

VCBH **Ventura County**
Behavioral Health Department

A Division of the Ventura County Health Care Agency

Pierre Durrand, DPA
Health Care Agency Director

distinct group that is watched closely with baseline blood sugars and the buck should not be passed that easily.

Right now, we have stopped using Zyprexa in our region since our Hispanic population is very high and we cannot run the risk of having these folks end up with high blood sugars. We have a staff of approximately thirty psychiatrists in the county and all are aware of this situation. Our county serves a population of nearly 5,000 mental health patients.

Please, take this situation into consideration. I guess what we are asking is a report from Lilly in regards to Zyprexa and its potential for high blood sugar, regardless what the general antipsychotic statistics are. We certainly have never seen this with Haldol, Navane, Risperdal, and others to this extend.

If you need to reach me, please do so at your earliest convenience or our Quality Assurance, doctor of pharmacology, Dr. Patti Yoshida (805) 652-6187. We would be glad to help as much as we can. We have certainly used Zyprexa in the past with other groups to our satisfaction.

Sincerely,



Albert Marrero, MD
Staff Psychiatrist
(bilingual)