

## What is your experience treating patients with catatonia?

**Dr. McCall:**

Treating patients with catatonia is extremely rewarding and gratifying. And while the entirety of the focus should be on the patient and giving them relief, truth be told, as the practitioner, there's just this wonderful sense of gratification of seeing someone who is so ill get completely well so fast. And after you've done this two or three times, I don't know what a practitioner can say other than, "I want to do more of that."

Do we ever have patients that don't recover, whether it's with intravenous medication, intramuscular medication like lorazepam, or whether it's with ECT? Occasionally, and I can't explain that, but I would say 90 percent plus of patients with catatonic stupor or catatonic excitement are going to have a profound improvement. And that's what keeps me going at this.