

## Consensus Discussion

**T**he National Consensus Conference on the Pharmacoeconomics of Treatment-Resistant Schizophrenia brought together 48 physicians and health care administrators, working primarily in the public sector in inpatient or mixed inpatient/outpatient settings. During a day-long meeting, this group discussed many issues surrounding the care of the mentally ill population, with particular emphasis on the economic effects of treatment decisions.

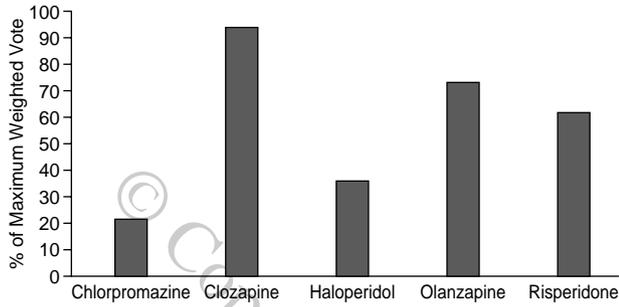
After presentations by the faculty, the group was polled using an electronic interactive system that provided instant feedback and display of results. The graphs that follow represent the responses of the group to key questions posed by the faculty on clinical and economic issues in the management of treatment-resistant schizophrenia. In some cases, the audience could provide more than one answer to a question, to rank-order treatment modalities in terms of effectiveness, safety, or cost-effectiveness. Results of these questions are given as "Percentage of Maximum Weighted Vote"; this indicates the percentage of the maximum possible vote for a particular response under the rank-ordering system.

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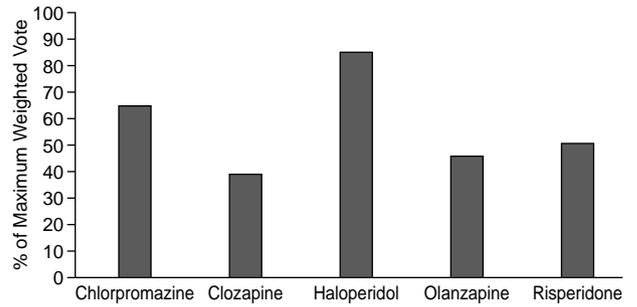
*The National Consensus Conference on the Pharmacoeconomics of Treatment-Resistant Schizophrenia was held October 4, 1997, in Dallas, Tex., and supported by an educational grant from Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation.*

**CLINICAL ISSUES**

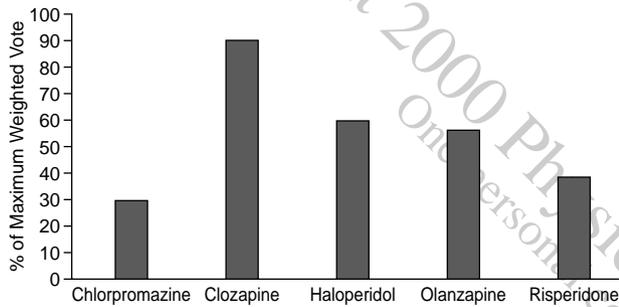
**Figure 1. Which Is the Most Effective Drug for Treatment-Resistant Schizophrenia?**



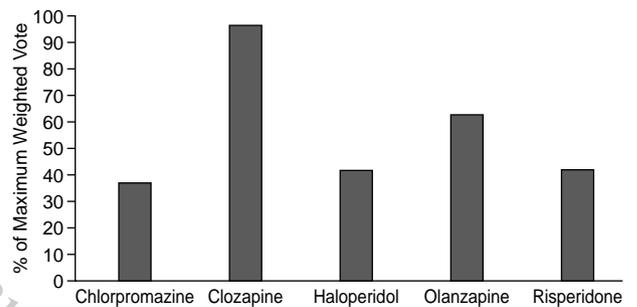
**Figure 4. Which Drug Is Most Likely to Lead to Tardive Dyskinesia With Continued Use?**



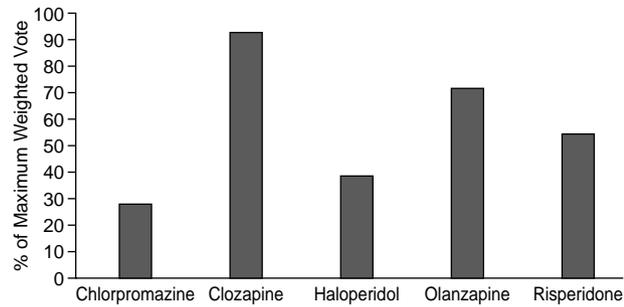
**Figure 2. Which Drug Is Most Likely to Suppress Auditory Hallucinations?**



