



UW PACC

Psychiatry and Addictions Case Conference

UW Medicine | Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

**TREATING BIPOLAR DISORDER IN PRIMARY CARE
SETTINGS -
SHOULD I START A MOOD STABILIZER?**

JOHN S. KERN, M.D.

DISCLOSURES

- None

OBJECTIVES

- At the conclusion of this session, attendees:
 - Will understand need for high-quality care of bipolar disorder in the primary care setting.
 - Will be able to describe collaborative care models for mental disorders in the primary care setting.
 - Will be oriented to the task of creating a workflow for the treatment of bipolar disorder in the primary care setting.

SAMPLE CASE

- 32 yo woman, presents with depression. PHQ 19.
- Several prior treatments with antidepressants, lasting a few months, with +/- results.
- CIDI – high risk for bipolar spectrum.
- She doesn't believe she has bipolar disorder.
- What do we do?

INTRODUCTION TO THE ISSUES WITH BIPOLAR DISORDER

- Incidence high.
- Likelihood of referral to specialty care low.
- Overall morbidity high.
- What would ideal program look like?
- How to implement in various settings?

INCIDENCE HIGH

- 4.3% of general primary care patients and up to 10% of primary care patients with a psychiatric complaint. [Cerimele et al]

REFERRAL AWAY UNLIKELY



REFERRAL AWAY UNLIKELY

- MHIP 26% referred
- Regional MHC – 20% referred, about 20% of these successful – and this to our own CMHC!

ILLNESS SEVERE & COSTLY

- MHIP: bipolar pts high symptom severity.
- Total mean \pm SD costs for patients in the bipolar disorder group (\$3,416 \pm \$6,862) were significantly higher than those in any of the comparison groups (Simon et al 1998)
- Medically complicated: higher prevalence of Diabetes, Hepatitis C, Lower back pain and pulmonary disease in VA bipolar cohort.
- Refractory: some collaborative programs cannot show improvement in depression or mania ratings.

IMPLEMENTATION REQUIRES A PLAN

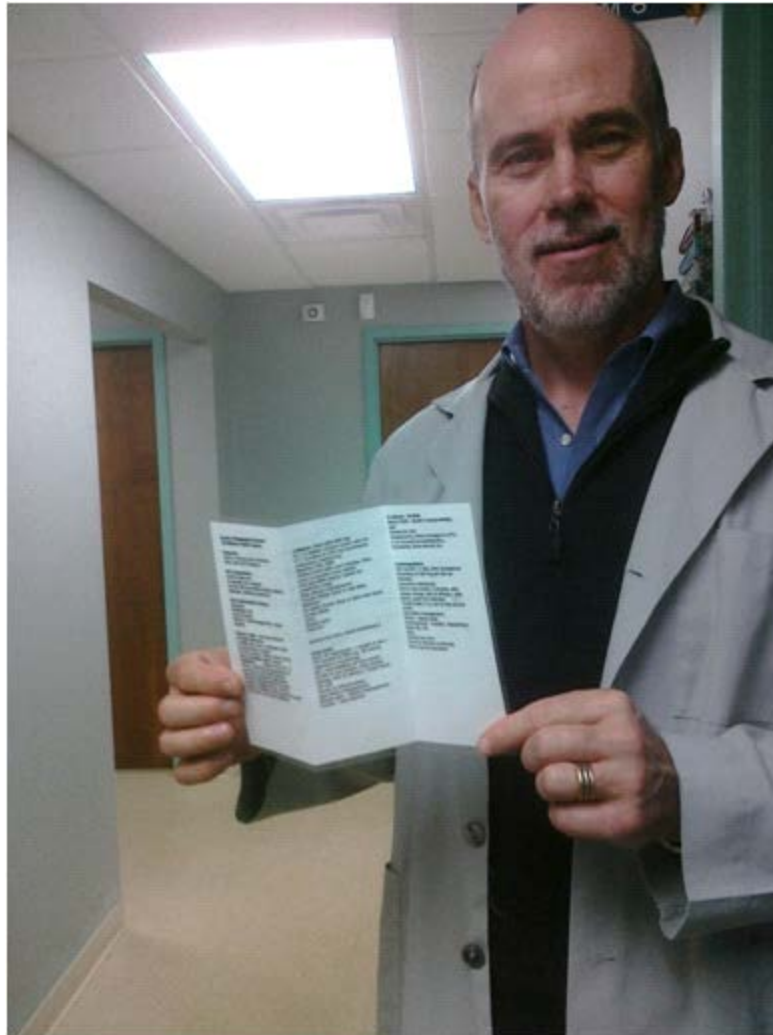


"They have no military, sire—no one's ever made it past their receptionist."

