GLUTAMATERGIC SYSTEM IN SCHIZOPHRENIA

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Abstract: Schizophrenia is one of the most common, devastating and least understood psychiatric disorders of human population. The theories of schizophrenia are dominated for many years by neuropharmacology that implicates aberrant neurotransmission systems, a central role being played by dopamine and glutamate. The present paper briefly summarizes glutamate receptor physiology and up-to-date findings of glutamatergic dysfunction in schizophrenia, with focus on pre- and post-synaptic markers, genetics, pharmacological studies, and their therapeutic implications.

Key words: schizophrenia, glutamate, ionotropic/metabotropic receptors, antipsychotics.