

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BACKGROUND

[REDACTED] is a psychiatrist with a special interest in forensic and medico-legal psychiatry, who has very strong views concerning the safety of Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor (SSRI) antidepressants and atypical antipsychotic medications. From her correspondence it may be inferred that she believes the risks of the use of these medicines outweigh the potential benefits for many patients, either when used alone or in combination with other psychotropic medications. She has been particularly concerned about a particular side effect known as *akathisia*, a condition of motor restlessness which appears to occur more commonly with SSRIs than other antidepressants. One of her key concerns appears to be that akathisia may lead to suicidal behaviour and violence.

The Office of Medicines Safety Monitoring within the TGA has been in correspondence with Dr Lucire since February 2004. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]:

[REDACTED]

ADRAC has previously responded to [REDACTED]:

- thanking her for communicating her concerns
- noting the Committee's conclusions, as above
- drawing her attention to the conclusions of Healy and Whitaker; and
- advising her that the Committee was continuing to monitor the literature on suicidality with SSRIs.

[REDACTED]