ONE EXAMPLE – REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH

- IMPACT-style collaborative care program – 4 primary care sites. **Invited in by the FQHC partner.**
- Bipolar patients unable or unwilling to be seen in CMHC.
- Use of roadmap for PCP's.
- Double-entry registry.
- 920 patients diagnosed with Bipolar I, Bipolar II or Mood Disorder NOS.
- Dx PHQ-9 / MDQ/ CIDI plus clinical interview, psychiatric consultation.
- All med management through consultant psychiatrist.
- Approximately 20% referral **attempted** to CMHC.
- Used as alternative site for CMHC overflow.

BIPOLAR ROADMAP



Bipolar Management Protocol NorthShore Health Centers

Diagnosis

History, including prior treatment.
MDQ, then CIDI if positive.

BHC consultation

Confirm diagnosis.
Is specialty care needed?
Consult with psychiatrist before making
diagnosis, initiating treatment.

Give Information Packet:

Diagnosis
Medication Info
Mood Charting
Rhythm / self-management / sleep
hygiene

Choose meds - see med protocol

Arrange aftercare

2 weeks with new or changed meds
No more than 3 months
Call for no show. Follow mood charts.

How to decide which mood

stabilizer: Lithium first line. If
manic - Lamictal not appropriate. If
psychotic sx, will need atypical.
Seroquel, Lamictal if depressed.
Monitor drug interactions & other
medical conditions [e.g., kidney
disease & lithium.] Not unusual to need
more than one mood stabilizer.

Lithium: Start 600-900 mg

In 1-2 weeks: Lithium Level—aim for
0.7, increase at 300 mg increments
Laboratory monitoring:

Baseline TSH, BMP

Lithium level with each change, then
every 6 months when stable.

TSH and BMP yearly—watch for
creatinine creep

Side effects management

Tremor (lower dose or add Beta-
Blocker)

GI upset (lower dose or take with food)

Loose stools

Acne

Weight gain

Polyuria

Serious but rare: renal insufficiency

Valproate

Start 20 mg/kg/day = weight in lbs x
10 rounded to 500 mg. HS dosing

Laboratory monitoring:

cbc, cmp baseline, at one month

Levels at one month, with dosage
change, lack of efficacy. Target level:
50-120

Titrate to effectiveness.

Side effect management:

Weight gain - dietary management

Tremor - beta-blocker

Gi distress - hs dose

Risk of PCOS - avoid in young women,
rash

Serious but rare:

Hepatotoxicity [minor increase in LFT's
is not unusual], encephalopathy,
Pancreatitis, bone marrow d/o

Carbamazepine:

200 mg BID x 2 wks, then increase by
increments of 200 mg per day as
tolerated.

Laboratory monitoring:

level at one month, 3 months, with
dosage change, lack of efficacy, side
effects, watch for induction

Target levels 4-12, cbc & cmp at one
month

Side effect management:

Ataxia - reduce dose

Hyponatremia - monitor, discontinue
below Na 125.

Rash

Serious but rare:

Stevens-Johnson syndrome

Bone marrow disorders

Lamictal

Titrate per instructions: 25 mg daily x 2 wks, then 50 mg daily x 2 wk, then 100 mg daily. If on Depakote, 25 mg every other day x 2 wks, then 50 mg.

May not need more than 25-50 mg.

If on Tegretol, 50 mg daily x 2 wks, then 100 mg daily

Labs - not recommended

Side effect management:

Stevens-Johnson syndrome

Rash - warn patient to call about any rash, and come in for a look

Trileptal

Start 300 mg BID, titrate to tolerability and effectiveness, probably 300 mg per 1-2 wks.

Laboratory monitoring:

CMP, CBC baseline, at one month, 6 months. No levels

Side effect management:

Sedation - hs dose

Ataxia - reduce dose

Hyponatremia - monitor Na, stop below 125. Rash

Serious but rare: Stevens-Johnson syndrome, Bone marrow disorders

Atypical Antipsychotics

Zyprexa - Seroquel - Risperdal - Invega - Abilify – Latuda - Geodon

Risk of significant weight gain higher to the left, tardive dyskinesia higher to right.

