

inguino-sacrotal hernia repair with mesh reconstruction. Psychiatric history was significant for past suicide attempts, including a self-defenestration leading to traumatic brain injury, aggression towards his elderly father and past clozapine-induced neutropenia. He was an ex-smoker. Medications included clozapine 100 mg twice daily, amisulpride 200 mg twice daily, lithium carbonate 625 mg once daily, and hyoscine hydrobromide 300 mcg twice daily.

Postoperatively, the patient developed constipation and abdominal distension consistent with a paralytic ileus. He was placed nil by mouth and managed with nasogastric decompression. During a three-day lapse in antipsychotic treatment on the surgical ward, his mental health deteriorated, presenting with acute psychotic symptoms. The patient lacked insight into his mental health at this time.

Given the failure of alternative antipsychotics previously, the multidisciplinary team (MDT) faced a complex risk-benefit analysis. The potential dangers of reintroducing clozapine, including worsening ileus, were weighed against its irreplaceable role in managing his psychosis, suicidality, and aggression. Ultimately, clozapine was restarted cautiously with haematological and gastrointestinal response closely monitored. Psychosis subsequently improved with no recurrence of ileus, allowing him to continue clozapine treatment.

**Results:** This case highlights the complexities of managing antipsychotic treatment in patients with comorbid physical conditions. Clozapine's advantage of reducing suicidality and violence were balanced with its potent anticholinergic activity, warranting caution in patients at risk of gastrointestinal complications. The decision to restart clozapine was made after evaluating the significant risks of psychotic relapse. Close MDT monitoring facilitated safe reintroduction, demonstrating necessary case-by-case risk assessments when managing antipsychotics in medically vulnerable patients.

**Conclusion:** Rechallenging clozapine posed significant clinical and ethical challenges, requiring an evidence-based MDT approach. This case underscores the importance of balancing psychiatric needs with medical risks, particularly in treatment-resistant schizophrenia. It also highlights the role of ongoing monitoring and individualised treatment plans in managing complex psychopharmacological decisions. Further studies are warranted to explore safety of clozapine in patients with gastrointestinal-motility disorders.

Abstracts were reviewed by the RCPsych Academic Faculty rather than by the standard *BJPsych Open* peer review process and should not be quoted as peer-reviewed by *BJPsych Open* in any subsequent publication.

## Psychosis Triggered by Intensive Meditation: A Case Report and Review of Risk Factors

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**Aims:** Meditation is widely regarded as a beneficial practice for mental well-being, but intensive forms, such as those practiced during retreats, can pose risks. In vulnerable individuals, prolonged meditation may trigger psychosis. This case explores a psychotic episode in a previously healthy individual during an intensive meditation retreat, with a focus on clinical presentation, management, and implications for practice.

**Methods:** Case report.

**Patient overview:** Demographics: Female, 31 years old, with no ongoing mental health treatment. Psychiatric history: Previous drug-

induced psychosis 6 years ago, resolved without recurrence. Substance use: Denied drug use since the prior episode. Admission toxicology screening (urine drug screen) was negative.

**Retreat context:** Attended a 7-day meditation retreat involving intensive mindfulness practices, minimal social interaction, and prolonged sitting meditations. Psychotic symptoms began after 3 days, prompting early withdrawal from the retreat.

**Clinical presentation:** Visual hallucinations: Reported seeing people's faces transform into demonic appearances. Auditory hallucinations: Hearing voices reinforcing delusions. Persecutory delusions: Believed she and her family were in grave danger, and that her death was the only way to save them. Behavioural changes: Heightened distress and withdrawal from the retreat.

**Management and outcome:** Admitted to the psychiatric unit. Started on olanzapine 5 mg daily. Rapid symptom resolution within 6 days. Discharged with no residual psychotic symptoms.

**Literature review:** Intense meditation practices, especially during retreats, can lead to adverse psychological effects, including psychosis, depersonalisation, and emotional dysregulation. Risk factors identified in literature:

Pre-existing vulnerability (e.g., history of psychosis or trauma).

Retreat conditions (e.g., fasting, sleep deprivation, and isolation).

Lack of individualised guidance or screening.

Meditation-induced psychosis has been noted to present with symptoms such as hallucinations, paranoia, and altered states of consciousness. Recovery is typically rapid with antipsychotic treatment.

**Results:** Mechanisms: Prolonged meditation may disrupt normal cognitive and emotional regulation, leading to altered reality testing. Psychotic symptoms could result from sensory deprivation, emotional overload, or resurfacing of unresolved trauma.

**Case-specific insights:** While the patient had a history of drug-induced psychosis, her 6-year symptom-free period and negative toxicology suggest that meditation-induced stress was the primary trigger. The rapid response to low-dose olanzapine highlights the transient nature of the condition.

**Implications for practice:** Pre-retreat mental health screenings are crucial to identify vulnerable individuals. Retreats should offer tailored practices and provide professional mental health support. Awareness among clinicians is necessary to distinguish between culturally induced altered states and pathological psychosis.

**Conclusion:** This case underscores the potential for intensive meditation to induce psychosis, even in individuals without active mental illness. Clinicians and meditation facilitators must collaborate to mitigate risks, particularly for individuals with prior psychiatric vulnerabilities.

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## The Role of Doxazosin in PTSD-Related Nightmares: A Case of Comorbid Anorexia Nervosa

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**Aims:** This case involves a 32-year-old female with a history of Anorexia Nervosa and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) admitted for restricted eating. During admission, she reported worsening PTSD symptoms, including nightmares, linked to a reduction in her doxazosin dose. Doxazosin, an alpha-1 adrenergic antagonist, is used off-label to treat PTSD-related nightmares by