

GluRs as a Novel Molecular Target: Clinical Data on the Use Case of Ketamine and Esketamine

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Disclosures

- **Employee of Janssen Research & Development**
- **Shareholder of Johnson & Johnson Stock**

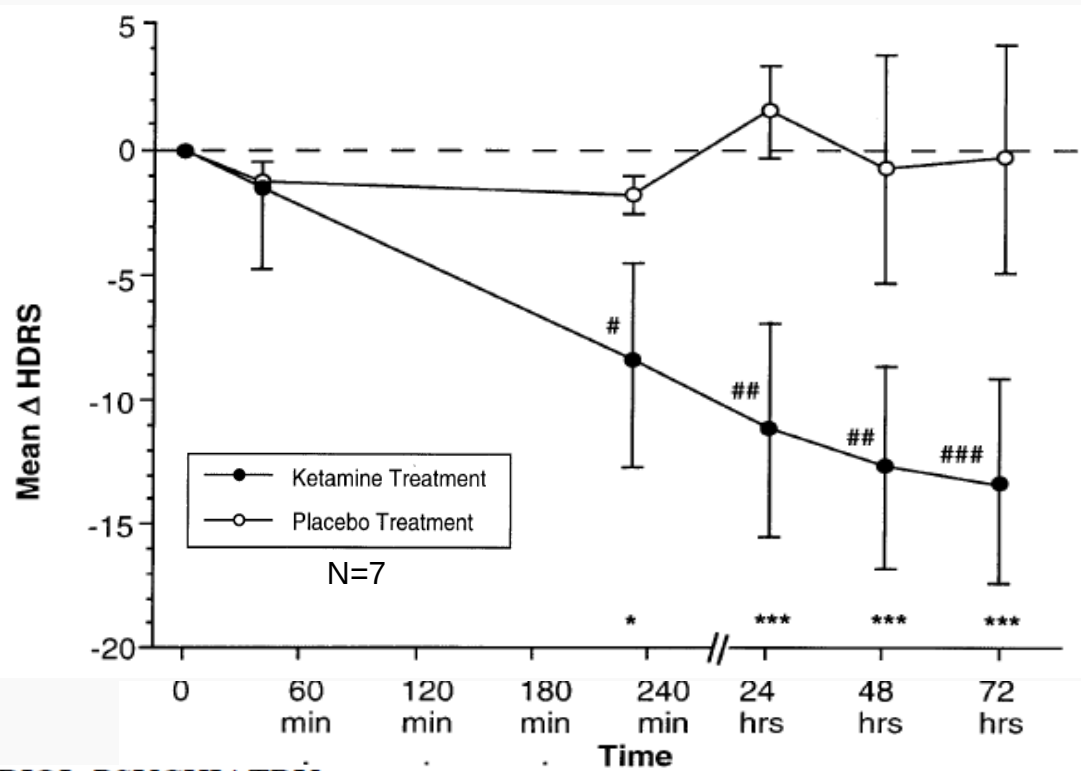


Initial Proof of Concept Studies with IV Ketamine

BRIEF REPORTS

Antidepressant Effects of Ketamine in Depressed Patients

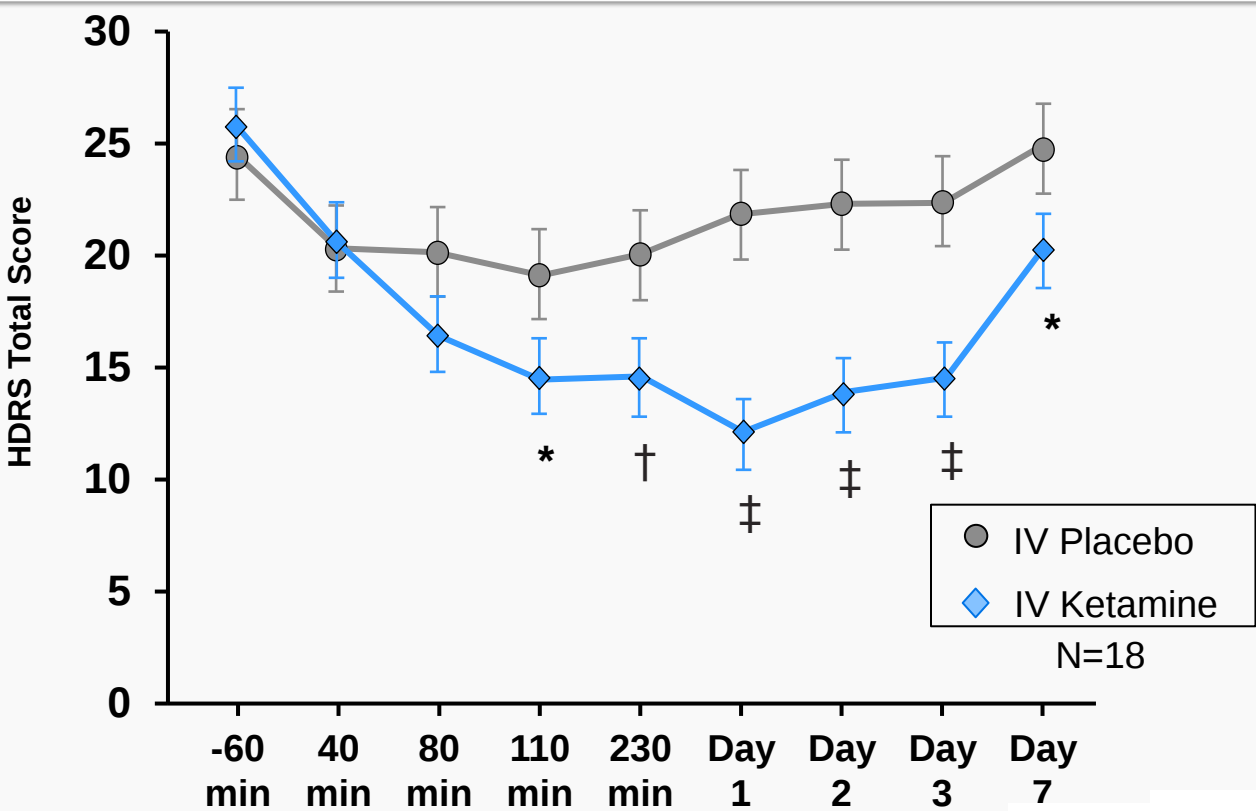
Robert M. Berman, Angela Cappiello, Amit Anand, Dan A. Oren, George R. Heninger, Dennis S. Charney, and John H. Krystal



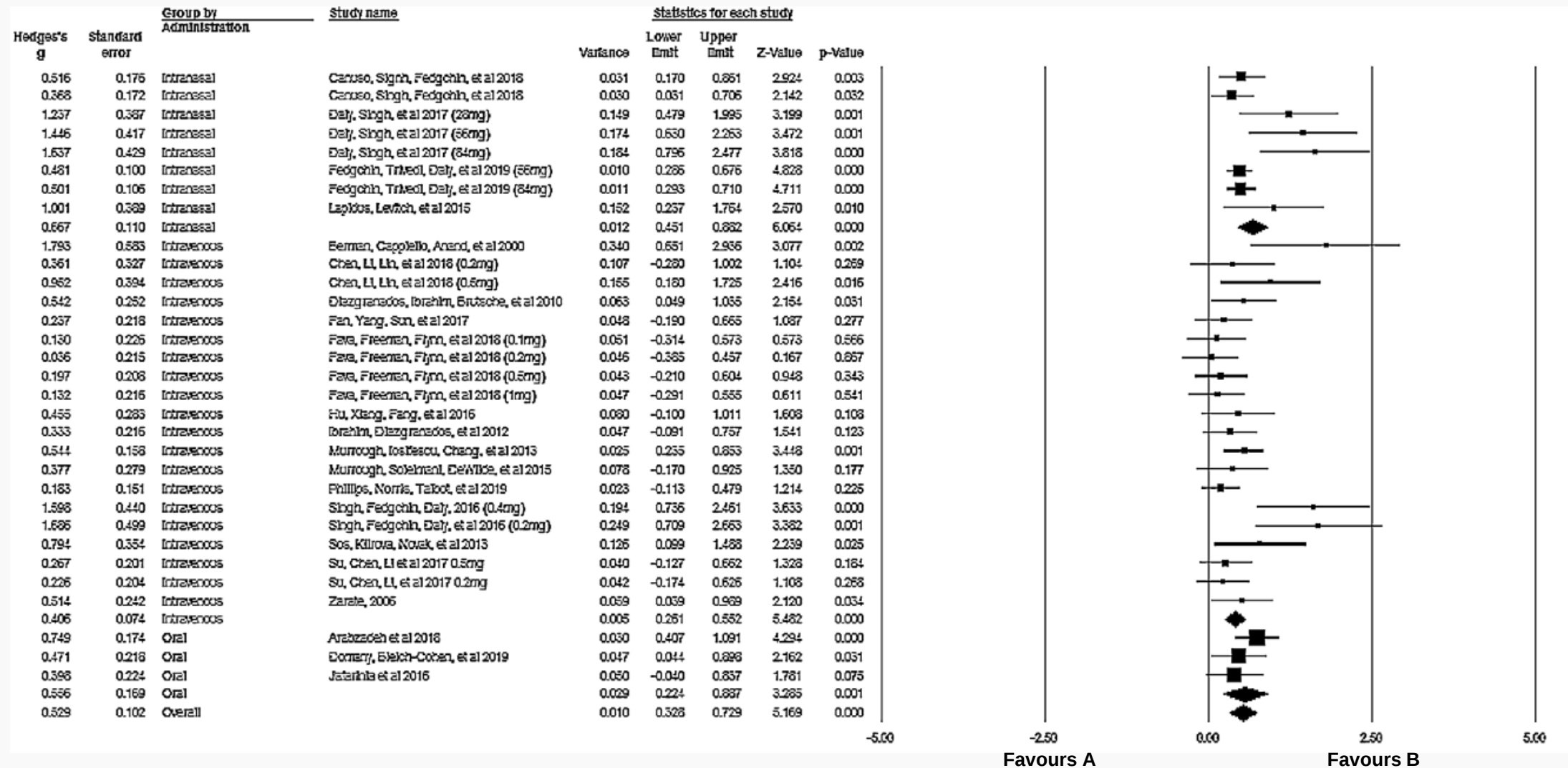
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

