Things are Looking Up

Study shows bupropion may help treat sexual dysfunction

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According to a recent study published in the Journal of Clinical Psychiatry, sexual dysfunction associated with the use of the antidepressant fluoxetine was resolved after patients switched to bupropion. The alternative medication is manufactured by Burroughs Wellcome Co. under the brand name Wellbutrin.

The study showed that the following discontinuation of fluoxetine and subsequent treatment with bupropion, a whopping 94 percent of patients reported complete or partial resolution of orgasm dysfunction. The study also showed that bupropion was equally effective in treating patients' depression during the course of the test.

Los Angeles-based HIV specialist R. Scott Hitt, M.D., advocates caution, however. "We all know about the Burroughs Wellcome press machinery at work. One study is interesting but far from conclusive. I remain highly skeptical of Burroughs Wellcome."

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