

what was prozac originally used for

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Doctors have prescribed them to everyone from pensioners to preteens for everything from PMS to fear of public speaking. The drugs were a massive success. Adolescent depression is particularly difficult, since gaining consent to study interventions in children is more complicated than it is in adults. The disease manifests differently in kids: As Peter Kramer wrote in *Listening to Prozac*, "Prozac enjoyed the career of a true celebrity -- renown, followed by rumors, then notoriety, scandal, and lawsuits, and finally a quiet rehabilitation. In contrast to the obscure antidepressants of generations past, Newsweek noted in , "Prozac has attained the familiarity of Kleenex and the social status of spring water. They may increase suicidal thoughts and behavior. But the very idea of a drug so powerful and transformative inevitably had its naysayers. Some previously sound patients reported turning violent or fantasizing about killing themselves after starting the drug and used a "Prozac defense" in court. Of course, this is a high-cost intervention in terms of both dollars and time invested, and it may not always be readily available but the upside is that there is no reason to believe it is harmful. Peter Kramer of Brown University asked that question in his best-selling book, *Listening to Prozac*. A drug that makes patients feel "better than well," he suggested, might give rise to a new era of "cosmetic psychopharmacology," in which reshaping your personality would be as easy as highlighting your hair. Untangling this cause and effect has thus far eluded researchers, though there is some evidence to suggest that antidepressants spark a chemical reaction in the brain that does in fact increase the risk of suicide. Methods such as cognitive behavioral therapy, in which psychiatrists help patients overcome destructive behaviors and thought patterns, and interpersonal therapy, which focuses more on the effect depression has on relationships, seem to be equally effective in treating depression, particularly in adolescents. SSRIs provided relief for the same percentage of patients as their predecessors did but were easier to prescribe without risking overdose and had fewer side effects. Whereas adults might report feeling apathetic, unmotivated, unfocused, and just plain sad, children with this disorder tend to be irritable and aggressive and as a result have trouble navigating social situations with adults and peers. Researchers have long worried about the effects of psychoactive drugs on people whose brains are still developing. New research out of Oxford helps confirm this and then some: And because it seemed to go beyond treating illness and actually improve people, to be a facelift for the character, it gained the status of a celebrity. Aug 29, - Prozac was first introduced to the U.S. market in by the Eli Lilly Company and quickly become the most widely prescribed antidepressant. *Nat Rev Drug Discov. Sep;4(9) Case history: the discovery of fluoxetine hydrochloride (Prozac). Wong DT(1), Perry KW, Bymaster FP. Author information: (1)Department of Psychiatry, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis , USA. dtwongindy@rubeninorchids.com* In the early s, evidence of the. Jan 7, - Critics complained Prozac and its siblings were prescribed too liberally and were still unproven. Some previously sound patients reported turning violent or fantasizing about killing themselves after starting the drug and used a "Prozac defense" in court. Others appeared on talk shows calling themselves. Feb 9, - Prozac, having failed as an antihypertensive then anti-obesity drug, was marketed as an antidepressant after it lifted the spirits of five mildly depressed volunteers according to this article in the U.K. Mail. The drug, 25 years later, is marketed as a near-panacea despite warnings that it does not actually work. Within two years, pharmacies were filling 65, Prozac prescriptions per month -- in the United States alone. Within five years, million Americans had taken it. This was the fastest acceptance ever for a psychiatric drug. And because it seemed to go beyond treating illness and actually improve people, to be a facelift for. The first of a new class of drugs called selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) to be approved for use in the U.S., Prozac revolutionized the treatment of depression and several other mental disorders. Since its introduction in , it has been approved and marketed in more than 90 countries and used by more than. Apr 19, - In , a year after the Food and Drug Administration approved Prozac, 2,, prescriptions for it were dispensed in America. By , that number had risen to 33,, By , antidepressants were the third-most-common prescription drug taken in America. Fast forward to and the same. Apr 1, - One in ten Americans takes an anti-depressant drug like Zoloft or Prozac. These drugs have been shown to Iproniazid, used to treat

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tuberculosis, seemed to improve patients' moods, while reserpine, originally used to manage high blood pressure, appeared to mimic depression. Just why either of these. Apr 3, - Prozac (fluoxetine) is a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRI) antidepressant. Fluoxetine affects chemicals in the brain that may be unbalanced in people with depression, panic, anxiety, or obsessive-compulsive symptoms. Prozac is used to treat major depressive disorder, bulimia nervosa (an. Feb 7, - 'Instant hit': Demand for Prozac as a treatment for depression continues to rise, despite the fact it was originally intended as a blood-pressure pill. Prozac It is now also used for a range of other psychological ailments, including obsessive compulsive disorder, eating problems, panic disorders and severe.