A Randomized Trial of an N-methyl-D-aspartate Antagonist in Treatment-Resistant Major Depression

Carlos A. Zarate, Jr, MD; Jaskaran B. Singh, MD; Paul J. Carlson, MD; Nancy E. Brutsche, MSN; Rezvan Ameli, PhD; David A. Luckenbaugh, MA; Dennis S. Charney, MD; Husseini K. Manji, MD, FRCPC



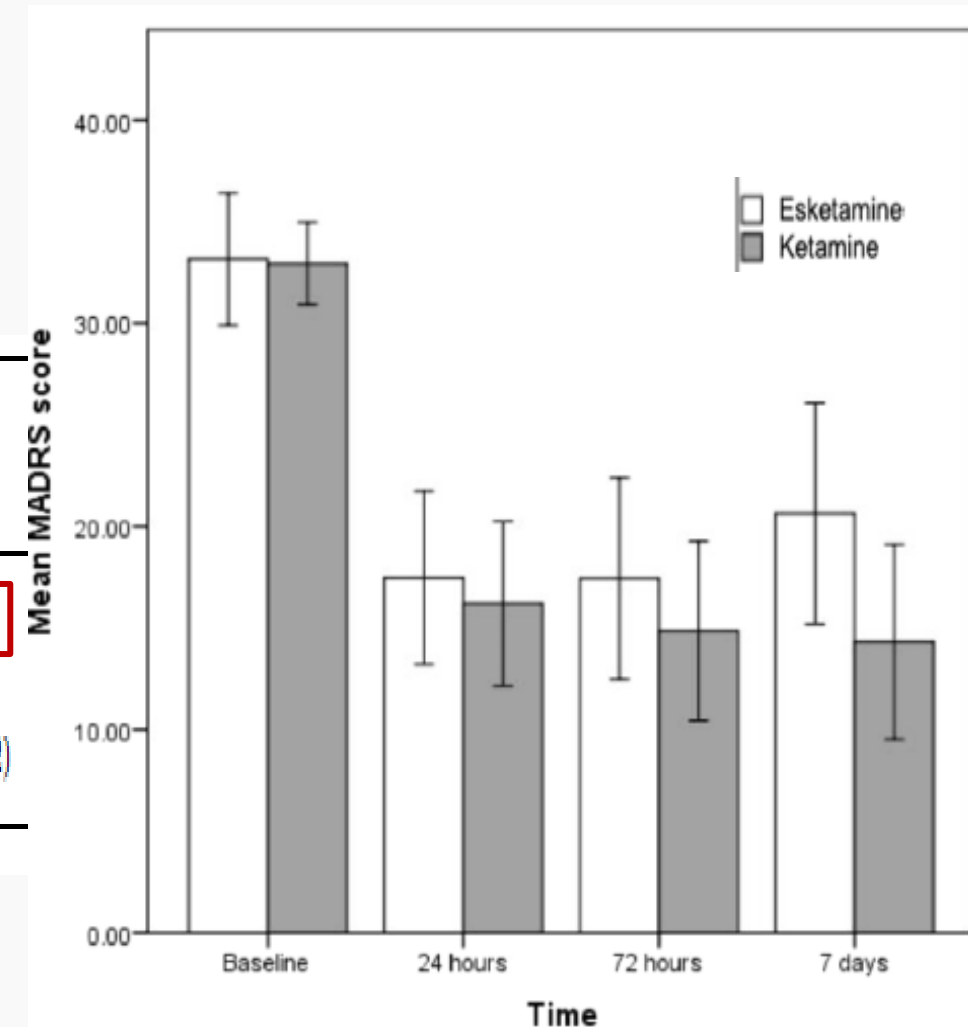
Numerous RTCs of Ketamine and Esketamine Demonstrate Short-term Efficacy in Depression



Are Ketamine and Esketamine Equally Effective?

No significant difference on antidepressant and dissociation measures after single IV infusion of ketamine and esketamine at their approximate equipotent doses (0.5 mg/kg and 0.25 mg/kg)

Variable (MADRS)	Esketamine Group (n = 34)		Ketamine Group (n = 29)		Difference
	N	%	N	%	
Remission					
24 h	10	29.4	7	24.1	5.27 (95% CI _{LB} = 13.6)
72 h	11	35.5	11	39.3	-3.8 (95% CI _{LB} = 24.6)
7 days	9	28.1	12	41.4	-13.2 (95% CI _{LB} = 33.2)



Esketamine Nasal Spray FDA Approved Indications

Esketamine is indicated, in conjunction with an oral antidepressant, for the treatment of:

- ▶ Treatment-resistant depression (TRD) in adults
- ▶ Depressive symptoms in adults with major depressive disorder (MDD) with acute suicidal ideation or behavior

Limitations of Use:

- ▶ The effectiveness of esketamine in preventing suicide or in reducing suicidal ideation or behavior has not been demonstrated. Use of esketamine does not preclude the need for hospitalization if clinically warranted, even if patients experience improvement after an initial dose of esketamine
- ▶ Esketamine is not approved as an anesthetic agent. The safety and effectiveness of esketamine as an anesthetic agent have not been established.

