

Web supplement

Table 1. Placebo-Controlled Trials of IBS Medications

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
Loperamide ⁷	N=60; males and females; IBS-All	4 mg QHS; 3 wks	RCT double-blind	<p>Global Improvement:</p> <p>Significant improvement</p> <p>Abdominal Pain:</p> <p>Significant decrease in days with colicky pain in subgroup of N=21 with IBS-A and abdominal pain</p> <p>Stool Form/Consistency:</p> <p>Significant improvement in stool in subgrps of N=16 IBS-painless diarrhea and N=21 with IBS-A and abdominal pain</p> <p>Frequency:</p> <p>Significant improvement in stool frequency in</p>

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
				subgrps of N=16 IBS-painless diarrhea and N=21 with IBS-A and abdominal pain
Loperamide ⁸	N=28; males and females; IBS-All	2 mg BID, then titrate to max 12 mg; 5 wks (mean dose dose ~ 4.8 mg/d)	RCT double-blind crossover	Stool Form/Consistency, Urgency, Frequency, Borborygmi: Significant improvement
Loperamide ⁹	N=90; males and females; IBS-All	2 mg QHS, then titrate to max 6 mg; 5 wks (mean dose dose ~ 3 mg/d)	RCT double-blind	Stool Form/Consistency, Frequency: Significant improvement
Loperamide ⁴⁷	N=25; males and females; IBS-D	2 mg QHS, titrated Qwk to max 8 mg	RCT double blind	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain, Stool Form/Consistency, Urgency :

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
		QHS; 13 wks		Significant improvement Frequency, Flatulence, Borborygmi: No Significant improvement
Ispaghula husk ¹⁰	N=80; males and females; IBS-All	3.6 gm sachet TID; 12 wks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement: Significant improvement Frequency: Significant decrease in days with no bowel movement
Ispaghula husk ¹¹	N=20; males and females; IBS-All	30 gm QD; 4 wks	RCT double-blind crossover; 7-10 d washout	Global Improvement: Significant improvement Frequency: No improvement
Ispaghula	N=80; males and	3 gm sachet BID; 4	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement:

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
husk/poloxamer 188 ¹²	females; IBS-All	wks		No significant difference in resolution or improvement in symptoms
Ispaghula husk ¹³	N=12; males and females; IBS-All	3.5 gm BID; 16 wks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement: Significant improvement
Ispaghula husk ¹⁴	N=77; males and females; IBS-All	6.4 gm TID; 8 wks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain, or Stool Form/Consistency: No significant improvement
Psyllium or Bran ¹⁵	N=275; males and females; IBS-All	1) 10 gm psyllium, split BID, or 2) 10 gm bran split BID; 12 wks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement: Psyllium-Significant improvement in symptom severity at month 3 only; Bran-No improvement Abdominal Pain: Psyllium-Significant relief at months 1 and 2 only, but no change in severity; Bran-Significant relief at month 3 only, but no

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
				change in severity
Lubiprostone ⁴⁵	N=193; males and females; IBS-C	8, 16, or 24 mcg BID; 12 wks	RCT double-blind; dose ranging; 2 wk follow-up	<p>Global Improvement:</p> <p>Significant improvement at 28 days with 24 mcg BID dose</p> <p>Adominal Pain:</p> <p>Significant trend for improvement in abdominal pain at 28 days; trend not significant at 3 mos</p> <p>Bloating:</p> <p>Significant trend for improvement; trend not significant at 3 mos</p> <p>Stool Form/Consistency:</p> <p>Significant improvement limited to 24 mcg BID after 1 mo</p>

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
				Frequency: Significant improvement
Amitriptyline ¹⁶	N=40; Males and females; IBS-All	25 mg x 1 wk titrated to 50 mg x 1 wk, then 75 mg QHS; 12 wks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain: Significant improvement Frequency, Flatulence: No significant improvement
Amitriptyline ¹⁷	N=33 adolescents; males and females; IBS-All	30-50 kg:10 mg; 50-80kg:20 mg; >80kg 30 mg QHS; 8 wks	RCT double-blind; 3 wk follow-up	Global Improvement: Significant improvement Abdominal Pain: Significant improvement in pain relief isolated to periumbilical and right lower quadrant areas; No improvement in abdominal pain intensity and frequency
Amitriptyline ⁴⁸	N=54; Males and	10 mg QHS; 8 wks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement, Stool Form/Consistency,