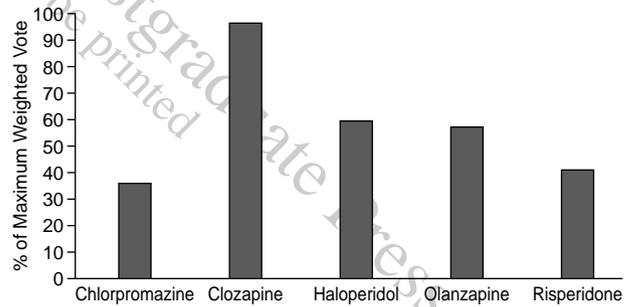
**Figure 5. Which Drug Is Most Likely to Stabilize Mood Swings?**



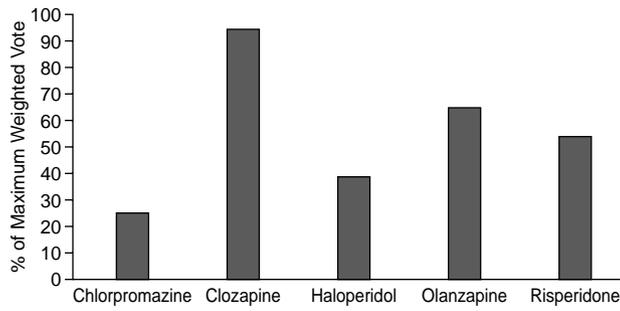
**Figure 3. Which Drug Is Most Likely to Ameliorate Negative Symptoms of Schizophrenia?**



**Figure 6. Which Drug Is Most Likely to Reduce Violent Episodes?**

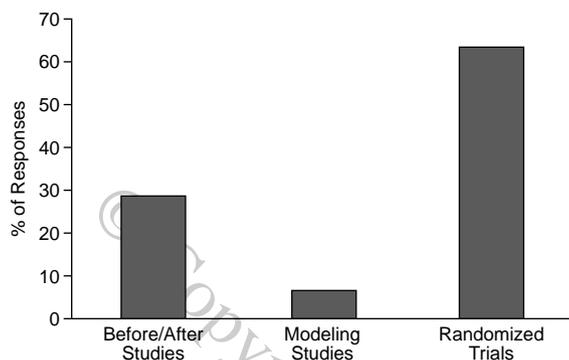


**Figure 7. Which Drug Is Most Likely to Be Effective in Patients With Comorbid Substance Abuse?**

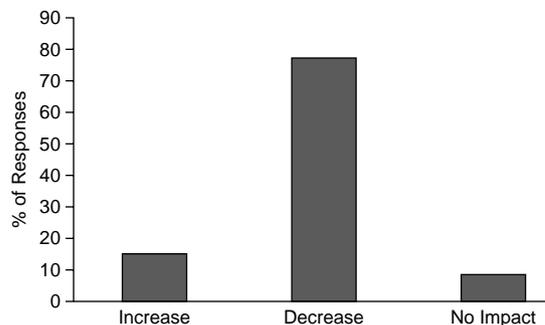


## ECONOMIC ISSUES

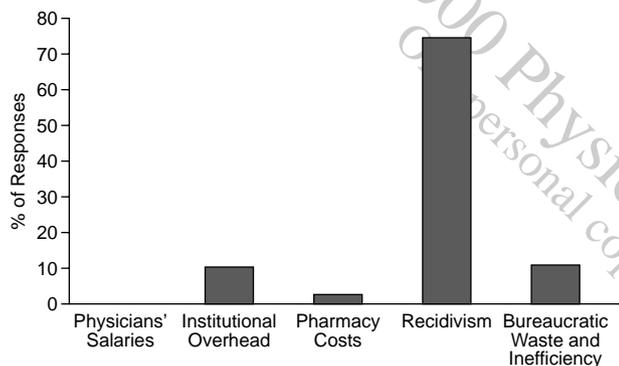
**Figure 8. Which Is the Best Approach for Determining Cost-Effectiveness?**



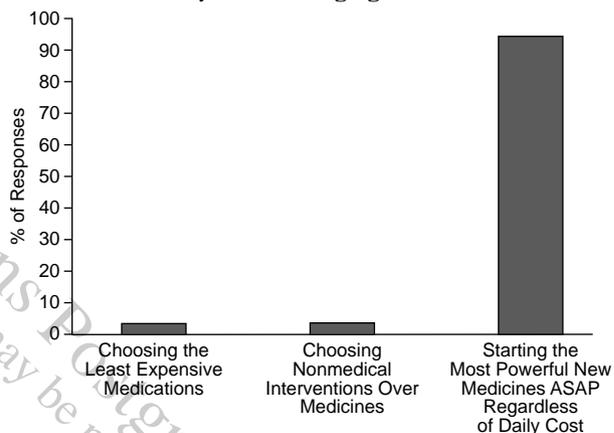
**Figure 10. How Would the Extension of "Good" Health Care Coverage (Both Physical and Psychiatric) to More Persons Affect Health Care Costs?**



**Figure 9. What Is the Most Important Factor in Mental Illness Services Costs?**



**Figure 11. How Can Large Mental Health Delivery Systems Save the Most Money When Managing Serious Mental Illness?**



**Figure 12. In General, When Does Spending on Clozapine Become Cost-Effective?**