Clinical Populations Studied & Strength of Evidence

+++++: ≥ 2 RTCs, acute & maintenance

++++: ≥ 2 RTCs, single & repeated dosing

+++ : ≥ 2 RTCs single dosing or < 2 RTCs single & repeated dosing

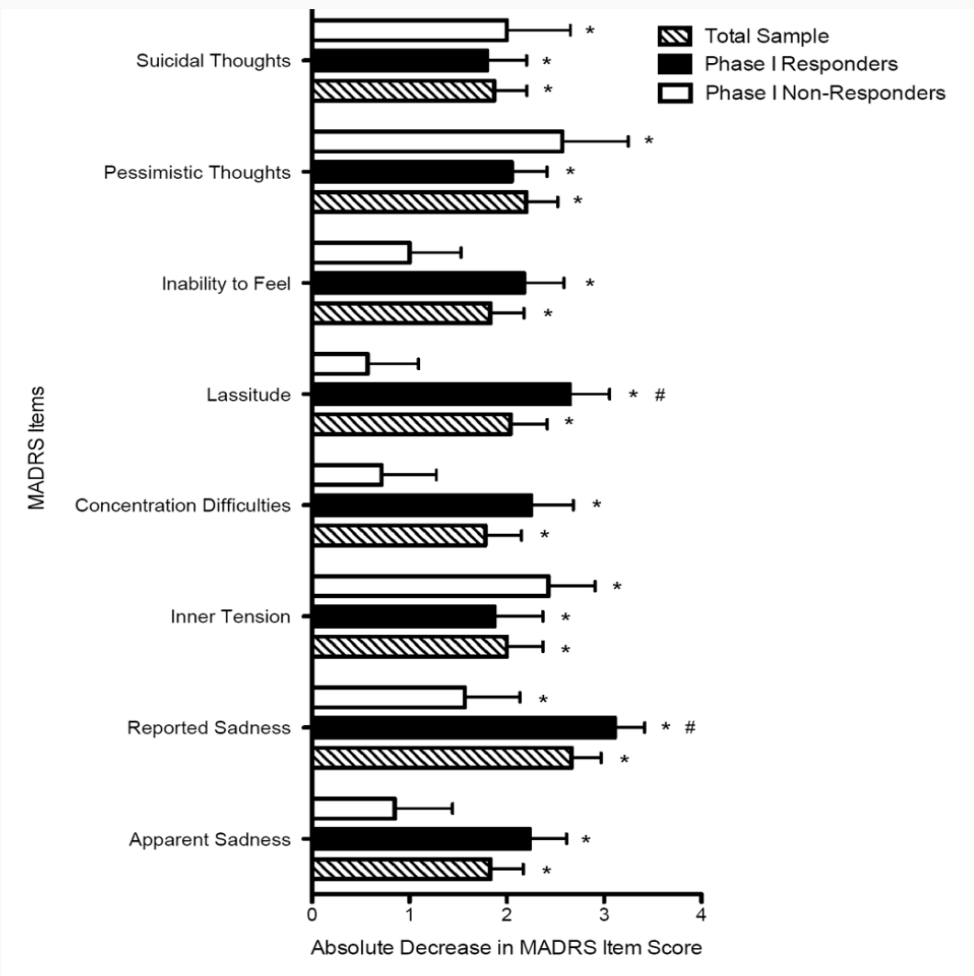
++: < 2 RTCs, single dosing

+: Open-label /case report

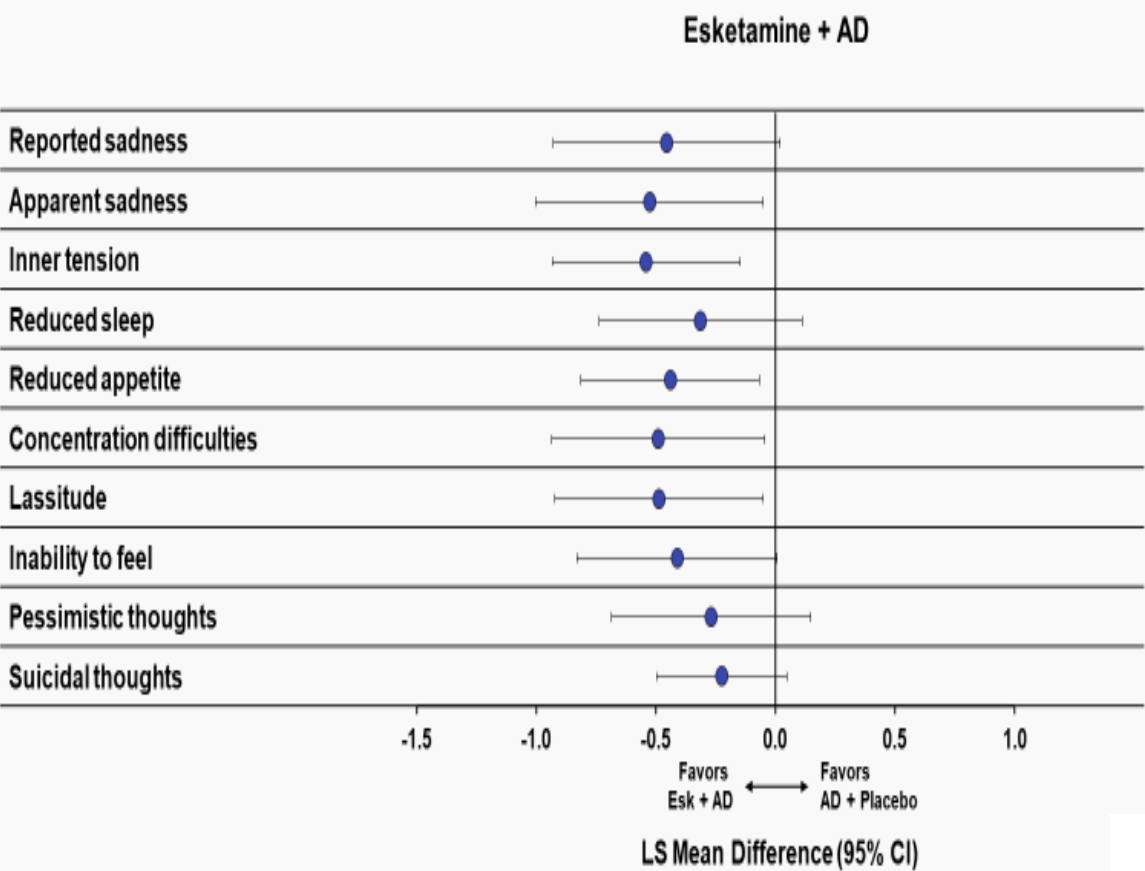
	IV Ketamine	IN Esketamine	Outcome Measure(s)
Treatment-Resistant Depression	++++	+++++	HDRS, MADRS
Major Depression w/ Suicidal Ideation or Behavior	+++	++++	HDRS, MADRS, BSI/SSI, CGI-ss-r
Bipolar Depression	+++		MADRS
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder	+++		Impact-of-Event Scale, CAPS
Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	++		OCD-VAS, Y-BOCS
Borderline Personality Disorder	+		N/A
ETOH/Substance Use Disorders	++		Various
Anhedonia	++		SHAPS
Cancer w/ MDD and SI	++		MADRS, BSI
Geriatric		+++	MADRS
Pediatric	+	ongoing	CDRS-R, MADRS

How Do Individual Symptoms Respond in TRD?

Change in Individual Symptoms 2 Hrs After 1st Ketamine Dose

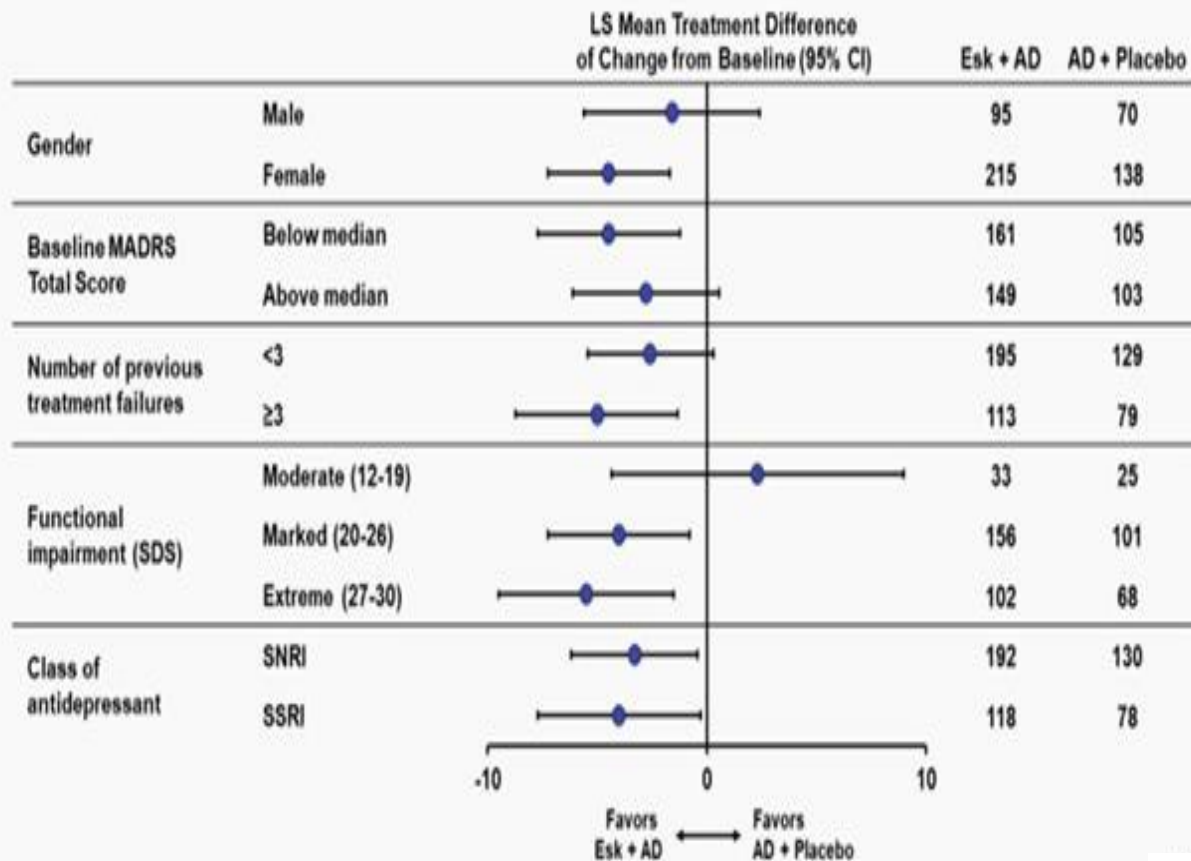


MADRS Items – LS Mean Differences from Placebo (95% CI) for Change from Baseline at Day 28 (MMRM) TRANSFORM-2 (3002)

