



PHARMACOLOGY *education initiative*

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The connection between mental disorders, inflammation, metabolic syndrome and antipsychotic treatment

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Abstract

Schizophrenia and related psychotic disorders involve interactions among immune dysregulation, metabolic changes, and antipsychotic effects. Inflammation and metabolic imbalance are detectable from the first psychotic episode and may progress over time.

Elevated plasma EN-RAGE, altered kynurenine-pathway metabolites, and amino-acid and biogenic-amine disturbances point to early immune–metabolic changes that may affect glutamatergic signaling and neurotoxicity risk. During treatment, metabolic health may deteriorate, while components of the expanded endocannabinoid system also change.

Pre-existing vulnerabilities in lipid and energy regulation may contribute to medication-associated weight gain. These findings could guide biomarker development and more personalized, metabolically safer treatment.



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