Recognizing and Managing Shift Work Disorder, an Underdiagnosed Condition: Improving Quality of Life

Treatment Options for Shift Work Disorder

For Insomnia¹ – to increase sleep duration

- Sleep/wake hygiene behaviors
- Hypnotic medication
 - Benzodiazepines, other benzodiazepine receptor agonists
 - Triazolam
 - Temazepam
- Melatonin (not FDA approved)

For Awake-Time Sleepiness – to increase alertness

- Naps²
- Caffeine³
- Armodafinil⁴/Modafinil⁵ (only FDA-approved agents)

For Circadian Rhythm Misalignment^{1,6} – to increase sleep duration and alertness

- Bright light during work
- Melatonin (bedtime during the day)
- Avoid morning bright light (bedtime during the day)

References

- 1. Morgenthaler TI, et al. Sleep. 2007;30:1445-1459.
- 2. Smith-Coggins R, et al. *Ann Emerg Med.* 2006;48:596-604.
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- 4. Czeisler CA, et al. Mayo Clin Proc. 2009;84(11):958-972.
- 5. Czeisler CA, et al. N Engl J Med. 2005;353:476-486.
- 6. Smith MR, et al. Sleep. 2009;32:1481-1489.

