



First-Line Psychosocial Care for Children and Adolescents on Antipsychotics (APP)

What does the APP measure assess?

- The APP measure assesses the percentage of children and adolescents one to 17 years of age who had a new prescription for an antipsychotic medication without a clinical indication and had documentation of psychosocial care as first-line treatment (90 days prior to new prescription through 30 days after).¹

Why is the APP measure important?

- Prescribing antipsychotic medications to children and adolescents for which psychosocial interventions are considered first-line treatment has increased. Antipsychotic medications can elevate the risk for developing serious metabolic health conditions like heart disease, diabetes, stroke, and other health problems in adulthood.²
- Psychosocial care, which includes behavioral interventions, psychological therapies, and skills training, among other forms of non-pharmacological care, is the recommended first-line treatment option for children and adolescents diagnosed with nonpsychotic conditions such as attention-deficit disorder (ADD) or disruptive behaviors.

¹ <https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/use-of-first-line-psychosocial-care-for-children-and-adolescents-on-anti-psychotics/>

² <https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/metabolic-monitoring-for-children-and-adolescents-on-antipsychotics/>

What can you do to help?

- Before prescribing children and adolescents any antipsychotic medication, you should complete or refer your patients for a trial of first-line, evidenced-based psychosocial care.
- When prescribed, antipsychotic medications should be part of a comprehensive, multi-modal plan for coordinated treatment that includes psychosocial care.
- The ongoing need for continued therapy with antipsychotic medications should be reviewed periodically.

Thank you for your partnership. Please contact your Provider Relations Representative if you have questions or need assistance.



Antipsychotic Medications

Miscellaneous antipsychotic agents

Aripiprazole | Asenapine | Brexpiprazole
Cariprazine Clozapine | Haloperidol | Iloperidone
Loxapine | Lurisdone | Molindone | Olanzapine
Paliperidone | Pimozide | Quetiapin
Risperidone | Ziprasidone

Phenothiazine antipsychotics

Chlorpromazine | Fluphenazine | Perphenazine
Thioridazine | Trifluoperazine

Thioxanthenes

Thiothixene

Long-acting injections

Aripiprazole | Fluphenazine decanoate
Haloperidol decanoate | Olanzapine
Paliperidone palmitate | Risperidone

Antipsychotic Combination Medications

Psychotherapeutic combinations

Fluoxetine-olanzapine | Perphenazine-amitriptyline

CPT® Codes for Psychological Care:

90832 – 90834
90836 – 90840
90845 – 90847
90849 | 90853
90875 | 90876
90880

HCPCS Codes for Psychological Care:

G0176 | G0177
G0409 – G0411 | H0004
H0035 – H0040 | H2000
H2001 | H2011 – H2014
H2017 – H2020 | S0201
S9480 | S9484 | S9485
With or without a telehealth
modifier: 95, GT

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