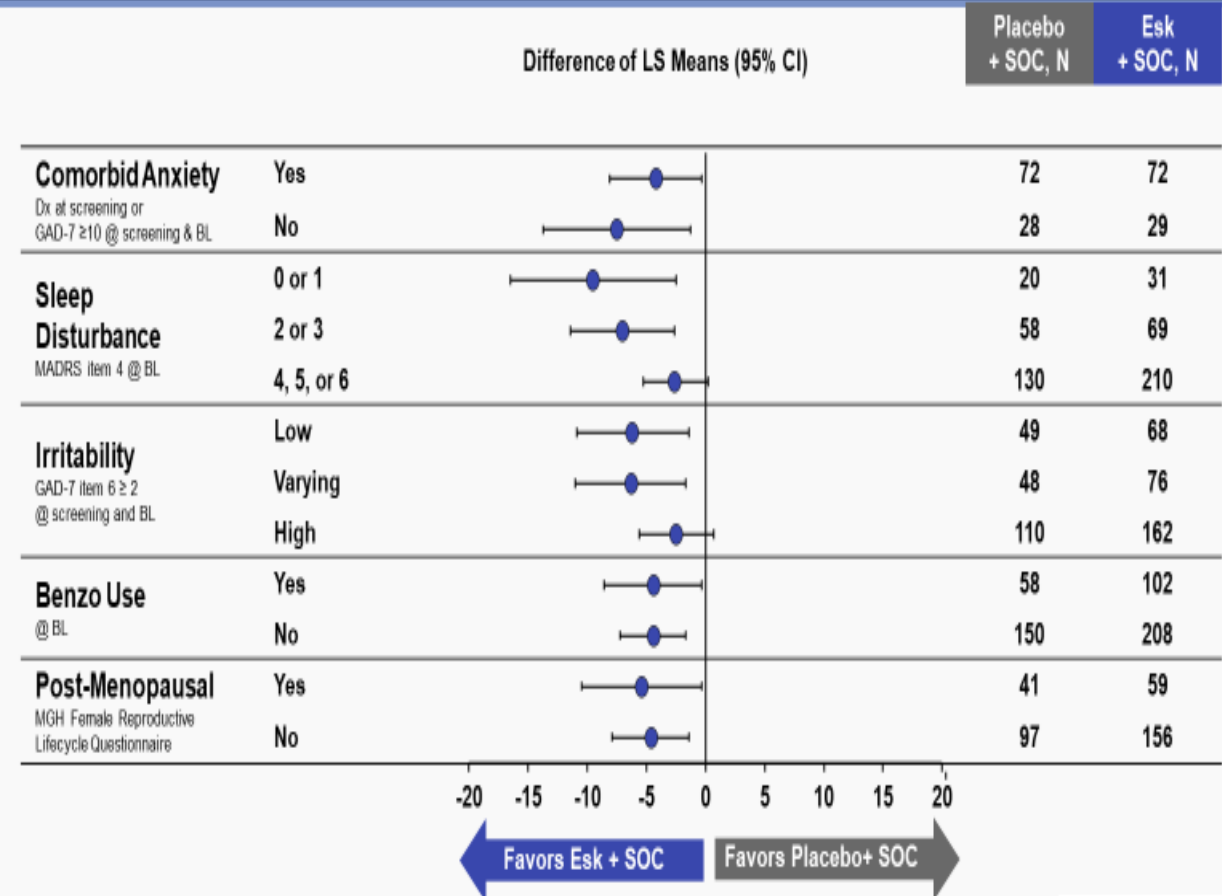


How Do Patient Sub-groups Respond in TRD?

MADRS Total Score: LS Mean Treatment Difference of Change from Baseline to Day 28 MMRM Across Subgroups
Pooled TRANSFORM-1 (3001) and 2 (3002)



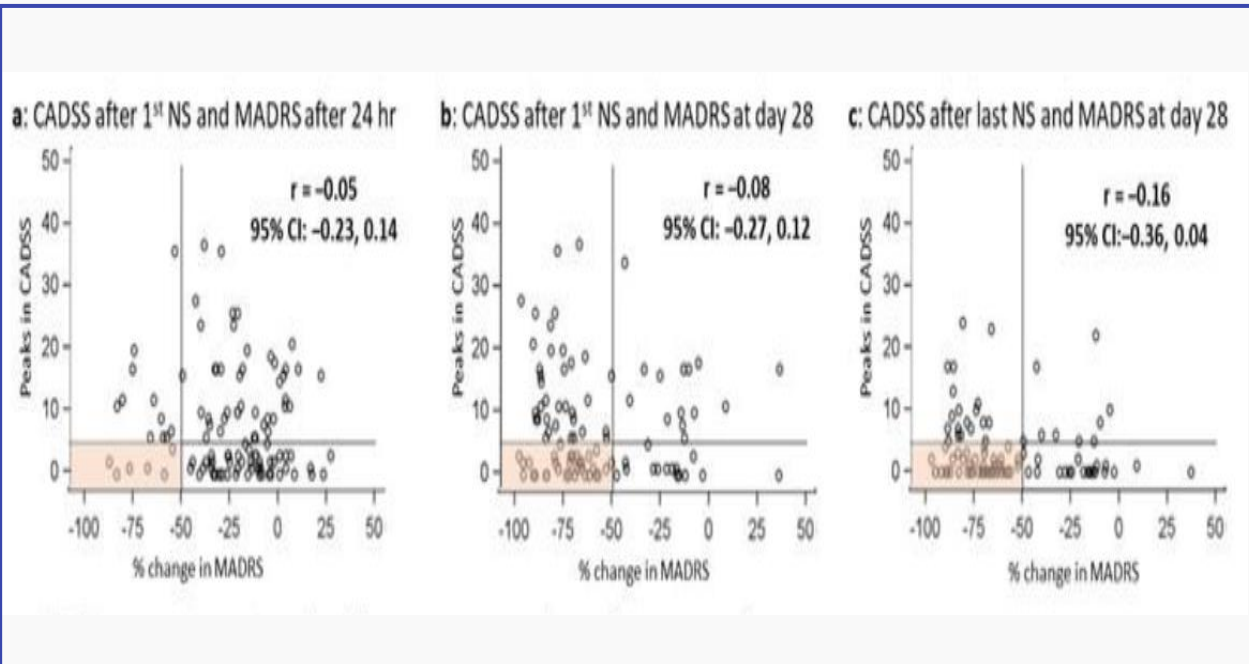
Post-Hoc Subgroups Analyses from TRANSFORM 1 (3001) and Transform 2 (3002)



Is Dissociation Necessary for Response?