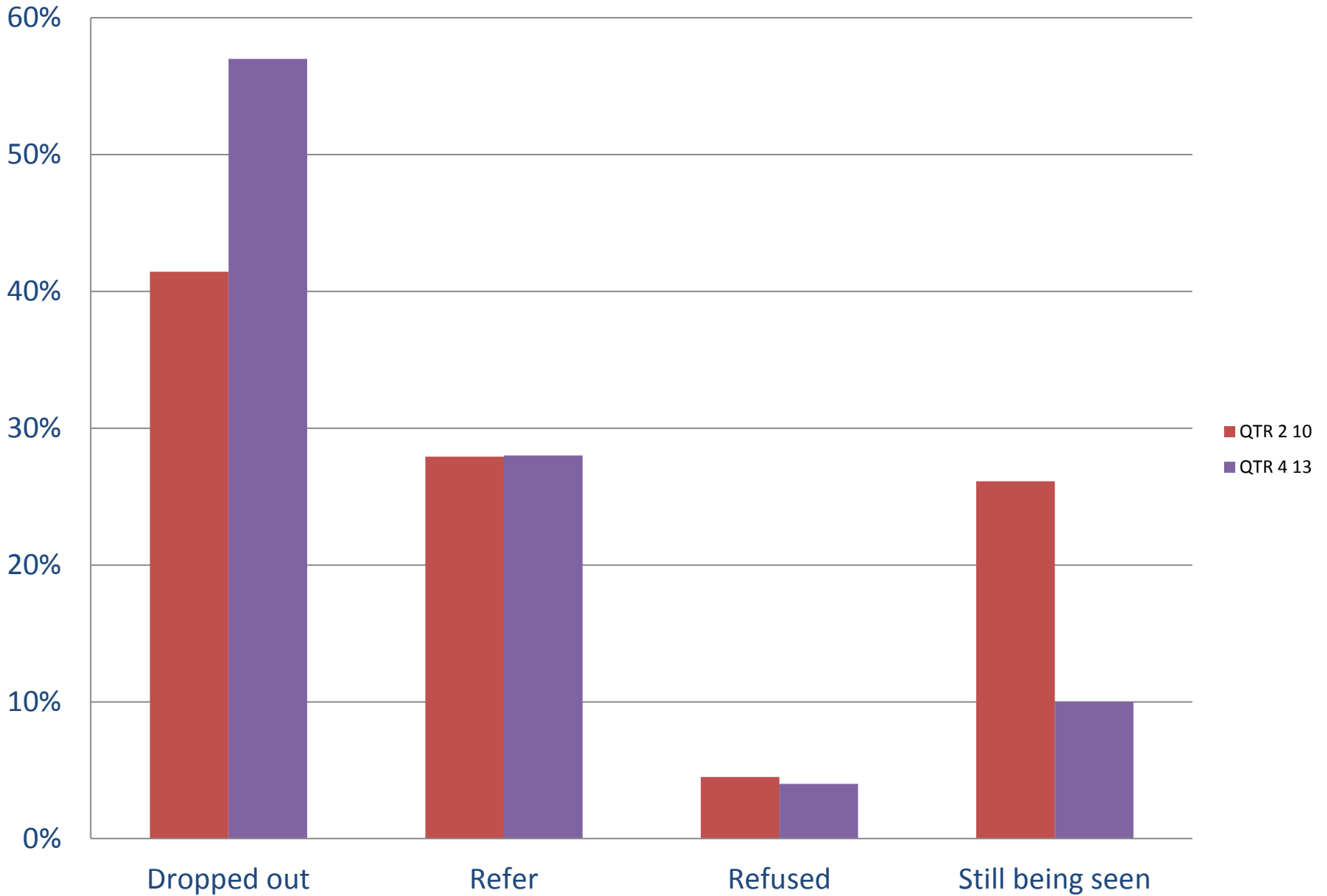
Side effect mgmt: Risk of wt gain, DM, dyslipidemia, tardive dyskinesia.

Monitor for abnormal movements every 6 months.

