

239 - References

References

240 The Maudsley® Prescribing Guidelines in Psychiatry CHAPTER 1 Serious cardiac adverse effects See section on clozapine: serious cardiovascular adverse effects in this chapter. Patients should be closely observed for signs or symptoms of myocarditis, particularly during the first month,⁷ and advised to inform staff if they experience cardiac symptoms and to seek out-of-hours review if necessary. These symptoms include persistent tachycardia (although commonly benign), palpitations, shortness of breath, fever, arrhythmia, symptoms mimicking myocardial infarction, chest pain, unusually low blood pressure and other unexplained symptoms of heart failure. Myocarditis risk is probably lower when using the slow titrations used in the community.⁸

References

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Revision #1

Created 2026-01-04 20:13:23 UTC by Omar Ayman

Updated 2026-01-04 20:13:23 UTC by Omar Ayman