

MEETING ABSTRACT

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EPA in schizophrenia and violence

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This lecture will describe the role of EPA in schizophrenia and violence by first considering fatty acid metabolism abnormalities in violence and in schizophrenia.

The results of the first ³¹-phosphorus magnetic resonance spectroscopy study of cerebral metabolism in patients with schizophrenia who have seriously and dangerously violently offended will then be described, which found a significantly lower beta-NTP and significantly higher gamma-NTP level in the patient group compared with age- and gender-matched control subjects. To explore these findings further, the relationship between these neurospectroscopy results and the volumetric niacin response (VNR) was studied. A significant negative correlation (Spearman $r = -0.78$, $P < 0.005$) was found between the VNR and cerebral Pi. The implications of this finding will be discussed. The further findings of our group relating to motion-restricted membrane phospholipids in the brain, measures of oxidative stress and changes in brain structure in patients with schizophrenia who have seriously and dangerously violently offended will be detailed.

Finally, the implications of our results for the role of EPA in schizophrenia and violence will be described.

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