



Effective Health Care

Depression Treatment after SSRI Failure Nomination Summary Document

Results of Topic Selection Process & Next Steps

- Depression treatment after SSRI failure will go forward for refinement as a comparative effectiveness or effectiveness review. The scope of this topic, including populations, interventions, comparators, and outcomes, will be further developed in the refinement phase.
- When key questions have been drafted, they will be posted on the AHRQ Web site and open for public comment. To sign up for notification when this and other Effective Health Care (EHC) Program topics are posted for public comment, please go to <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/getInvolved.cfm?involytype=subscribe>.

Topic Description

Nominator: Health care professional association

Nomination Summary: The nominator is interested in the most effective therapy for a depressed patient who has not responded to a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI).

Population(s): Adults with a diagnosis of depression

Intervention(s): Treatment of depression after failure with SSRI

Comparator(s): Other antidepressants, cognitive behavioral therapy, or a combination

Outcome(s): Improved symptoms of depression and quality of life, harms associated with treatments and inadequate treatment

Key Questions from Nominator: None

Considerations

- The topic meets all EHC Program selection criteria (For more information, see <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/submit-a-suggestion-for-research/how-are-research-topics-chosen/>.)
- Although there are several existing systematic reviews that address certain areas of this nomination, no comparative effectiveness reviews were identified that compared all the therapies specified by the nominator after SSRI failure and included the most recent trial data. There are more than a dozen

completed, recruiting, and active registered trials listed on clinicaltrials.gov that may be available for a review.