

Pharmacotherapy for behavioral manifestations in FTD



DG
FTD

Introduction

Trial-based evidence for drug treatment of behavioral disturbances in frontotemporal dementia (FTD) is scarce despite the significant burden this imposes on the patients and families. We examined consistency of drug management decisions for behavioral disturbances in patients with FTD between European expert centres belonging to the European Reference Network for Rare Neurological diseases (ERN-RND).

Work Plan

The physicians (neurologists or psychiatrists) of each ERN-RND FTD site were invited to participate in a survey to evaluate current clinical practice with regards to actual drug and nondrug management at their respective sites. **Fourteen** common behavioral problems were queried and a list of **15** drug options (including also 'none') was provided for each. Data were analysed in a descriptive manner. The current analysis is restricted to the drug treatment options, leaving out the nondrug management options (behavioral therapy, cognitive therapy, psychoeducation).

Results

Figure 1: The top five most selected recommended treatments by physicians for each behavioural symptom

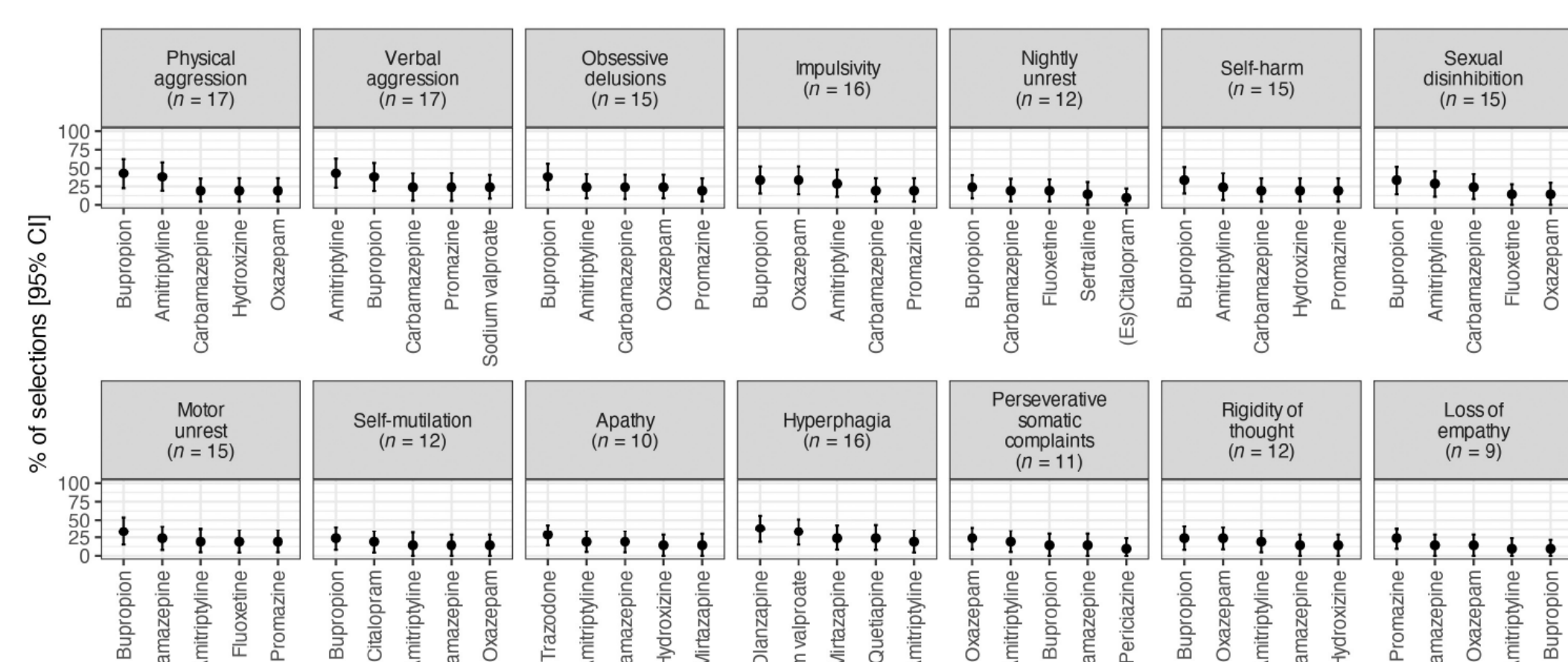
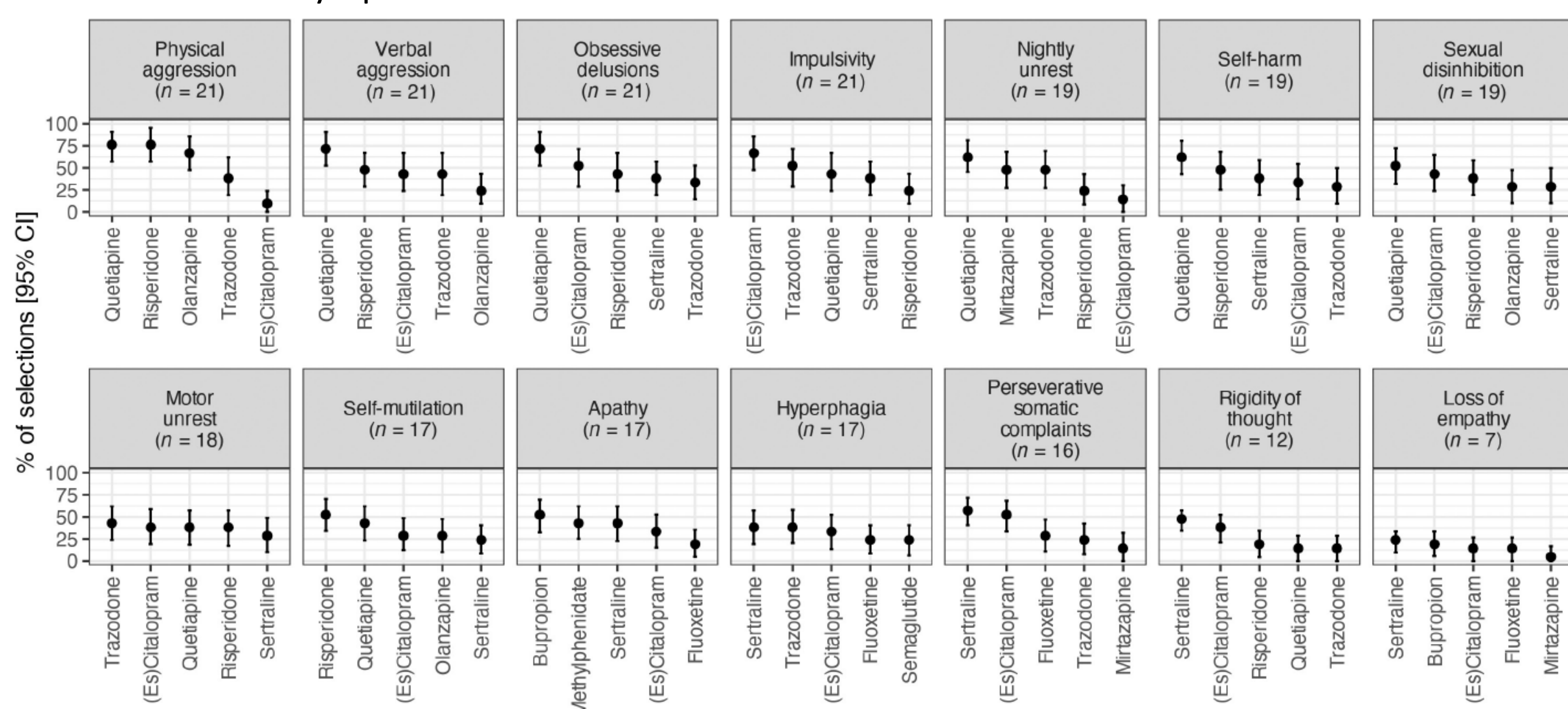
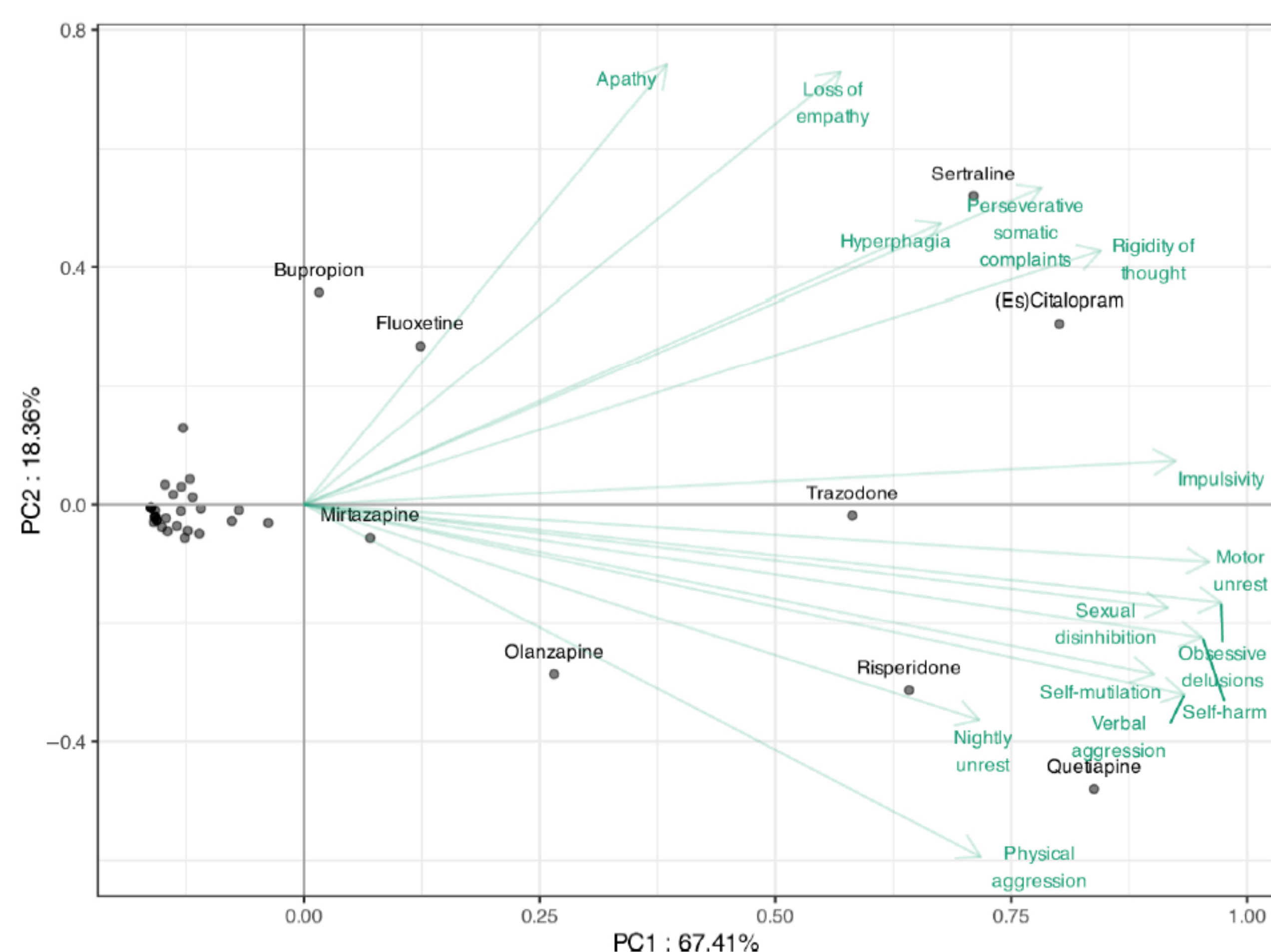


Figure 3: The top five most selected contraindicated treatments by physicians for each behavioural symptom

Outlook

This project provides practical information that may be useful for non-expert physicians when they are confronted with hard-to-treat behavioral problems in FTD. Second, a survey like this is a good way to meaningfully connect the centres within the DG and get insight into commonalities and differences in treatment. Similar project applications will be submitted on related topics.

Figure 2: Results of the PCA based on the percentage of physicians who selected a treatment, regardless of its rank, using the treatments as observations and the behavioural disturbances as variables. The conceptual groupings of symptoms can be denoted in different ways but practically two main subgroups cluster based on the therapeutic approach recommended



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Pharmacotherapy for behavioural manifestations in frontotemporal dementia: An expert consensus from the European Reference Network for Rare Neurological Diseases (ERN-RND)

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