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
	females; IBS-D			Incomplete Evacuation: Significant improvement Abdominal Pain, Flatulence, Mucus Passage: No improvement
Trimipramine ¹⁸	N=61; males and females; IBS-All	50 mg QD; 4 wks	RCT double-blind	Mucus: Significant improvement
Trimipramine ¹⁹	N=428; males and females; IBS-All	50 mg QHS, 10 mg QAM plus 40 mg QPM, 35 mg QPM, 10 mg TID; ≥ 6wks	RCT double-blind	Abdominal Pain: Significant improvement limited to doses of 50 mg QHS and 10 mg QAM plus 40 mg QPM Frequency: No significant improvement
Imipramine ²³	N=51; males and females; IBS-All	25 mg x 2 weeks, then 50 mg QHS;	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain, Frequency:

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
		12 weeks		No significant improvement
Desipramine ²¹	N=28; males and females; IBS-All	50 mg a 1 wk, 100 mg x 1 wk, then 150 mg QHS; 6 wks	RCT double-blind crossover; 2 wk washout	Global Improvement: Improvement, significance not reported Abdominal Pain: Significant improvement in IBS-D subgroup Frequency: Significant improvement
Desipramine ²²	N=31; males and females; IBS-All depressed	150 mg QHS; 8 wks	RCT double-blind	Abdominal Pain: No significant improvement
Doxepin ²⁰	N=44; males and females; IBS-All	75 mg QHS; 6 wks	RCT double-blind; 4 wk follow-up	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain, Incomplete Evacuation: Significant improvement

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
Citalopram ²³	N=51; males and females; IBS-All	20 mg x 2 weeks, then 40 mg QAM; 12 weeks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain, Frequency: No significant improvement
Citalopram ²⁴	N=23; males and females; IBS-All non-depressed	20 mg x 3 wks, then 40 mg QD x 3 wks; 6 wks	RCT crossover; 3 wk washout	Global Improvement, Bloating, Urgency, Incomplete Evacuation, Abdominal Pain: Significant improvement
Fluoxetine ²⁵	N=40; males and females; IBS-All non-depressed	20 mg QHS; 6 wks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain, Urgency, Incomplete Evacuation, Bloating, Flatulence: No improvement
Fluoxetine ²⁶	N=44; males and females; IBS-C	20 mg QD; 12 wks	RCT double-blind; 4 wk follow-up	Bloating, Stool Form/Consistency, Frequency: Significant improvement
Paroxetine ²⁷	N=72; males and	12.5 mg titrated to	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement:

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
	females; IBS-All non-depressed	50 mg QD as tolerated; 12 weeks		Significant improvement Abdominal Pain: No improvement
Hyoscine butylbromide ¹³	N=12; males and females; IBS-All	10 mg QID; 16 wks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement: No significant improvement
Dicyclomine ⁴⁶	N=97; males and females; IBS-C	40 mg QID; 2 wks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain: Significant improvement
Peppermint Oil ²⁸	N=50; males and females; IBS-All	550 mg QD; 4 wks	RCT double-blind; 4 wk follow-up	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain, Bloating, Urgency, Incomplete Evacuation: Significant improvement
Peppermint Oil ²⁹	N=110; males and females; IBS-All	187 mg TID or QID; 4 wks	RCT double-blind	Abdominal Pain, Frequency, Flatulence, Borborygmi: Significant improvement

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
Rifaximin ³¹	N=87; males and females; IBS-All	400 mg TID x 10 days; 10 days	RCT double-blind placebo; 10 wk follow up	Bloating: Significant improvement
Rifaximin ⁴⁹	N=388; males and females; IBS-D	550 mg BID x 14 days; 14 days	RCT double-blind; 12 wk follow up	Bloating: Significant improvement in bloating during treatment and maintained for 12 weeks following treatment
Pregabalin ³²	N=26; males and females; IBS-All without psychiatric disorders	50 mg TID x 3 days titrated to 100 mg TID x 4 days, 150 mg TID x 4 days, then 200 mg TID; 3 wks	RCT double-blind	Abdominal Pain: Significant improvement in sensory threshold of abdominal pain; No difference in sensory threshold of moderate abdominal; Urgency: Significant improvement in sensory threshold

