Anatomy of an Epidemic: Magic Bullets, Psychiatric Drugs, and the Astonishing Rise of Mental Illness in America

MGH Psychiatry Grand Rounds, January 13, 2011

Martin Harrow's Long-Term Study of Psychotic Patients

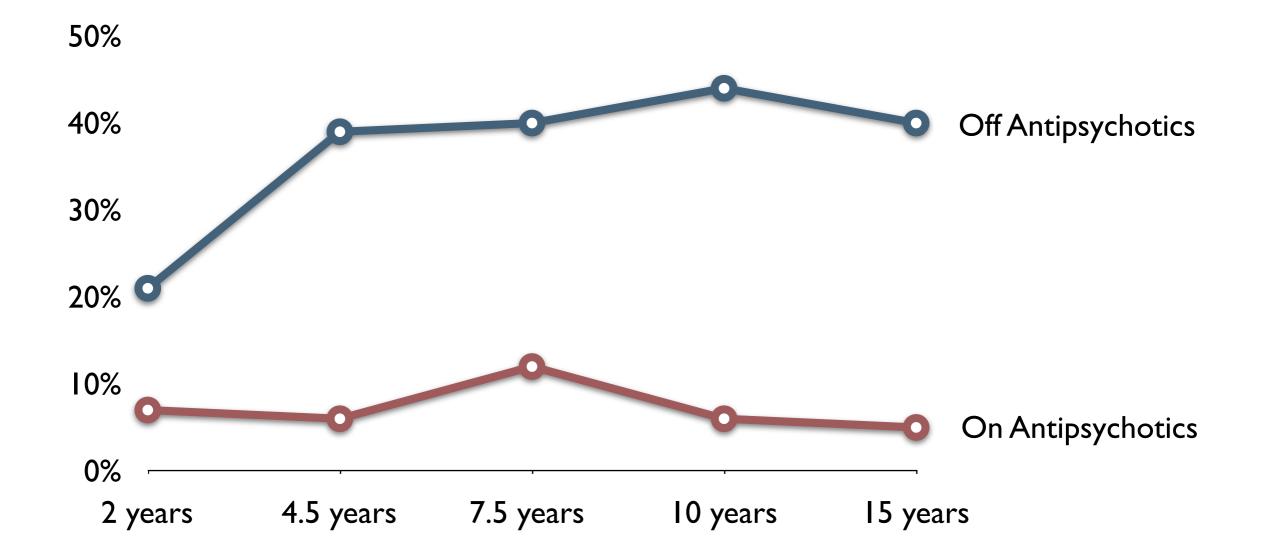
Patient Enrollment

- 64 schizophrenia patients
- 81 patients with other psychotic disorders
 37 psychotic bipolar patients
 28 unipolar psychotic patients
 16 other milder psychotic disorders
- Median age of 22.9 years at index hospitalization
- Previous hospitalization

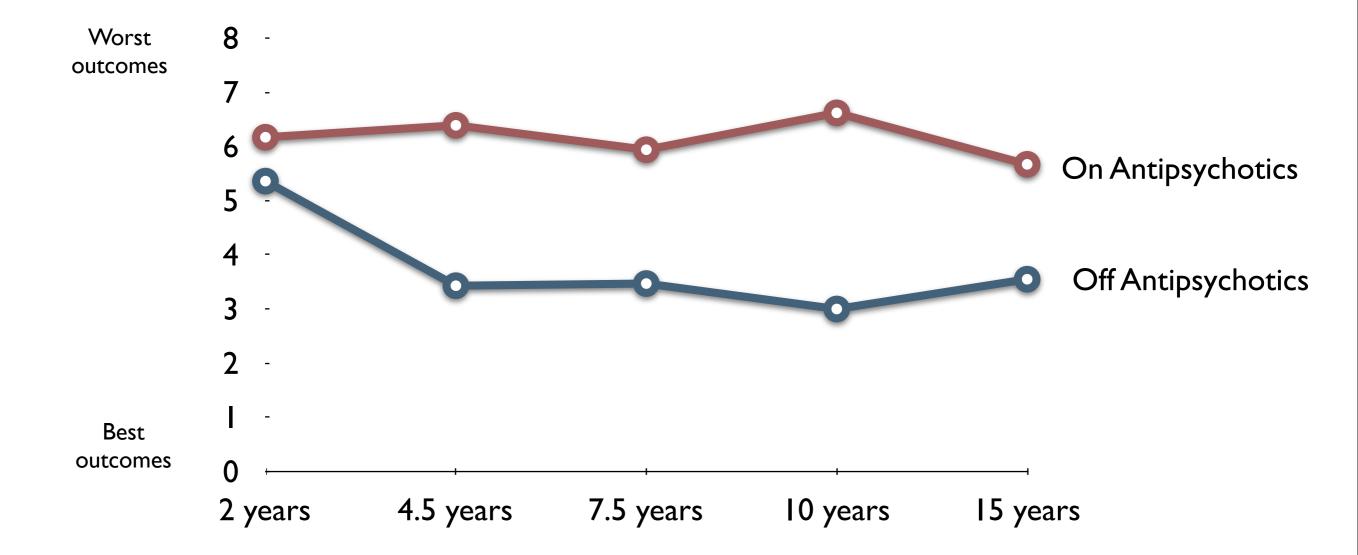
46% first hospitalization 21% one previous hospitalization

