

Diagnostic & Management Dilemma in Atropine induced Psychosis with Restless Leg Syndrome – A Case Report

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ABSTRACT:

Anticholinergic medications are commonly used yet frequently overlooked as potential causes of isolated neuropsychiatric symptoms. While acute atropine toxicity produces a characteristic peripheral and central anticholinergic toxidrome, chronic low-dose exposure may manifest exclusively with psychotic symptoms. We present a case of a 48-year-old male who developed persistent auditory hallucinations and delusional beliefs following prolonged use of diphenoxylate–atropine. Symptoms resolved rapidly after discontinuation of the medication and initiation of pregabalin for co-existing Restless Leg Syndrome (RLS). This case highlights the importance of considering anticholinergic-induced psychosis in patients presenting with new-onset hallucinations and emphasizes the need for careful review of chronic anticholinergic use before initiating antipsychotic therapy.

KEY WORDS: Anticholinergic Psychosis, Atropine, Restless Leg Syndrome, Substance-Induced Psychosis, Diphenoxylate–Atropine