

# EDUCATION AND CONSULTATIVE SERVICES

of UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital

## PRESENTATION FORM

### Presenter Bio

Please include your full name, credentials, degrees and information about your position and place of employment. **Please send a copy of your CV along with this completed form.**

**Candace Fraser DO** is an attending psychiatrist on the geriatric inpatient unit at Western Psychiatric Hospital and in the geriatric psychiatry outpatient clinic at Benedum Geriatric Clinic. She has experience working in nursing home settings as well. She also teaches psychiatry residents and University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine students.

**Christine Sun** is a current PGY2 psychiatric pharmacy resident at UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital. She graduated and received her PharmD from the University of Pittsburgh's School of Pharmacy and completed her PGY1 pharmacy residency at UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital. Christine's professional interests include psychiatry, specifically geriatric psychiatry and acute psychosis, long-acting injectable antipsychotic use, and pharmacogenomics.

### Name and Narrative Description of your Presentation

**Please determine if it is introductory, intermediate, or advanced.**

**Name:** A New Treatment for an Old Problem: Brexpiprazole for Agitation Associated with Dementia

**Narrative Description:** Agitation can be a challenging aspect of caring for patients with dementia and can lead to increased caregiver burden. Previously, no pharmacologic treatment options were FDA-approved for agitation associated with dementia. In 2023, brexpiprazole became the first medication to receive FDA-approval for this indication, specifically in patients with agitation associated with Alzheimer's disease dementia. This presentation will review pharmacologic agents currently used in practice to treat agitation associated with dementia, how brexpiprazole differs from existing agents, and the barriers to brexpiprazole's use in this patient population.

**Level:** Intermediate

### Three (3) learning objectives

By the completion of this session, participants should be able to:

1. Identify pharmacological approaches for agitation in patients with dementia
2. Identify safety profile of the newly approved brexpiprazole for agitation associated with dementia
3. Understand the challenges/barriers to brexpiprazole's use for agitation associated with dementia in practice

### Three (3) current (within the past 10 years) peer-reviewed publications that support the evidencebase for the content of your presentation

Publications must be listed in American Psychological Association (APA) Style (see [www.apastyle.org](http://www.apastyle.org) for more information).

APA format for journal article citation:

Author last name, Author First Initial. Author Second Initial. (Publication Year). Title of article. *Title of Journal*. volume(issue) (if issue numbered), pages.

1. Grossberg, G.T. (2020). Efficacy and Safety of Brexpiprazole for the Treatment of Agitation in Alzheimer's Dementia: Two 12-Week, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Trials. *Am J Geiatr Psychiatry*. 28(4),383-400.
2. Yunusa, I. (2022). Comparative Outcomes of Commonly Used Off-Label Atypical Antipsychotics in the Treatment of Dementia-Related Psychosis: A Network Meta-analysis. *Adv Ther*. 39(5), 1993-2008.
3. Chen, A. (2021). The Psychopharmacology Algorithm Project at the Harvard South Shore Program: An Update on Management of Behavioral and Psychological Symptoms in Dementia. *Psychiatry Res*. 295:113641.