- 21% one previous nospitalization
- 33% two or more previous hospitalizations

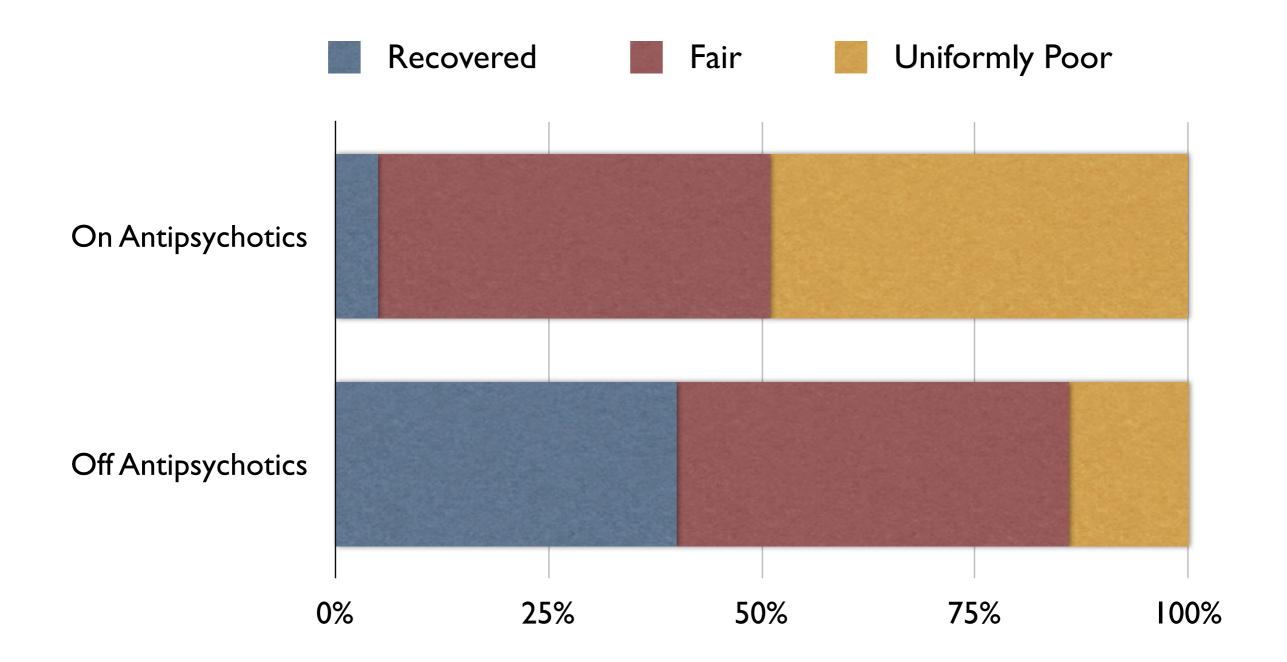
Long-term Recovery Rates for Schizophrenia Patients

