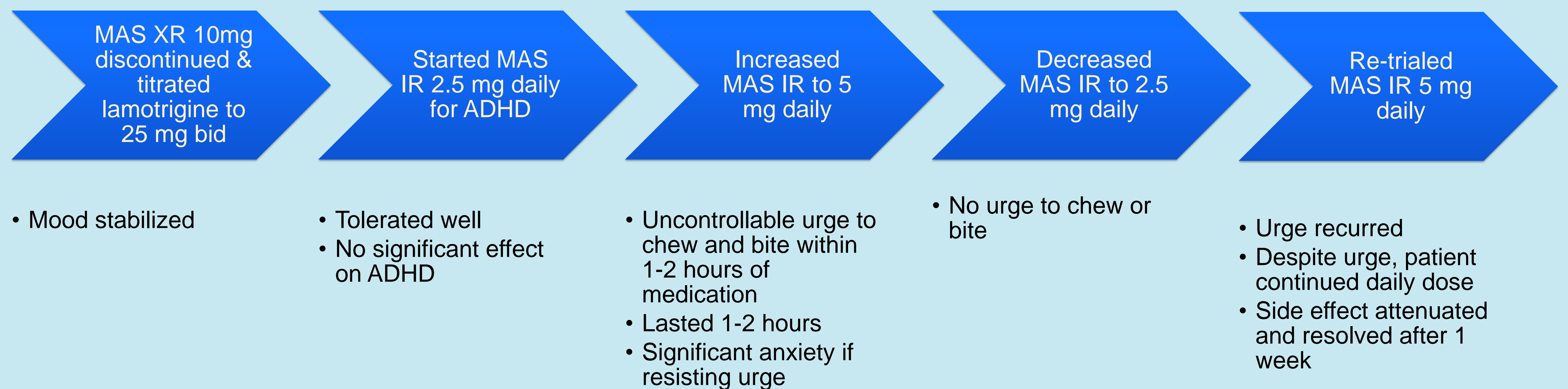
- Stimulants are the first line pharmacological treatment for ADHD.
- Compulsive behaviors and movement disorders are reported to a limited degree as side effects of stimulants.^{1,2}
- We present a unique case of a patient who developed a biting and chewing compulsion when taking mixed amphetamine salts (MAS).

Discussion

- While underlying mechanisms aren't known, repetitive behaviors have been induced by variable doses of methylphenidate and d-amphetamine in rats.³
- Tmax is approximately 7 hours for MAS XR formulation as compared to 3 hours for IR formulation, possibly contributing to side effects.⁴
- After 5 half-lives, plasma concentration reaches a steady state potentially leading to dissipation of the side effect.⁵

Case Summary

32 year-old female with psychiatric diagnoses of PTSD, GAD, ADHD and unspecified bipolar disorder presented with irritability. Historical medications buspirone 7.5 mg bid prn anxiety and lorazepam 0.5 mg qday prn anxiety were continued. Below is the course of treatment.



Conclusions

- Compulsive chewing/biting can occur as a side effect of mixed amphetamine salts
- Underlying mechanism to the onset of these compulsions is unknown
- The side effect may dissipate with time, change in dose or formulation

References

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