Early Careers and New Data

I am pleased to introduce the inaugural “Early Career Psychiatrists” special section in The Journal of Clinical Psychiatry. The articles in this section represent work in the field by investigators beginning their career trajectories, and we note that they launch this section and their careers with topics at the forefront of clinical psychiatric research.

Two of the articles selected for this section address an important area with broad treatment implications, bipolar disorder and comorbid psychiatric disorders. Wingo and Ghaemi address the important and sometimes controversial topic of comorbidity between attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder and bipolar disorder. In this systematic review of the literature, the authors assess the data in the area and suggest future directions for research. In the Schaffer et al. article, the rate of antidepressant use in individuals with bipolar disorder, despite recommendations to the contrary, is examined, with emphasis on presence or absence of comorbid anxiety disorder.

Saddichha et al. also present data on a timely and clinically relevant topic, the effect of antipsychotic medication on weight, body mass index, and development of obesity in the context of treatment for first-episode schizophrenia.

We welcome comments and feedback regarding the “Early Career Psychiatrists” section. Please address these to Marlene P. Freeman, M.D., at mfreeman@psychiatrist.com.

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