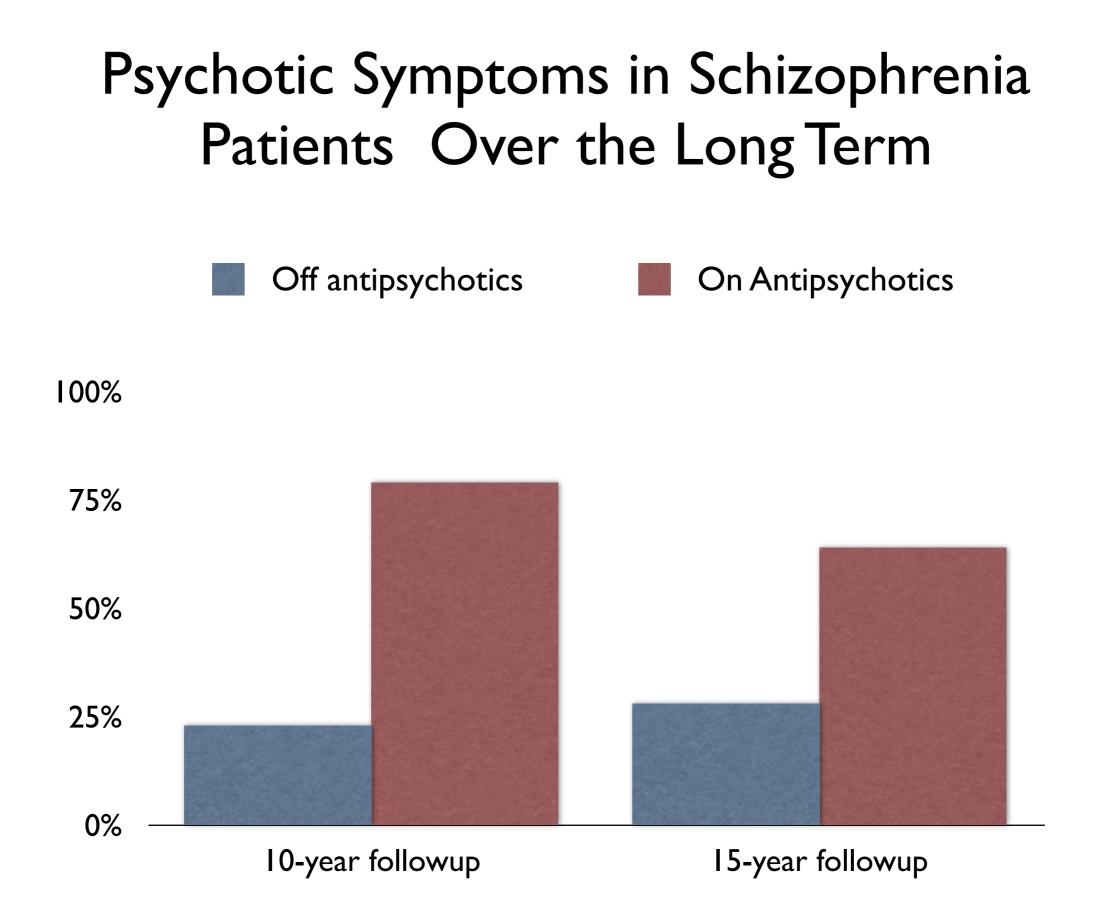


Global Adjustment of Schizophrenia Patients

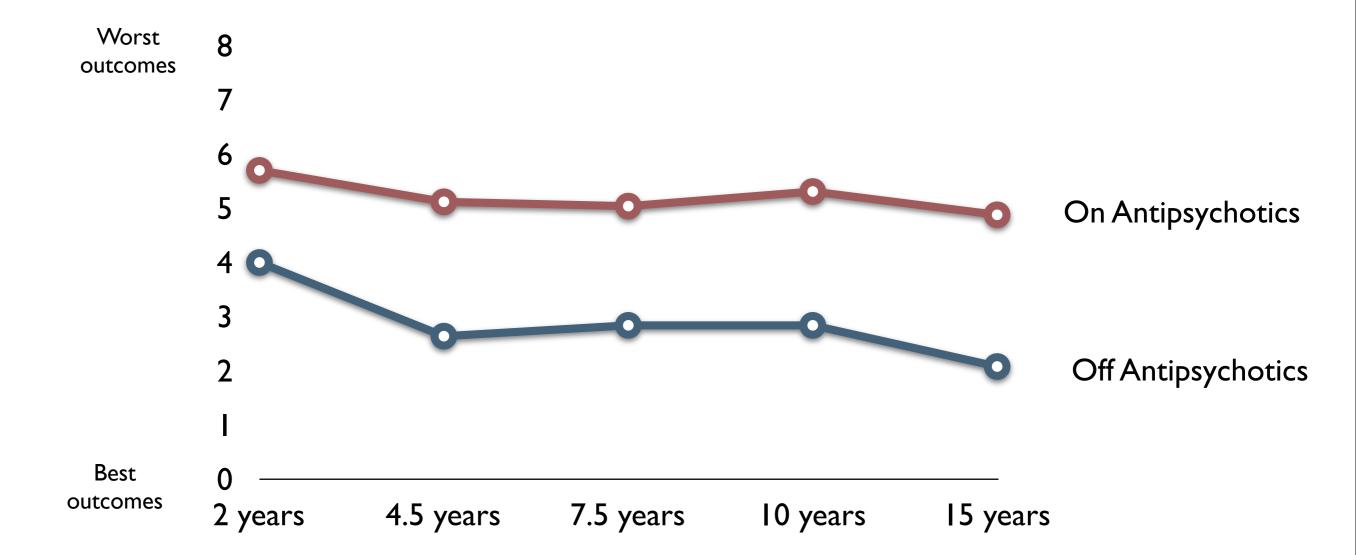


Spectrum of Outcomes in Harrow's Study

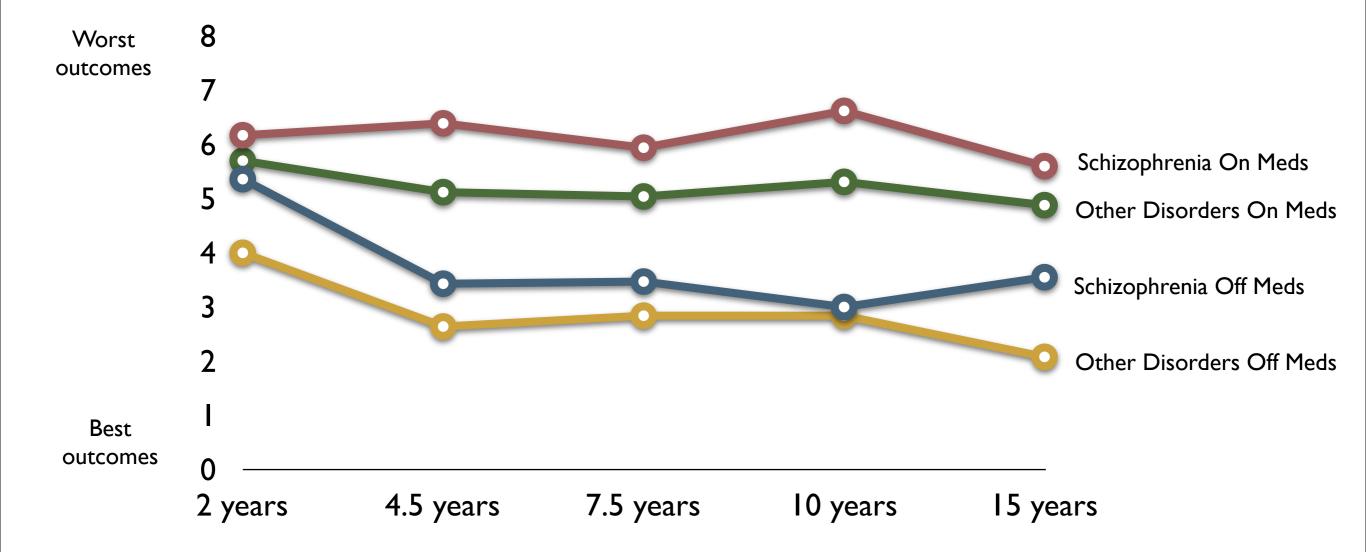




Global Adjustment of "Other Psychotic" Patients



Global Adjustment of All Psychotic Patients



Source: Harrow M. "Factors involved in outcome and recovery in schizophrenia patients not on antipsychotic medications." Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease 195 (2007):406-14.

Tuesday, January 11, 2011

"In addition, global outcome for the group of patients with schizophrenia who were on antipsychotics was compared with the offmedication schizophrenia patients with similar prognostic status. Starting with the 4.5-year follow-up and extending to the 15year follow-up, the off-medication subgroup tended to show better global outcomes at each followup."

Martin Harrow, page 411.

Five-Year Outcomes for First-Episode Psychotic Patients in Finnish Western Lapland Treated with Open-Dialogue Therapy

Patients (N=75)	
Schizophrenia (N=30)	
Other psychotic disorders (N=45)	
Antipsychotic use	
Never exposed to antipsychotics	67%
Occasional use during five years	33%
Ongoing use at end of five years	20%
Psychotic symptoms	
Never relapsed during five years	67%
Asymptomatic at five-year followup	79%
Functional outcomes at five years	
Working or in school	73%
Unemployed	7%
On disability	20%

Source: Seikkula, J. "Five-year experience of first-episode nonaffective psychosis in open-dialogue approach." *Psychotherapy Research* 16 (2006):214-28.