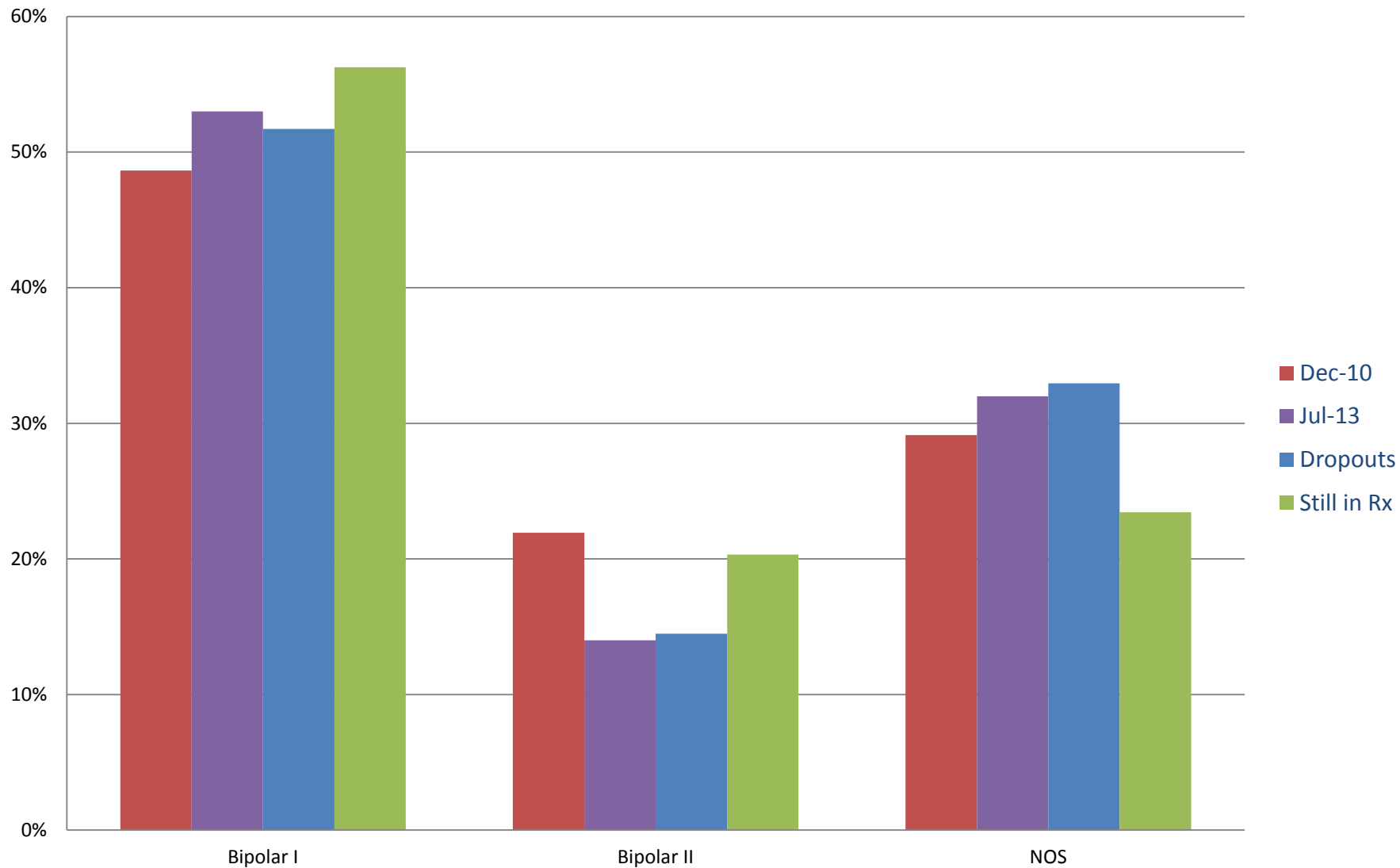
Initial Dosing: Zyprexa 10, Seroquel 200, Latuda 40, Risperdal 2, Invega 3, Abilify 5, Geodon 80 [do not give less than 80 mg Geodon]

Atypical Laboratory monitoring:	Baseline	4 wks	8 wks	12 wks	Annually
Personal/ Family hx	x			x	
Weight [BMI]	x	x	x		
Waist circumference	x		x	x	
Blood Pressure		x	x		
Fasting plasma glucose	x		x	x	
Fasting lipid profile	x		x	x	

