3-95 Antipsychotics and time of onset

TIPS Question:

As psychotropics take a long time to take effect in elderly, are there other therapies (meds) that have a shorter action time until the antipsychotics kick in?

Response:

Time of onset varies in respect to your target symptoms. Sedation may occur in terms of hours while decreasing the psychosis may take weeks.

I wish there were faster means (drugs) in dealing with the psychosis but to my knowledge, there is not. However, your support, ability to provide a structured, secure environment, eliminating other contributors in the environment or eliminating physical causes and medication contributing to the problems can and will be critical.

Please note: *TIPS information should be used similar to the way you would use information from a text book! TIPS is not intended to serve as an individual consultation service! P.I.E.C.E.S. participants should use this information in context and always work closely with the family physician involved in the care of the resident or client and with other Partners In Care to find solutions to individual resident/client issues.*