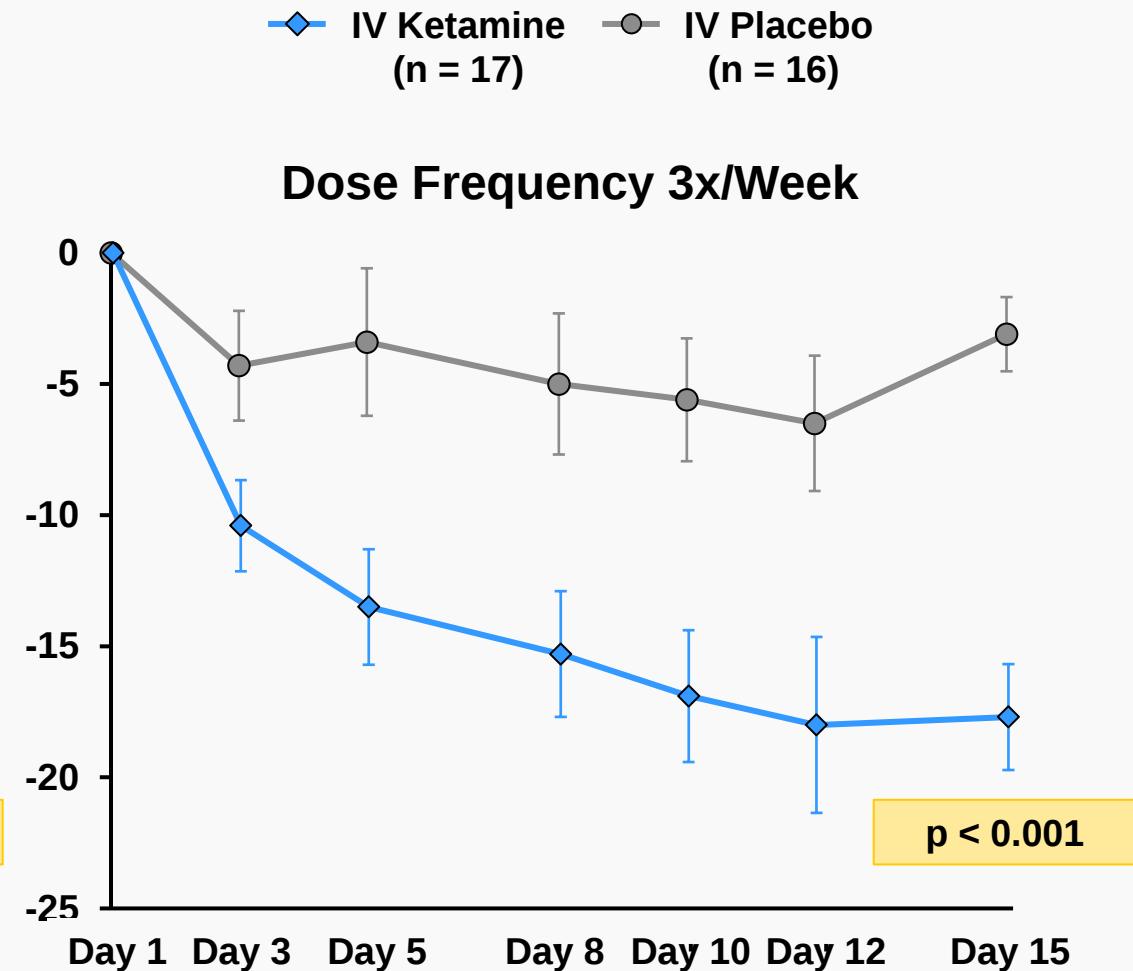
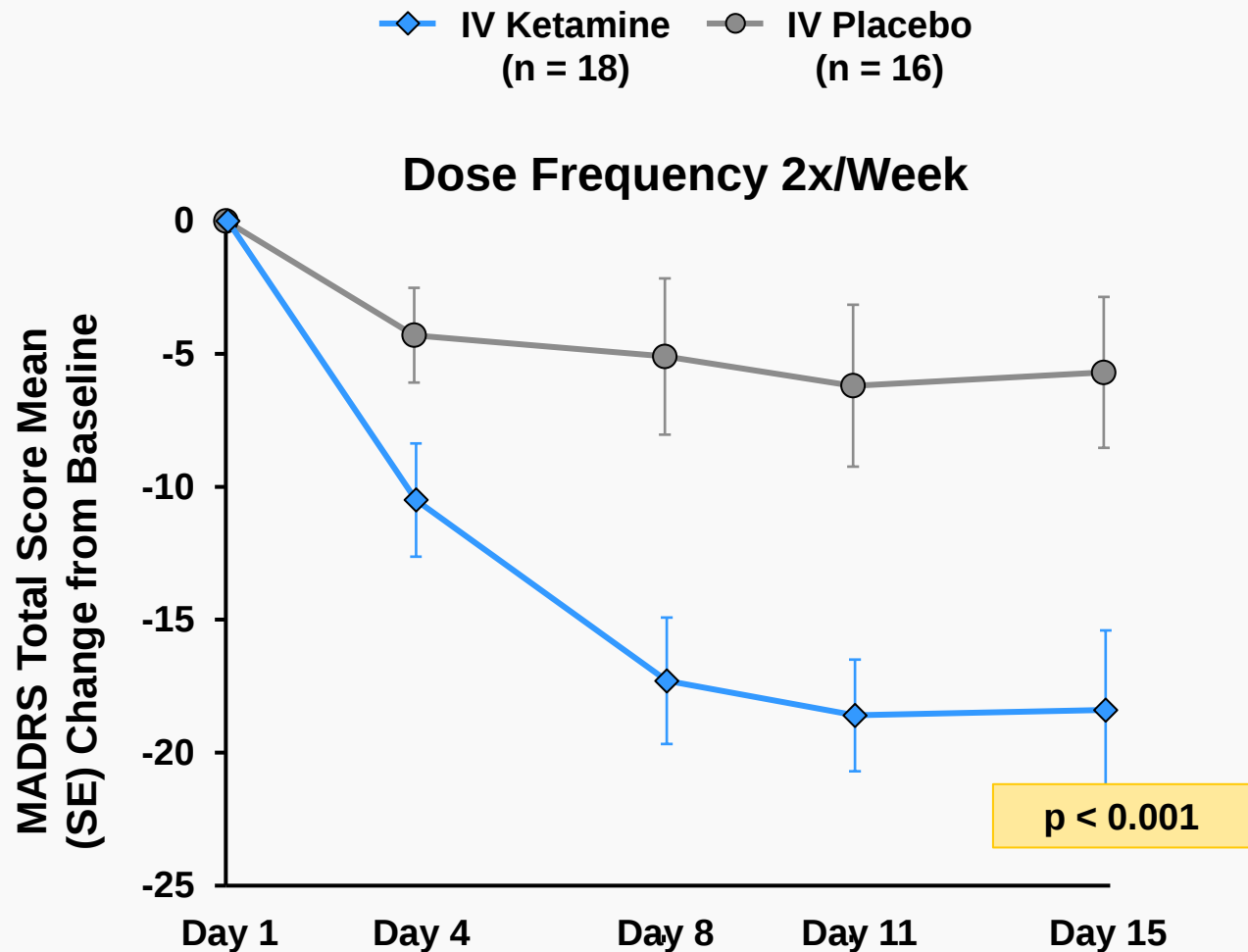
Presently, the literature does not support the conclusion that dissociation is necessary for antidepressant response to ketamine. However, further work is needed to explore the relationship between dissociation and antidepressant response at the molecular, biomarker, and psychological levels.

Ballard and Zarate *Nature Communications* | <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-020-20190-4>



Mediator	Outcome	Direct effect LS mean (95% CI)	Indirect effect LS mean (95% CI)	% mediated
TRANSFORM-2				
Change in CADSS total score at 40 min post-dose (day 1)	Decrease from BL in MADRS total score (day 2)	-3.62 (-6.62, -0.74)	-0.45 (-1.85, 0.85)	11%
Change in CADSS total score at 40 min post-dose (day 25)	Decrease from BL in MADRS total score (day 28)	-4.83 (-8.37, -1.28)	-0.42 (-1.95, 0.94)	8%

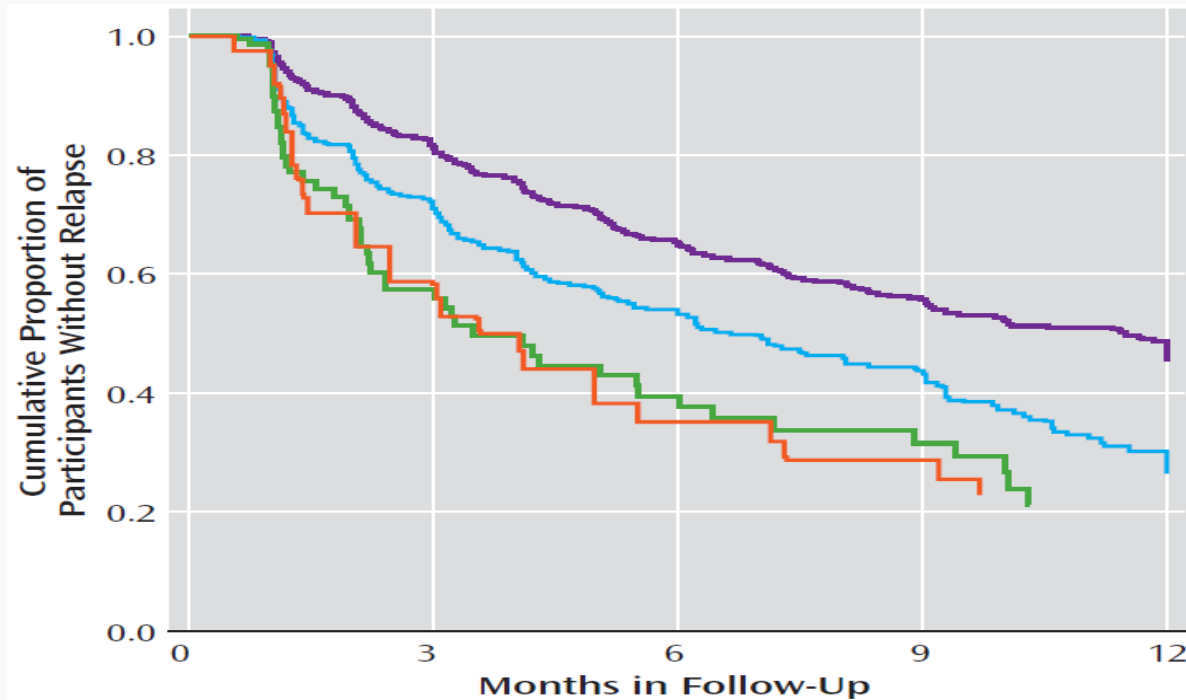
How Frequently Should a Patient be Dosed?



The recommended initial dose frequency of IN esketamine is 2 times/week for 4 weeks

Can Relapse be Prevented with Continued, Intermittent Dosing?