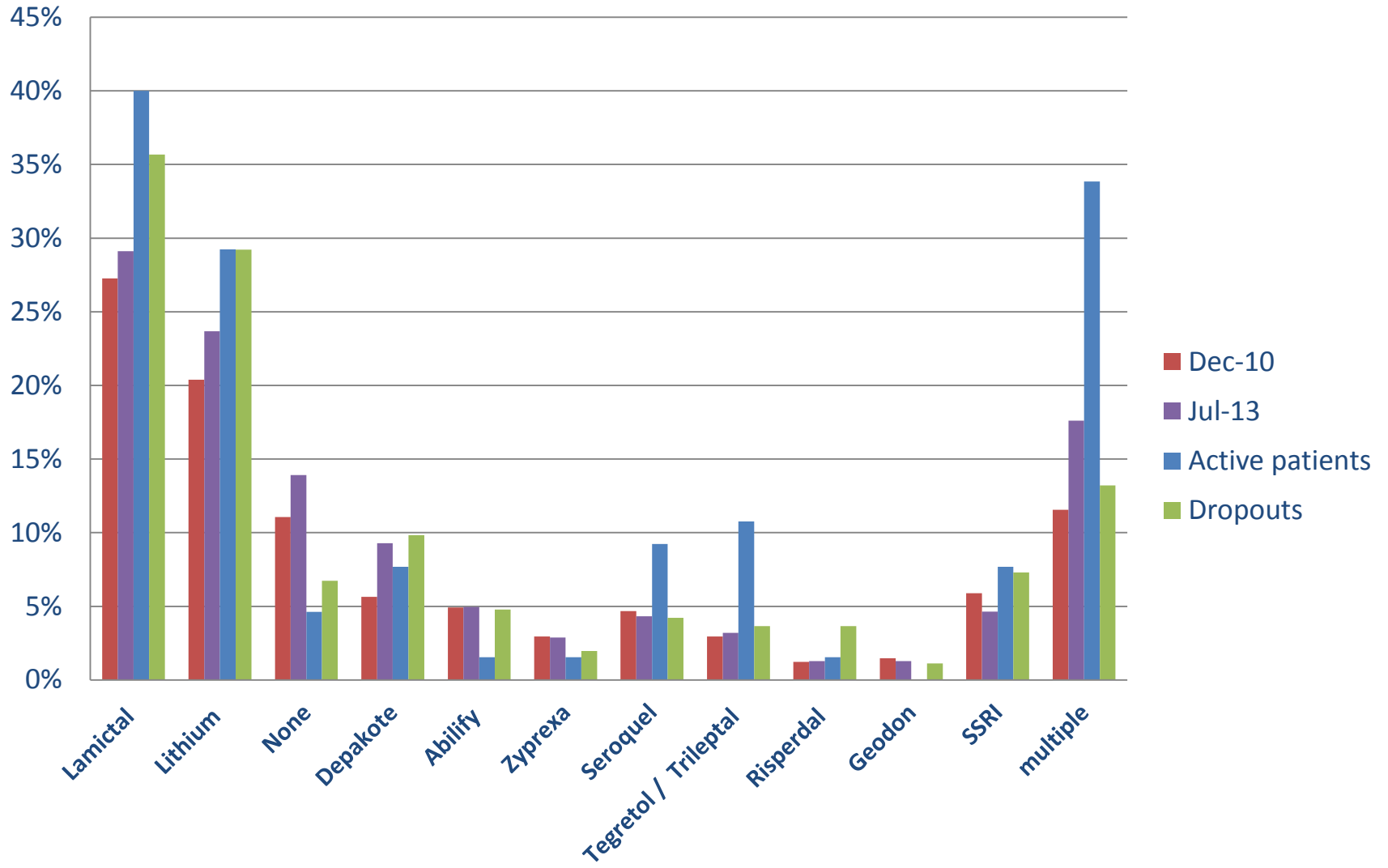
Retention NorthShore Bipolar Patients – a challenge!



Mood Disorder Dx and retention – diagnostic patterns consistent – BP I most likely to stick.



Bipolar meds and retention – reflects prescribing patterns early in treatment, rarely-used antipsychotic polypharmacy



HIGHLIGHTS OF REGIONAL MHC EXPERIENCE

- PCP's haven't decided to do it alone.
- Problems with referrals, funding continue.
- Diagnosis - Mood NOS, or depressed people you don't want to give SSRI.
- Can adequate bipolar mgmt be done - info, monitoring, psychosocial support? So far we have no psychosocial protocol following first appt.
- Can this more intensive work coexist with the short-term immediate-access BHC model?
- Retention.

APPROACHING BIPOLAR DEPRESSION VS ENHANCING MOOD STABILITY

Improving Depression

- Lamictal [not so useful in mixed states]
- Seroquel
 - Metabolic risk
- Lurasidone
- [Olanzapine / fluoxetine]
 - Antidepressant risk
- Avoiding antidepressant

Mood Stabilizers

- Lithium
 - Still the gold standard.
- Depakote
- Carbamazepine
- [Oxcarbazepine]
- Atypical antipsychotics
 - Effective but metabolic risk and risk of TD.

IS POLYPHARMACY WRONG?

- STEP-BD Project found 89% of those successfully treated for bipolar disorder required three medications.

QUESTIONS / CASES?