

tardive dyskinesia can be precipitated by "drug holiday". There may also be relapse of schizophrenia, which is sometimes called dopaminergic supersensitivity psychosis (Chouinard and Jones, 1980), as well as physical complications (Kitamura, 1976) as a rebound phenomenon.

If, on the other hand, four-day-a-week medication is recommended because of pimozone's half life as long as 50 hours, then why not prescribe pimozone once every other day?

TOSHINORI KITAMURA
Department of Neuropsychiatry,
School of Medicine,
Keio Gijuku University,
Tokyo, Japan

References

CHOUINARD, G. & JONES, B. D. (1980) Neuroleptic-induced supersensitivity psychosis: Clinical and pharmacologic characteristics. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 136, 16-21.
KITAMURA, T. (1976) Is the 'drug holiday' harmful? *Keio Journal of Medicine*, 25, 131-7.

INTERMITTENT PIMOZIDE IN CHRONIC SCHIZOPHRENIA

DEAR SIR,

I read Dr McCreadie and his colleagues' recent paper (*Journal*, December, 1980, 137, 510-517) with great interest. Although it is cost saving, intermittent antipsychotic medication ('drug holiday') may be hazardous. Dr McCreadie rightly pointed out that