**Drug Therapies for OCD Evaluation**

**Virtual Card Sort**

***Instructions:*** *There are three evaluation points in total. Start by drawing out three columns in your pad. Then see if you can separate the statements below into three separate points. Write the numbers of all the statements that you think belong to the same evaluations point in one column and so on. Next, see if you can put the statements in a logical order by reordering the numbers in each colum*

1. Furthermore, **Soomro et al (2009)** reviewed studies comparing SSRIs to placebos in the treatment of OCD and concluded that all 17 studies reviewed showed significantly better results for SSRIs than for placebo conditions.

2. For example, loss of appetite, loss of sex drive, irritability, sleep pattern disturbance and headaches are all common.

3. There are a number of research studies that support the effectiveness biological treatments for OCD.

4. Therefore, drug treatments alone could be seen as less appropriate than drug treatment in conjunction with psychological therapies that can help the person deal better with their thoughts and emotions

5. Drug treatments reduce obsessive thoughts and compulsive behaviour to such a level that a normal lifestyle can be achieved however they do not ‘cure’ OCD.

6. In some cases, these side effects could be more debilitating than the illness itself, and in these cases it is likely that the sufferer will not continue with treatment.

7. Therefore, suggesting that it may not always be an appropriate treatment for OCD sufferers and could lead to a poorer, rather than a better quality of life

8. These studies suggest that altering serotonin levels in OCD patients often helps to reduce the symptoms and that despite drug treatments not always being completely effective, they should still be considered as a possible treatment option for people who suffer from OCD.

9 **Julien (2007)** reported that studies of SSRIs show that although the symptoms do not fully disappear between 50% and 80% of OCD patients improve, allowing them to live a fairly normal lifestyle, which they wouldn’t be able to do without the treatment.

10. Patients can experience a number of side effects with drug treatments.

11. They may be an appropriate and effective short term treatment, however if medication is stopped, patients suffer relapse of their symptoms.

12. This maybe because they are only dealing with the biological aspect of OCD, highlighting the importance of using an interactionist approach to treat the disorder.