

## Parkinson's Disease and Dementia-Related Psychosis: Safety and Efficacy of Pimavanserin



Pimavanserin (Nuplazid®) is a relatively new antipsychotic agent that became approved by the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) in 2016 for the treatment of psychosis in patients with Parkinson's disease (PD). In a phase 3, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled discontinuation trial ~ 392 patients with psychosis related to Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease dementia, dementia with Lewy bodies, frontotemporal dementia, or vascular dementia either received pimavanserin or a placebo for 12 weeks. Patients who received the treatment drug showed a lower risk of relapses with continuation of the medication when compared to a placebo (hazard ratio, 0.35; 95% confidence interval, 0.17 to 0.73;  $P = 0.005$ ).

Although future trials should be conducted with larger samples sizes and for a longer duration, this study serves as evidence that the use of pimavanserin is efficacious and safe in this patient population and should be considered for the treatment of dementia-related psychosis in those with PD. It was linked to a statically significant decrease in risk of relapses and had a mild side effect profile that includes constipation, headache, urinary tract infection, and asymptomatic QTc prolongation.

Follow this link to read more:

[Trial of Pimavanserin in Dementia-Related Psychosis | NEJM](#)