**Escitalopram for Agitation in Alzheimer’s Disease (S-CitAD)**

This is a phase III, double-masked, randomized, placebo-controlled, multicenter clinical trial sponsored by the National Institute on Aging (NIA). This study is designed to examine the efficacy and safety of escitalopram as treatment for agitation in Alzheimer's dementia patients. Participants with clinically significant agitation, and their caregiver(s), will start by receiving a structured psychosocial intervention. Participants *not* showing a response three weeks later will be randomized to the study drug. Patients will be unmasked after week 12. Participants who do show a response to the psychosocial intervention will not be randomized to study drug but will be followed for the 24-week follow-up period.

**Category:** Alzheimer’s Disease Research

**Study Population:** Individuals with a current diagnosis of Alzheimer’s Disease, experiencing agitation

**Study Length:** Approximately 6 months – will include 6 in-clinic visits and 7 telephone visits

**Requirements:**

* Adults 18 or older
* Volunteers must have a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s Disease Dementia
* Volunteers must be experiencing feelings of agitation, irritability, restlessness, frustration, or anger
* Volunteers cannot have a medication contraindication to treatment with escitalopram as determined by a study physician, such as recent (30 days) use of monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) or potential participant is hypersensitive to escitalopram or citalopram or any inactive ingredients.
* A study partner (family member, close friend, caregiver) who has frequent contact with the patient and can accompany him/her to most study visits is required.
* Must sign an informed consent document indicating that he or she understands the purpose of the study, procedures required, and is willing to participate in the study.

**Benefits:**

If you are assigned to the group that receives the treatment drug, you may benefit from participating in this study, but that cannot be guaranteed. Participation in this study may help to improve your condition, but it is also possible that your condition may not improve or may worsen. Participants will be given high quality, expert medical care, free of cost. By taking part in this study, you will assist in finding treatments for agitation caused by Alzheimer’s disease.

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