

A COMPARISON OF DEPRESSION MEDICATIONS

		Anti-colinergic	Sleepy	Insomnial/Aggitation	Orthostatic Hypotension	QT	GI	Weight Gain	Sexual	Approx. cost per month	Comments
SSRI	Citalopram/ Escitalopram (Celexa/Lexapro)	0	0	1+	1+	1+	1+	1+	3+	\$4 \$20	Escitalopram (Lexapro) is the S isomer of citalopram. Citalopram is cheaper.
	Fluoxetine (Prozac)	0	0	2+	1+	1+	1+	1+	3+	\$4	Has the longest half-life. Therefore, caution with using in elderly
	Paroxetine (Paxil)	1+	1+	1+	2+	1+	1+	2+	4+	\$4	Shortest half-life. Pregnancy class D
	Sertraline (Zoloft)	0	0	2+	1+	1+	2+	1+	3+	\$10	Has many other indications besides depression such as panic disorder
DOPAMINE NOREPINEPHRINE REUPTAKE INHIBITOR	Bupropion (Wellbutrin)	0	0	2+	0	1+	1+	0	0	\$30	Frequently used as adjunct to SSRIs for depression. Also used for tobacco cessation. Can decrease seizure threshold
SNRI	Venlafaxine ER (Effexor XR)	0	0	2+	0	1+	2+	0	3+	\$19	May increase blood pressure
SEROTONIN MODULATOR	Trazodone	0	4+	0	1+ or 3+	1+ or 2+	1+ or 3+	1+ or 2+	1+	\$4	Often used off-label for treating insomnia. Doses for treating insomnia are much lower.
NORADRENERGIC AND SPECIFIC SEROTONERGIC ANTIDEPRESSANT	Mirtazapine (Remeron)	1+	4+	0	0	1+	0	4+	1+	\$15	May be reasonable to start on undernourished patients
TCA	Amitriptyline (Elavil)	4+	4+	0	3+	3+	1+	4+	3+	\$4	Lethal in overdose. Also used for treating migraines and chronic pain.