

COMPLICATED CASE HISTORIES*Key Words: hyponatremia, neuroleptic malignant syndrome, schizophrenia, seclusion, water intoxication*

A Potentially Aborted Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome Following Seclusion Against Uncontrollable Water Intoxication

By Takefumi Suzuki, MD, PhD, Hiroyuki Uchida, MD, PhD, Koichiro Watanabe, MD, PhD, and Haruo Kashima, MD, PhD

ABSTRACT ~ *Water intoxication in schizophrenia poses a great clinical challenge, and occasionally, behavioral restrictions are unavoidable. A patient with refractory schizophrenia comorbid with severe water intoxication had an apparent weight variation of 7 kg/day to 65 kg. As he fell twice, when he had been treated with antipsychotic megadose therapy, he was secluded with restricted water access of 3 L/day. Two days later, consciousness level deteriorated significantly with autonomic instability; however, he was treated with intravenous hydration plus dantrolene and recovered completely on the following day. The sodium/chloride levels and serum osmolarity, which had been abnormally low, normalized abruptly. Only after seclusion was it found that his "dry" weight had been only 52 kg. The first description of such a case was indicative of a potentially aborted neuroleptic malignant syndrome. He is now treated with olanzapine, valproate, and lorazepam, with some success. Caution is required for secluding extreme cases of uncontrollable water intoxication. Psychopharmacology Bulletin. 2008;41(1):164-170.*

Full Text Articles are Available at

http://www.securepay.com/easyshop/index.asp?mMerch_ID=52531&cmDataSource=52531&ESVer=5

Copyright © 2007/2008 by MedWorks Media Global, LLC. All rights reserved.
Thank you.

Dr. Suzuki is affiliated with Department of Neuro-Psychiatry, Keio University, School of Medicine, Shinjuku-Ku, Tokyo, Japan. Dr. Uchida is affiliated with Department of Neuro-Psychiatry, Keio University, School of Medicine, Shinjuku-Ku, Tokyo, Japan and is also affiliated with Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, PET Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Dr. Watanabe and Dr. Kashima are affiliated with the Department of Neuro-Psychiatry, Keio University, School of Medicine, Shinjuku-Ku, Tokyo, Japan.

To whom correspondence should be addressed: Takefumi Suzuki, MD, PhD, Department of Neuro-Psychiatry, Keio University, School of Medicine, 35 Shinanomachi, Shinjuku-Ku, Tokyo 160-8582, Japan; Tel: +81-3-5363-3829; Fax: +81-3-5379-0187; E-mail: takefumi@oak.dti.ne.jp