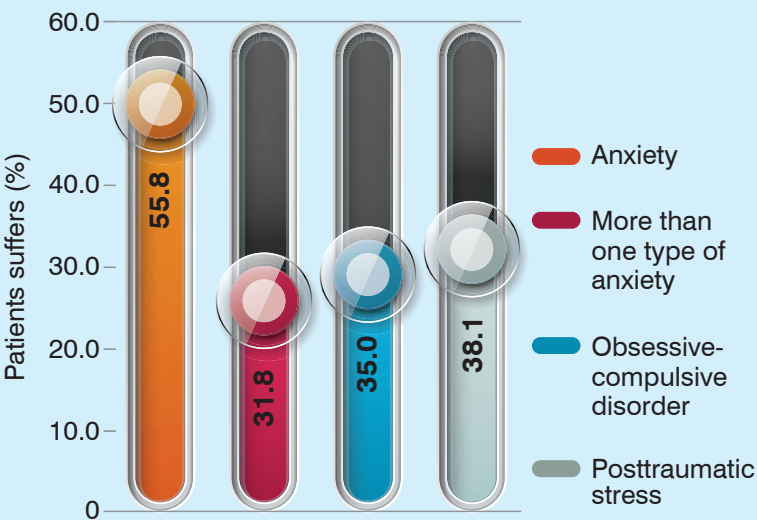


Treatment Challenges Addressed

Is Drug-drug Interaction, A Challenge in Treating Comorbid Condition like Anxiety with BPD?

Comorbidity is the rule, and not the exception in bipolar disorder (BPD).¹ Naturally, successful management of BPD would also warrant timely diagnosis and management of the comorbid conditions. Of the various comorbidities reported for BPD, anxiety disorders are one of the commonest. Multiple anxiety disorders exist as comorbidities in more than 1/3rd of patients with BPD.²

Anxiety: A Commonest Comorbidity of BPD^{3,4}



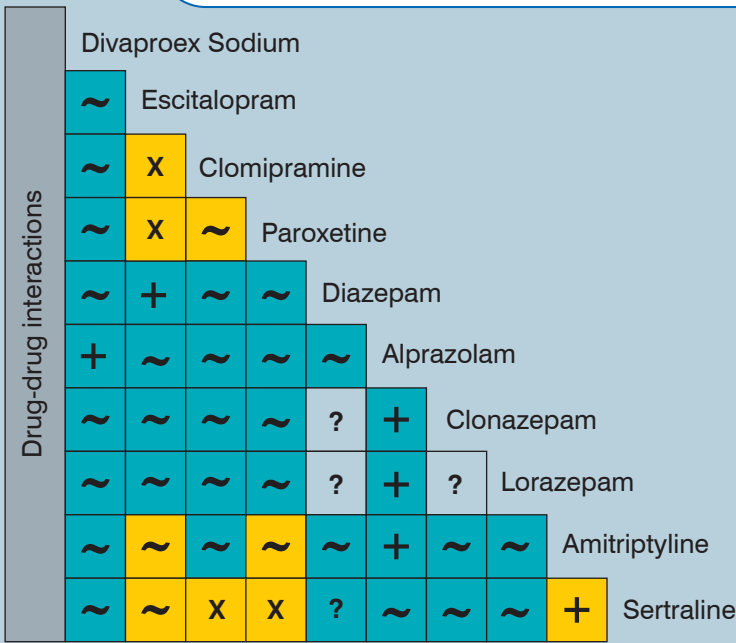
Treatment Challenges

Presence of anxiety and bipolar disorders as co-morbidity aggravates the symptoms of both the disease and have poor prognosis and have frequent remission impacting the overall quality of life of patients. The management of these patients also becomes more challenging due to overlapping adverse events and drug -drug interactions.²

Drug Interaction with Other Psychotropic Drugs used in Anxiety

- Drug-drug interaction studies and pharmacokinetic studies for co-administration of divalproex with other psychotropic medication has shown minor to moderate drug interactions.^{5,6}
- Divalproex does not result in severe interaction with contraindications making its co-administration with anti-anxiety drugs safe with acceptable safety profile.

Drug interactions of Divaproex Sodium and some commonly used Psychotropic drugs used in anxiety^{7,8}



- ~ Possible interaction*
- + Additive effect
- X Not recommended
- ? Interaction unknown

Severe interaction	Minor-to-moderate interaction
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The drug interactions between drugs are represented by the color and the symbol in the column with the drug present in the horizontal line. For e.g.: Divalproex have minor to moderate [Blue color] possible interaction (~) with escitalopram, similarly escitalopram can have minor to moderate [Blue color in column] additive effect (+) with Diazepam.

*Observe precaution & monitor the patients

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Dear Doctor,
On the basis of your clinical experience of managing BPD & co-morbidities, which are the agents for which you would like to know more about their actual or potential interactions.



Please send your requirement to the sender of this article.