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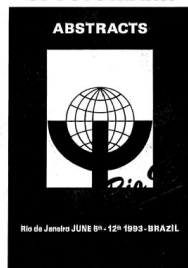
**NATIONAL PRESCRIBING PATTERNS OF  
PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATIONS BY  
PSYCHIATRIST IN AFFECTIVE DISORDERS**

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Limited evidence exists as to why the psychiatrist chooses a determined treatment for affective disorders. The present study intends to give information regarding the psychotropic medications most frequently prescribed within four categories. 145 psychiatrists were interviewed with a standard questionnaire by psychiatrists of the Psychopharmacology Section of the Argentinian Psychiatric Association. 77% use the four groups of psychoactive agents for the bipolar disorder, while 48% use them for unipolar depression. In bipolar depression 34,3% of antidepressants are used, 27,7% of electroconvulsive-therapy, 25,6% of anxiolytics, and equal rates (20%) of antipsychotics and mood-stabilizing drugs (57,8% of lithium and 42,3% of carbamazepine). Effective and urgent preparation in the graduate and postgraduate levels of psychopharmacology education, is essential, as is proper institutional counseling in order to achieve adequate psychopharmacology prevention and treatment of affective disorders.

**9<sup>th</sup> WORLD CONGRESS  
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