FYI: The Lilly diabetes/endocrine group held an academic advisory board meeting this weekend in Atlanta. They kindly allotted two hours for discussion of olanzapine's potential hyperglycemia risks, and Charles Beasley, Chris Bomba, Patrizia Cavazzoni, Suni Keeling, and I attended. Unfortunately, this consultation reinforced my impression that hyperglycemia remains quite a threat for olanzapine and may merit increasing even further medical attention and marketing focus on the topic.

On the positive side, like other endocrinologists, they were not impressed with the Newcomer findings. They were however concerned by our spontaneous AE reports, and quite impressed by the magnitude of weight gain on olanzapine and implications for glucose. Much of their input for helpful steps came back to addressing weight gain. They also provided several suggestions for further analyses of existing data and suggestions for new studies. Citing methodological questions, at least the vocal members were not reassured adequately by our analyses, such as the finding that relative risk was not higher than comparative drugs. Disconcertingly, one member compared our approach to Warner-Lambert's reported argument that Rezulin did not cause more hepatic problems than other drugs in its class.

We (especially Chris and Suni) did successfully use this meeting to connect with a number of leading endocrinologists who are likely to be helpful moving forward.

Let me know if you have questions, and I invite comments from other Lilly attendees. thanks,

Robert