

Quality assessment							Number of patients		Effect		Quality	Importance
Number of studies	Study design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Comparison 1a: donepezil	placebo	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		
Cognitive abilities (follow up: 12 weeks; assessed with: Severe Impairment Battery)												
2	randomised trials	not serious	very serious ¹	not serious ²	very serious ₁	none	68	-	-	SMD 0.34 higher (0.65 lower to 1.33 higher)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW	CRITICAL
Quality of life – not reported												
-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	CRITICAL
Community participation and meaningful occupation – not reported												

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Number of studies	Study design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Comparison 1a: donepezil	placebo	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		
-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	CRITICAL
Behavioural problems (follow up: 12 weeks; assessed with: various scales)												
2	randomised trials	not serious	not serious	not serious	serious ³	none	62	-	-	SMD 0.28 higher (0.07 lower to 0.63 higher)	⊕⊕⊕○ MODERATE	IMPORTANT
Serious adverse events (follow up: 12 weeks)												
2	randomised trials	not serious	not serious	not serious	serious ⁴	none	0/71 (0.0%)	0/70 (0.0%)	not estimable		⊕⊕⊕○ MODERATE	IMPORTANT
Severe adverse events (follow up: 12 weeks)												
1	randomised trials ⁵	not serious	not serious	not serious	very serious ²	none	2/62 (3.2%)	0/61 (0.0%)	RR 4.92 (0.24 to 100.43)	0 fewer per 1000 ⁶ (from 0 fewer to 0 fewer)	⊕⊕○○ LOW	IMPORTANT
Any adverse event (follow up: 12 weeks)												
1	randomised trials ⁷	not serious	not serious	not serious	serious ³	none	46/62 (74.2%)	29/61 (47.5%)	RR 1.56 (1.15 to 2.11)	266 more per 1000 (from 71 more to 528 more)	⊕⊕⊕○ MODERATE	IMPORTANT

1. Downgraded two levels for imprecision (wide confidence interval) and inconsistency ($I^2 = 73\%$). This was the criterion used in the Livingstone 2015 review.
2. Downgraded two levels for serious imprecision (wide confidence interval) and small number of events. This was the criterion used in the Livingstone 2015 review.
3. Downgraded one level for imprecision (wide confidence interval). This was the criterion used in the Livingstone 2015 review.
4. Sample size less than optimal information size (<400 for continuous outcomes or <300 for dichotomous outcomes).
5. Serious adverse events: hypertension and emotional lability.
6. Absolute risk value is 0 as no events of interest occurred for this outcome.
7. Most common side effects were asthenia, anorexia, dyspepsia, nausea, vomiting, and insomnia.