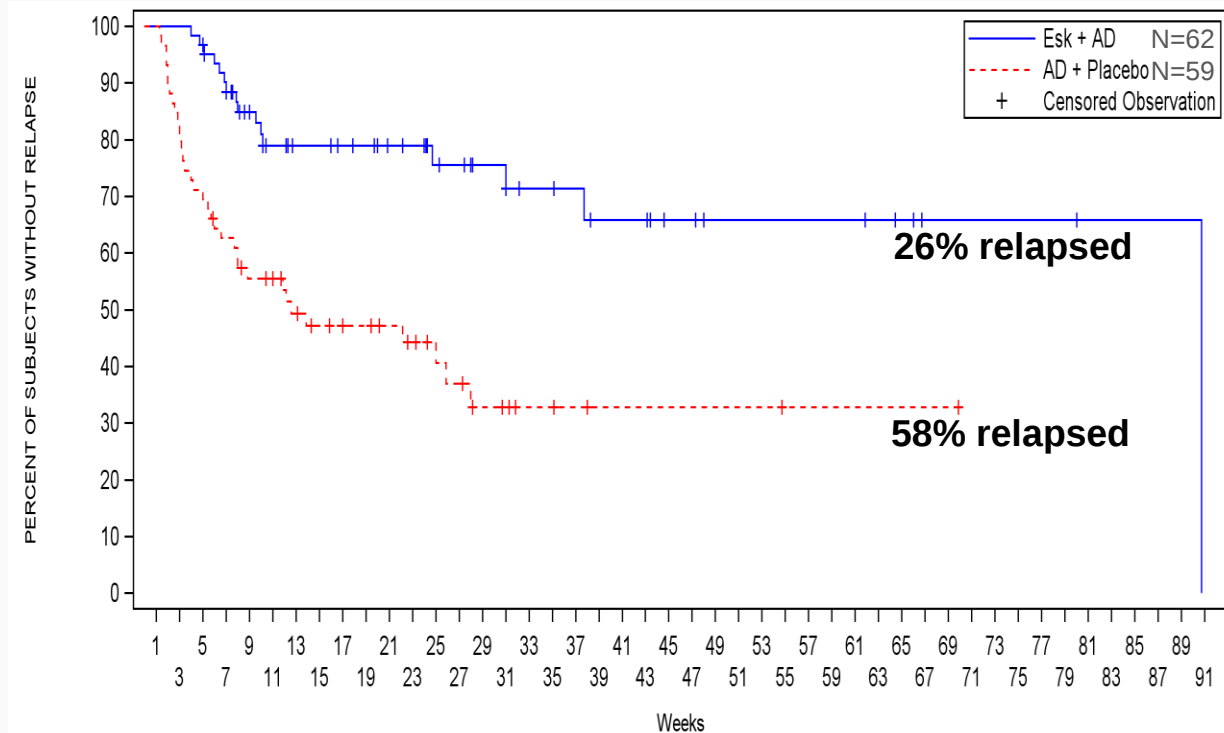
STAR-D Relapse Analysis



Step 1
N= 1,475
Step 2
N= 622
Step 3
N= 102
Step 4
N= 49

} **> 70 % relapse over 1 year**

Relapse Rates Among Stable Responders



69% of stable remitters mostly received treatment every other week

55% of stable responders mostly received treatment once weekly

What is the Safety Profile of Long-term, Intermittent Dosing?

IN Esketamine Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS)

To mitigate risks related to sedation, dissociation, and abuse and misuse, IN Esketamine is only available through a restricted REMS program

SUSTAIN-3

Ongoing Long-term, OL, Safety Study of IN Esketamine

N=1148

Median (range) Exposure: 31.7 (0-50) months

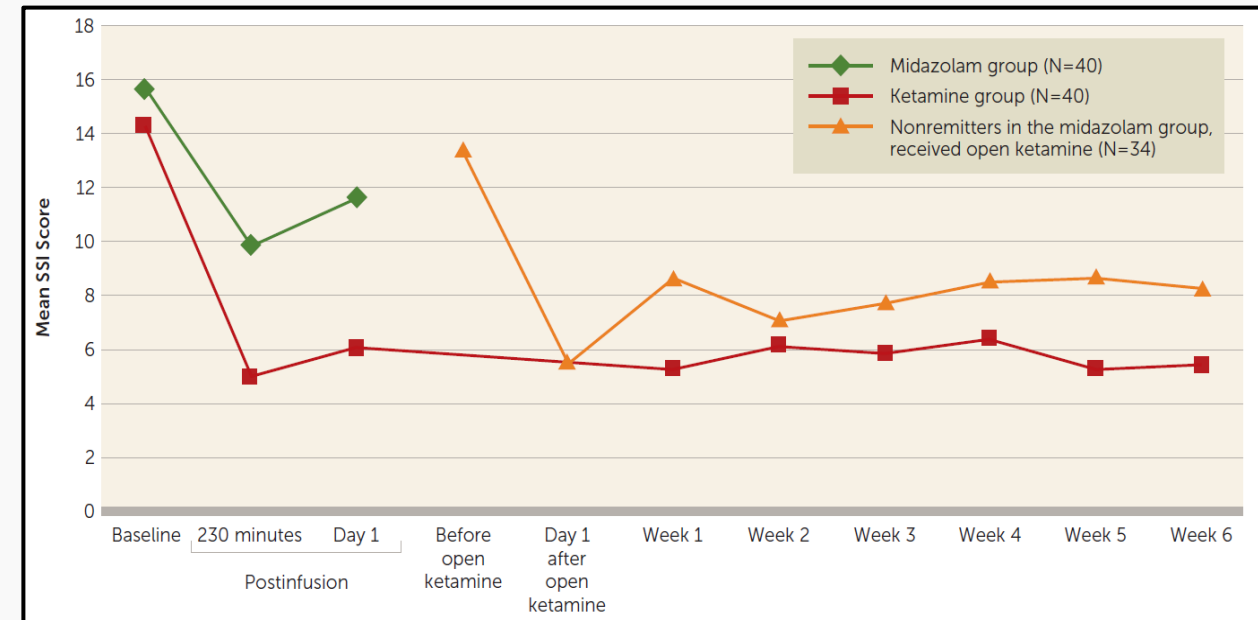
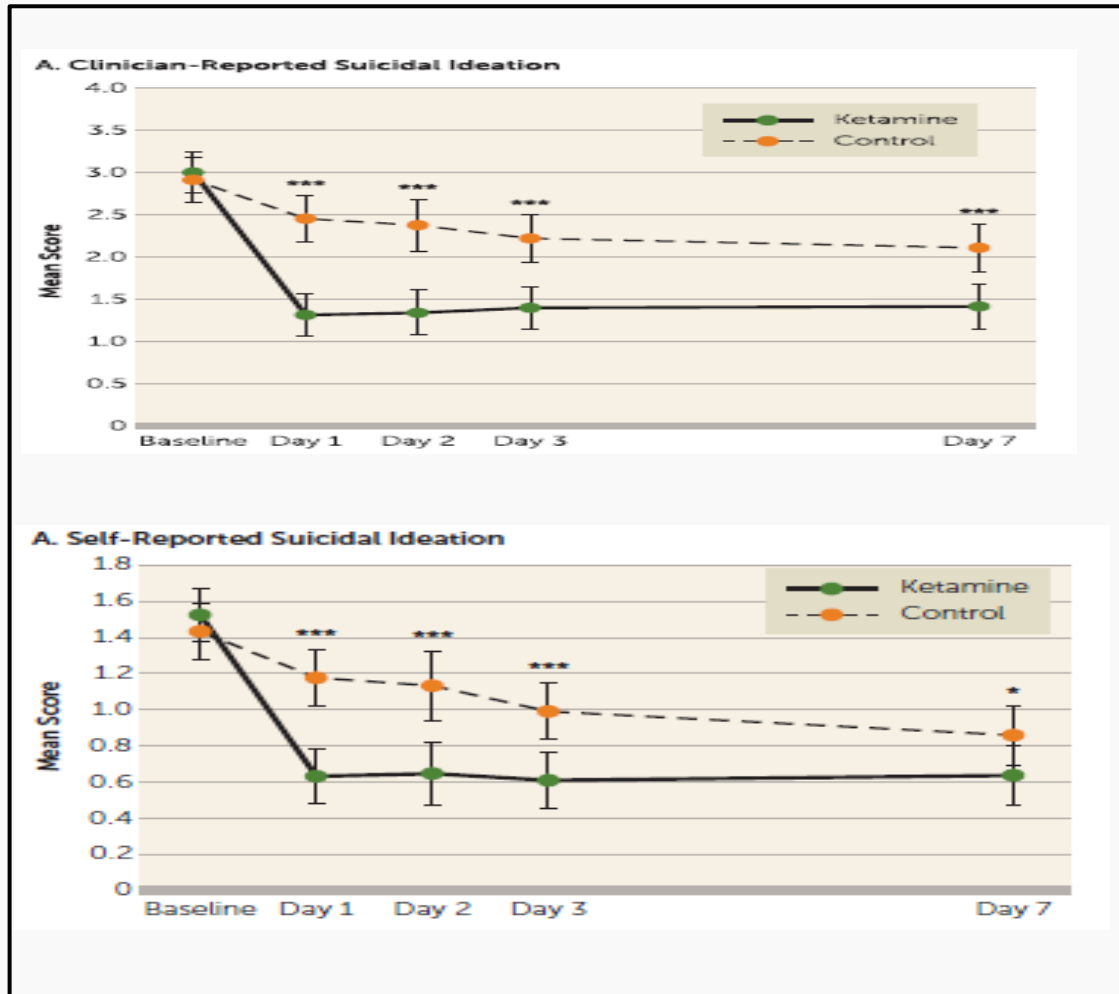
No New or Unexpected Safety Findings

Cognition remained stable among patients, except for a slight slowing of reaction times in those ≥ 65 years, consistent with results of another longitudinal trial

