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Melbourne MD could be charged with manslaughter of wife after attempted cricothyroidotomy

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By [Samar Mahmoud, PhD](#) | Medically reviewed by [Amanda Zeglis, DO, MBA](#)

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Key Takeaways

Anxiety disorders, which include panic disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, social anxiety disorder, and specific phobias, are among the most prevalent classes of psychiatric disorders.

New treatments for anxiety disorders have lagged behind new treatments for other conditions such as major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia.

Clinicians should be on the lookout for several promising therapeutic candidates that are coming down the pipeline for anxiety disorders.

Anxiety disorders are among the most common classes of psychiatric disorders, with estimates suggesting a lifetime prevalence in the US of approximately 32%. The WHO estimates there are

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medications.

A review of current treatments

- **SSRIs and SNRIs.** These are first-line therapeutic options for the treatment of panic disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, and social anxiety disorder. Both classes have been shown to be effective and well-tolerated, with minimal adverse side effects. Buspirone is the only azapirone that is FDA-approved for use in anxiety disorders. It is commonly utilized in conjunction with SSRIs or SNRIs for the treatment of generalized anxiety disorder.
- **Benzodiazepines.** These drugs, which function as GABA-A agonists, are well-established as a treatment for anxiety, but they come with risks of possible tolerance and dependence. Benzodiazepines are not considered first-line monotherapy options for panic disorders or other anxiety disorders but can be used short-term in combination with SSRIs and SNRIs.
- **Antihistamines.** Hydroxyzine is the only antihistamine which is FDA-approved to treat anxiety. Antihistamines are commonly utilized as alternatives to benzodiazepines for the treatment of insomnia, panic attacks, and anxiety.
- **Beta-blockers.** Propranolol is a beta-adrenergic antagonist that is FDA-approved for cardio-

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Gepirone-ER

Gepirone is an azapirone that is currently under a new drug application review by the FDA for the treatment of major depressive disorder. The extended-release (ER) formulation of gepirone is being used to circumvent the occurrence of adverse events that were reported with high peak plasma concentrations. So far, studies with gepirone-ER have shown that it is able to reduce clinical scores of psychic and somatic anxiety in patients who suffer from anxious depression and depression.

Aloradine

Aloradine is currently being developed by Pherin Pharmaceuticals as a nasal spray for the treatment of social anxiety disorder. A randomized clinical trial showed that following an intranasal application, aloradine decreased social interaction and performance anxiety to a greater degree than a placebo during a public-speaking challenge among female patients with generalized social anxiety disorder.

SRX246

SRX246 is a small molecule vasopressin V1A receptor antagonist that reduced reduced anxiety.

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