

## Criteria Indicating Need for Further Review of a Child's Clinical Status

The following situations indicate a need for further review of a patient's case. These parameters do not necessarily indicate that treatment is inappropriate, but they do indicate a need for further review.

For a child being prescribed a psychotropic medication, any of the following suggests the need for additional review of a patient's clinical status:

1. Absence of a thorough assessment for the DSM-5 diagnosis(es) in the child's medical record
2. Four (4) or more psychotropic medications prescribed concomitantly (side effect medications are not included in this count)
3. Prescribing of:
  - Two (2) or more concomitant stimulants\*
  - Two (2) or more concomitant alpha agonists
  - Two (2) or more concomitant antidepressants
  - Two (2) or more concomitant antipsychotics
  - Three (3) or more concomitant mood stabilizers

\*The prescription of a long-acting stimulant and an immediate release stimulant of the same chemical entity (e.g., methylphenidate) does not constitute concomitant prescribing.

Note: When switching psychotropics, medication overlaps and cross taper should occur in a timely fashion, generally within 4 weeks.

4. The prescribed psychotropic medication is not consistent with appropriate care for the patient's diagnosed mental disorder or with documented target symptoms usually associated with a therapeutic response to the medication prescribed.
5. Psychotropic polypharmacy (2 or more medications) for a given mental disorder is prescribed before utilizing psychotropic monotherapy.
6. The psychotropic medication dose exceeds usual recommended doses (FDA and/or literature based maximum dosages).
7. Psychotropic medications are prescribed for children of very young age, including children receiving the following medications with an age of:
  - Stimulants: Less than three (3) years of age
  - Alpha Agonists: Less than four (4) years of age
  - Antidepressants: Less than four (4) years of age
  - Antipsychotics: Less than four (4) years of age
  - Mood Stabilizers: Less than four (4) years of age
8. Prescribing by a primary care provider who has not documented previous specialty training for a diagnosis other than the following (unless recommended by a psychiatrist consultant):
  - Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD)
  - Uncomplicated anxiety disorders
  - Uncomplicated depression
9. Antipsychotic medication(s) prescribed continuously without appropriate monitoring of glucose and lipids at least every 6 months.