No evidence of abuse, dependence or withdrawal

No new blood pressure, bladder, renal or hepatic findings

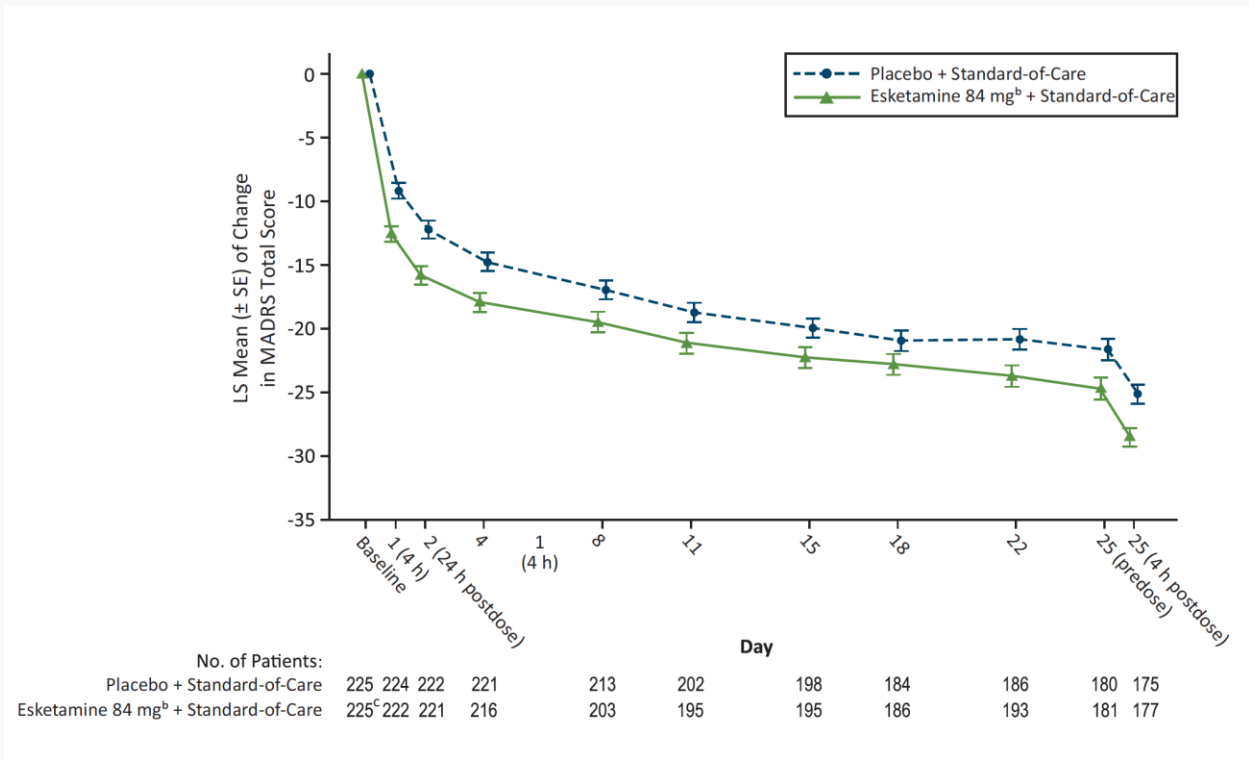
Ketamine in MDD with Suicidal Ideation or Behavior



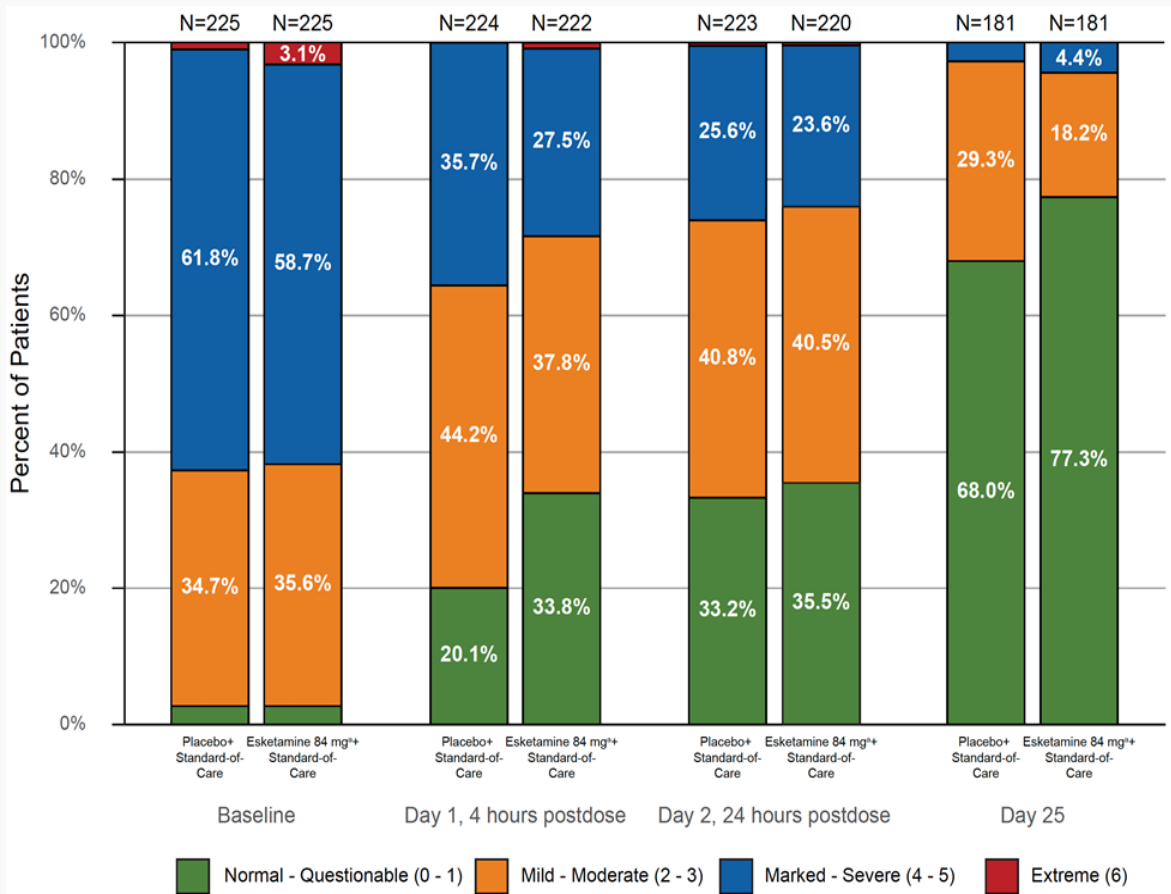
Improvement in depression mediated 33.6% of the effect on suicidal ideation score

Esketamine in MDD with Suicidal Ideation or Behavior

Least-Squares Mean ($\pm$ SE) Changes in MADRS Total Score From Baseline During the Double-Blind Treatment Phase^a

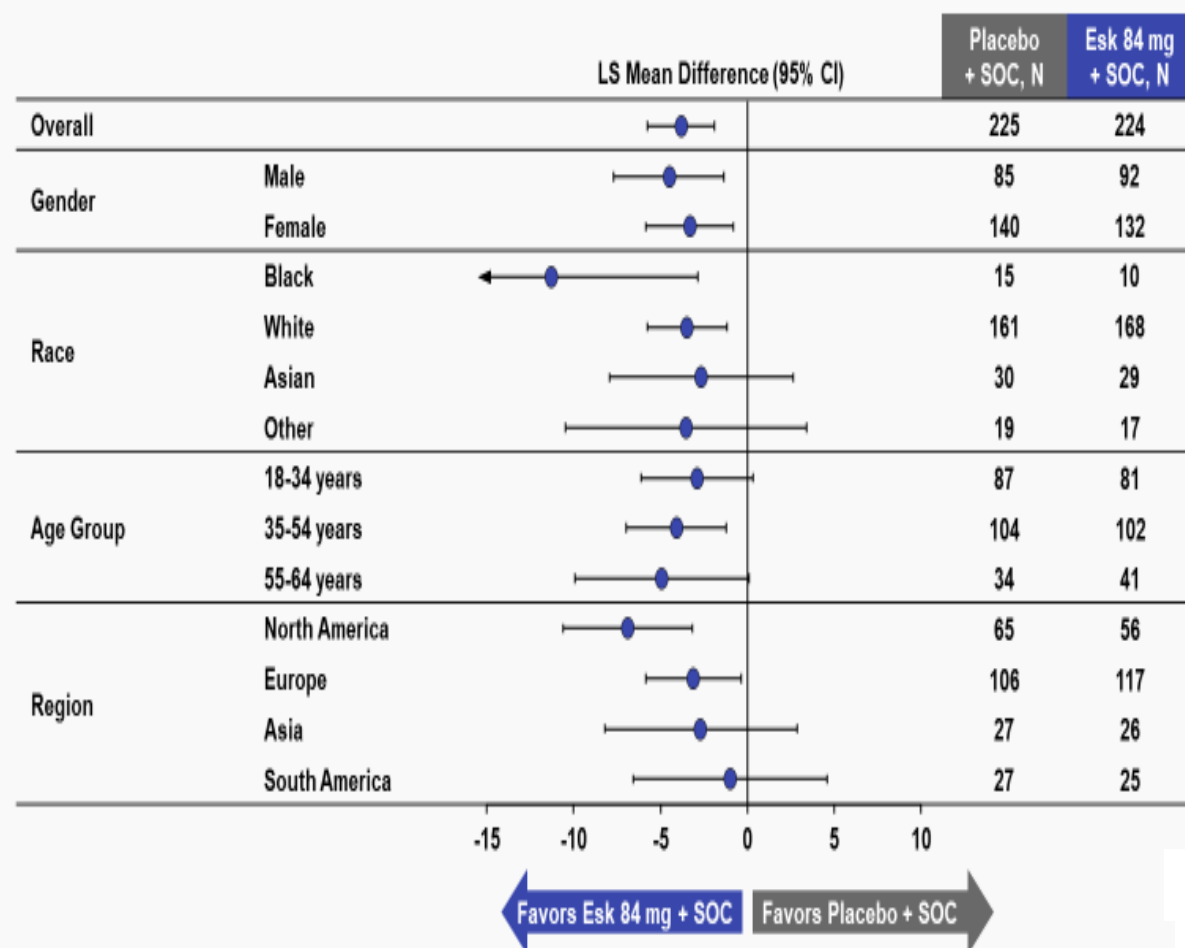


Frequency Distribution of CGI-SS-r Score at Baseline, 4 and 24 Hours Post-First Dose, and Day 25 (Observed Cases)

