

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 1 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 into 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 and disruptive behaviors.

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.
- Periodically the ongoing need for continued therapy with antipsychotic medications should be reviewed.

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

Antipsychotic Medications

Description	Prescription		
Miscellaneous antipsychotic agents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aripiprazole • Asenapine • Brexpiprazole • Cariprazine • Clozapine • Haloperidol • Iloperidone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loxapine • Lurasidone • Molindone • Olanzapine • Paliperidone • Pimozide • Quetiapine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risperidone • Ziprasidone
Phenothiazine antipsychotics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chlorpromazine • Fluphenazine • Perphenazine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thioridazine • Trifluoperazine 	
Thioxanthenes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thiothixene 		
Long-acting injections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aripiprazole • Fluphenazine decanoate • Haloperidol decanoate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olanzapine • Paliperidone palmitate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risperidone

Antipsychotic Combination Medications

Description	Prescription	
Psychotherapeutic combinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluoxetine-olanzapine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perphenazine-amitriptyline

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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

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/>