

## **Regional Considerations -- Australia**

Overall the algorithm appears appropriate although there are some country-specific modifications that would need to be made. These modifications relate to the following:

Intramuscular ziprasidone is not available in Australia and is unlikely to be in the foreseeable future.

Intramuscular fluphenazine is also not available. Intramuscular haloperidol would be the preferred conventional typical antipsychotic drug. Droperidol is available, but there is considerable concern about the cardiovascular side effects associated with its use.

Intramuscular benzodiazepines include clonazepam and midazolam - the latter being of limited use because of its very short duration of action.

We have two other long-acting antipsychotic preparations apart from RIS, HAL and FLU - they are flupenthixol decanoate and zuclopenthixol decanoate.

We also have trifluoperazine. Thioridazine is out of favour because of concerns about QT prolongation.