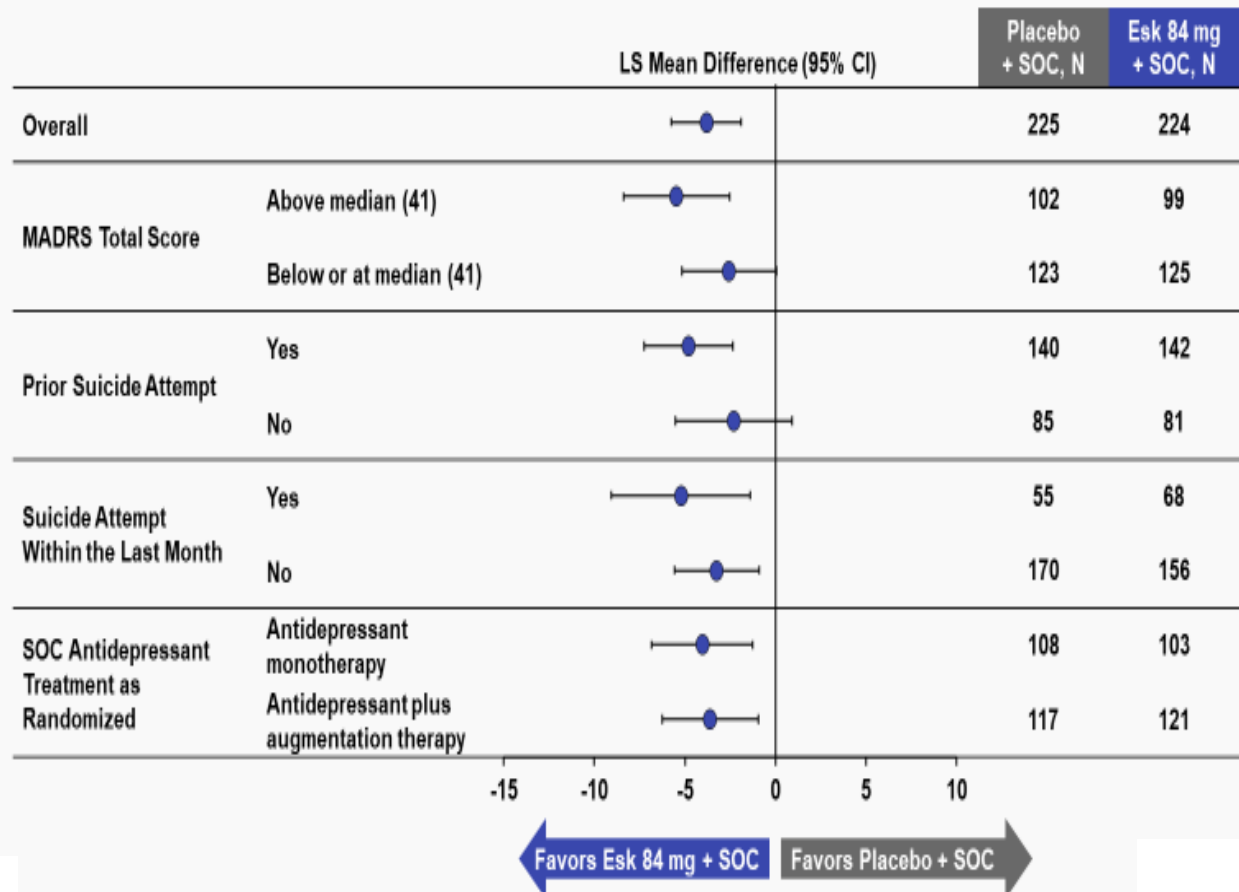


How Do Patient Sub-groups Respond in MDD with SI/B? Depression

Phase 3 Pooled MADRS Total Score: Treatment Effect at 24 Hours by Demographic Subgroups

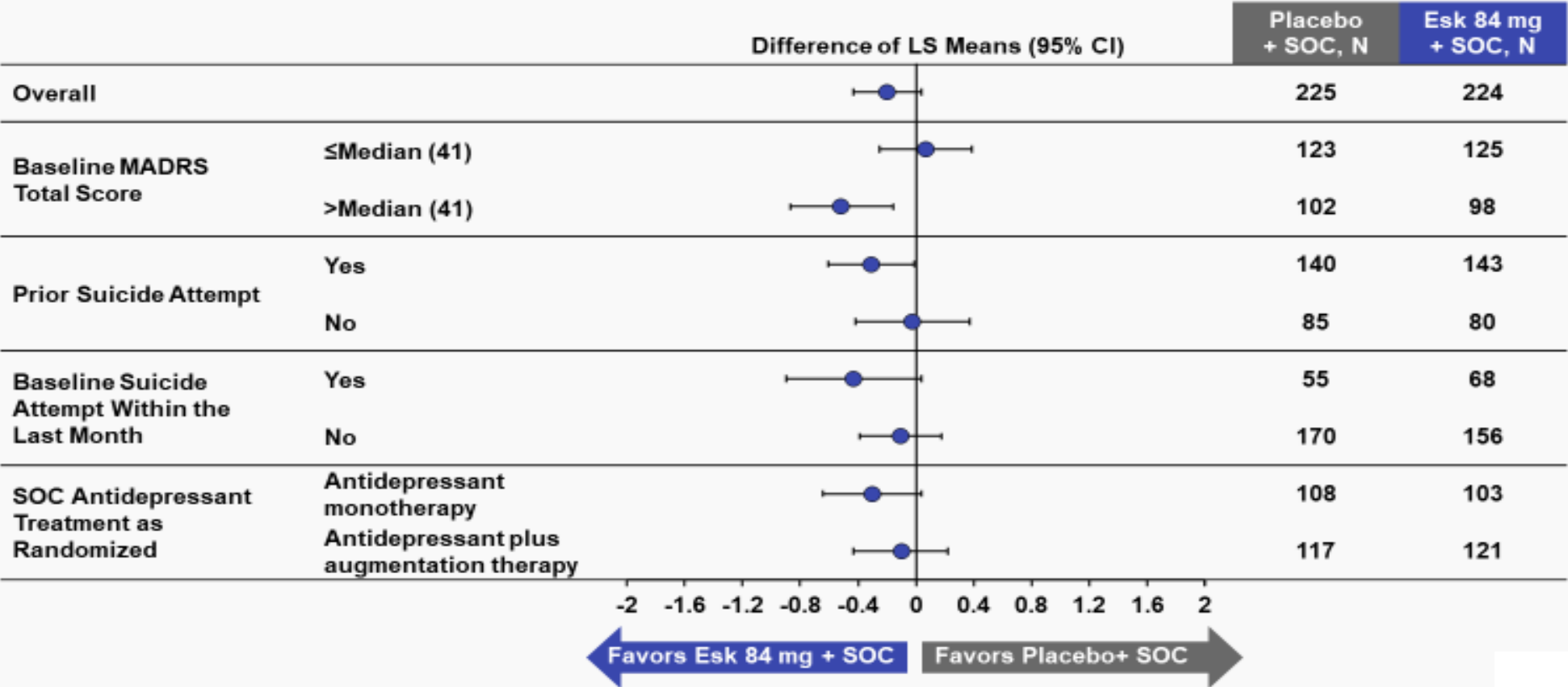


Phase 3 Pooled MADRS Total Score: Treatment Effect at 24 Hours by Baseline Clinical Characteristics



How Do Patient Sub-groups Respond in MDD with SI/B ? Suicidality

Phase 3 Pooled CGI-SS-r: Treatment Effect at 24 Hours by Baseline Clinical Characteristics



Summary

- **Unequivocal evidence for IV ketamine and IN esketamine in rapid and robust efficacy in treatment of depressive symptoms**
 - ▶ Direct comparison of ketamine and esketamine is limited but suggests similar efficacy
 - ▶ Broad-spectrum efficacy seen across symptoms, sub-groups and sub-types
 - ▶ Antidepressant efficacy appears independent of dissociation
 - ▶ Long-term efficacy and safety, and dosing regimen established for IN esketamine
- **Mixed results for effect on suicidality**
 - ▶ Methodologic issues may account for differences in outcomes across studies
- **More research is needed in other diagnoses/dimensions, special populations and with arketamine**
- **More comparative research is needed across racemic, S- and R-ketamine as well as across various routes of administration**

Back-Up

Slide #7 References

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