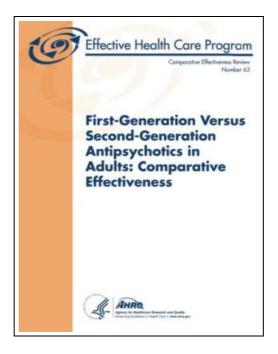
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Createspace. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 570 pages. Dimensions: 11.0in. x 8.5in. x 1.3in.Antipsychotic medications are used to treat and manage symptoms for several psychiatric disorders and are commonly categorized into two classes. First-generation antipsychotics (FGAs), also known as typical antipsychotics, were developed in the 1950s. Second-generation antipsychotics (SGAs), also known as atypical antipsychotics, emerged in the 1980s. To date, FGAs have been classified according to their chemical structure, which includes serotonin-dopamine antagonists and multiacting receptor-targeted antipsychotics, whereas SGAs have been categorized according to their pharmacological properties as dopamine partial agonists. There is ongoing research testing the proposed mechanisms of action within each class with respect to the neurobiology of different psychiatric disorders. According to findings from the 200405 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, an estimated 2 million adult patients in the U. S. were prescribed an antipsychotic medication, three quarters of whom were taking an SGA. In 2003, an estimated 2. 82 billion were spent in the country on these medications, with SGAs accounting for 93 of this expenditure. Today, 20 FGAs and SGAs are commercially available in the U. S. and approved by the FDA. Individuals taking antipsychotics may stop taking their medication for a number of reasons, including adverse events (AEs) and a lack of improvement in their symptoms. As a result, ongoing evaluations of drug efficacy and models of patient decisionmaking are essential. This Review provides a comprehensive synthesis of the evidence examining the benefits and harms associated with the use of FDA-approved FGAs and SGAs. This CER focuses on comparisons of individual medications rather than drug classes. This topic is important and timely, given the ongoing debate about the comparative benefits and harms of FGAs and SGAs. The focus of this report complements other recent reviews inve

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