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**EVALUATE OUTCOMES OF SWITCHING  
DONEPEZIL TO GALANTAMINE (A5) Julie Chen,  
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(julie.chen@va.gov) IRB approval pending.**

Dementia is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder where there is a decline in cognitive function. Donepezil and galantamine, both cholinesterase inhibitors, have been shown effective in improving cognition and memory in patients suffering from dementia. The Veterans Affairs recently started using galantamine as their preferred acetylcholinesterase inhibitor, switching patients from donepezil to galantamine. A retrospective chart review of approximately 600 patients at the Veteran Affairs Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System was performed to evaluate the outcomes from switching donepezil to galantamine. The primary outcome focused on efficacy, incidence of adverse effects, and safety. A secondary outcome analyzed two subgroups: patients who failed treatment and patients who had no changes in their psychiatric medication profile. Outcomes were measured via dementia staging (MMSE, FAST, GDS, CRD), activities of daily living, gastrointestinal related adverse effects, reports of dizziness or fatigue, and bradycardia (pulse, heart rate). Each patient served as its own comparator. Results and conclusion will be presented.