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Dopamine, the antipsychotic molecule: a perspective on mechanisms underlying antipsychotic response variability

Running title: Dopamine, the antipsychotic drug

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Highlights

- Antipsychotic drugs are first line treatment in schizophrenia
- The dopamine D2 receptor system is a major target of antipsychotic drugs
- The treatment with antipsychotics lead to multiple outcomes, including a diminuished long-term efficacy
- Here putative mechanistic aspects of the antipsychotic treatment outcomes varibility are discussed.

Abstract

All antipsychotics bind to the dopamine D2 receptor. An "optimal" level of D2 receptor blockade with antipsychotics is thought to ameliorate the positive symptoms of schizophrenia. However, persistent D2 receptor blockade is associated with a