

## **Clinical Guidelines and Related Provider Requirements: Prescribing and Monitoring of Antipsychotic Medications for Youth**

Community Behavioral Health (CBH) has adopted Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) to outline best practices for the treatment of specific disorders or certain populations. These guidelines will be used by CBH to assess the quality of care provided to CBH members. As such, providers are advised to review and, where appropriate, implement these best practices in their care. CPGs apply to all clinical settings where care is delivered to members. CPGs should be used in conjunction with any level-of-care-specific performance standards, as well as all other required CBH, NIAC, state, and federal regulations and standards.

CBH has updated the existing guidelines for the treatment of adults with major depressive disorder. The most recent versions of all CPGs can now be found on the [Clinical Practice Guidelines webpage](#).

To ensure alignment and best practices, CBH recommends that providers review the CPGs and make any necessary updates or revisions to provider policies and procedures.

Significant changes to the Antipsychotic Medications Clinical Practice Guidelines include:

- ➔ Evaluation to include social support and stability of caregivers; evaluation of suicidality
- ➔ Additional monitoring parameters: psychiatric evaluations at least annually, prolactin labs drawn at least annually
- ➔ More information on behavioral intervention: Family-Focused Therapy
- ➔ Infosheet: [Antipsychotics Education for Parents and Caregivers](#)

Adherence to the CPGs will be assessed through CBH monitoring and oversight, including Quality, Clinical, and Compliance Department protocols. Additionally, components may be reviewed as part of the Network Improvement and Accountability Collaborative (NIAC) initial and recertification reviews. To assess quality of care and align with state and regulatory requirements, CBH will also be utilizing several specific metrics for the CPG, which are detailed in the table below.

<i>Clinical Guidelines</i>	<i>Quality Metrics</i>
<p><a href="#">Clinical Practice Guidelines for Prescribing and Monitoring of Antipsychotic Medications for Youth</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ HEDIS APM: The percentage of children and adolescents (age 1-17) who had two or more antipsychotic prescriptions and had metabolic testing [blood glucose and lipid].</li> <li>➔ Psychosocial Treatment for Children and Adolescents on Antipsychotics: The percentage of children and adolescents (age 1-17) with a new prescription for one or more antipsychotic medications who received at least six psychosocial treatments within six months of the prescription date.</li> </ul>

These requirements take effect on April 12, 2024. Please direct questions to Stephanie Byers at [stephanie.byers@phila.gov](mailto:stephanie.byers@phila.gov).