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
Gabapentin ³⁰	N=40; males and females IBS-D	100 mg TID x 3 days titrated to 200 mg TID x 2 days; 6 days	RCT double-blind	Abdominal Pain, Bloating: Significant improvement sensory threshold
Clonidine ⁵⁰	N=44; males and females; IBS-D	0.1 mg BID; 4 wks	RCT double-blind; dose-ranging; pilot study	Global Improvement: No significant improvement in wks with relief; Significant improvement in proportion of wks with relief Stool Form/Consistency, Frequency: No significant improvement
Octreotide ⁵¹	N=46; males and females; IBS-D and A	20 mg IM q4wks; 8 wks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain, Frequency, Bloating, Flatulence, Incomplete Evacuation:

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
				No significant improvement Stool Form/Consistency: Significant improvement
Probiotics: <i>L. acidophilus</i> ¹⁵	N=40; males and females; IBS-All	2x10 ⁹ cfu BID; 4 wks	RCT double-blind	Abdominal Pain, Incomplete Evacuation: Significant improvement Stool Form/Consistency, Frequency: No significant improvement
Probiotics: <i>B. infantis</i> ³³	N=362; males and females; IBS-All	10 ⁸ cfu QD; 4 wks	RCT double-blind; dose-ranging; 2 wk follow-up	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain, Bloating, Incomplete Evacuation, Flatulence: Significant improvement Urgency, Mucus: No significant improvement

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
Probiotics: E. coli ³⁴	N=298; males and females; IBS-All	0.75 ml TID x 1 wk, then 1.5 ml TID (1.5-4.5x10 ⁷ cfu/mL); 8 wks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain, Stool Form/Consistency, Bloating: Significant improvement Frequency: No significant improvement
Probiotics: E. coli and E. faecalis ³⁵	N=297; males and females; IBS-All	0.75 ml TID x 1 wk, 1.5 ml TID x 2 wks, then 2.25 ml TID (3-9x10 ⁷ cfu/1.5 mL); 8 wks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain: Significant
Probiotics: L. plantarum ³⁶	N=40; males and females; IBS-All	5x10 ⁷ cfu BID; 4 weeks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain: Significant improvement
Probiotics:BLIS***	N=100; males and	1x10 ¹⁰ cfu QD; 4	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement:

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
³⁷	females; IBS-All	wks		No significant improvement Abdominal Pain: Significant improvement between wks 1 and 4; No significant improvement in satisfactory relief Flatulence: Significant improvement Frequency: Significant improvement in the IBS-C subgroup
Probiotics: B. coagulans ³⁸	N=44; males and females; IBS-D	8 x 10 ⁹ cfu QD; 8 wks	RCT double-blind	Abdominal Pain, Bloating: Significant improvement
Probiotics:LBP* ³⁹	N=86; males and females; IBS-All	1.2 dL QD (1.7 x 10 ⁷ cfu of each strain/mL); 20 wks	RCT double-blind; 3 wk follow-up	Abdominal Pain, Borborygmi: Significant improvement Flatulence:

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
				No significant improvement
Probiotics: B. infantis ⁴⁰	N=75; males and females; IBS-All	10 ¹⁰ cfu QD; 8 wks; 4 wk follow up	RCT double-blind	Abdominal Pain, Incomplete Evacuation: Significant improvement Bloating: No significant improvement
Probiotics:LBP ^{*41}	N=81; males and females; IBS-All	8-9 x 10 ⁹ cfu QD; 24 wks	RCT double-blind	Abdominal Pain: No significant improvement; significant improvement in % of pts with dec abdominal pain Urgency, Incomplete Evacuation, Borborygmi: Significant improvement Flatulence: No significant improvement; significant improvement in % of pts with decreased flatulence
Probiotics:BLS ^{**42}	N=48; males and	4.5x10 ⁶ cfu QD; 4	RCT double-blind	Abdominal Pain,

Treatment of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Medication	Patients; IBS Subtype	Dose; Duration	Study Design	Clinical Efficacy Outcomes
	females; IBS-All	wks		Bloating, Urgency: No significant improvement Flatulence: Significant improvement
Probiotics: L. reuteri ⁴³	N=54; males and females; IBS-All	10 ⁸ cfu, 4 tabs daily x 7 d, then 2 tabs QD; 22 wks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain, Bloating, Incomplete Evacuation, Flatulence: No significant improvement
Probiotics: L. GG ⁴⁴	N=50; males and females; IBS-All children	10 ¹⁰ cfu BID; 6 wks	RCT double-blind	Global Improvement, Abdominal Pain: No significant improvement

*LBP: L. rhamnosus, B. breve and P. freudenreichii

**BLS:Bifidobacterium, Lactobacillus, S. salivarius

***BLLS:B. longum, L. acidophilus, L. lactis, S. thermophilus