



Practice Points

The purpose of this Practice Point is to provide additional information to Children's Division (CD) staff regarding mandatory psychotropic medication reviews. **BEFORE** informed consent for psychotropic medications may be given, CD shall determine if a mandatory review by the Center for Excellence in CHILD Well-Being (The Center) is required. A review by The Center is required:

- Before a child age three (3) or younger is prescribed any psychotropic medication or
- For a child age four (4) or older:
 - Before starting a 3rd (or more) psychotropic medication;
 - Before starting a 2nd (or more) antipsychotic;
 - Before a psychotropic medication is started by a second prescriber;
 - Before starting a psychotropic medication that exceeds dosage guidelines.

This Practice Point includes examples of a required mandatory review referral to The Center.

Jane Doe, age 12 is currently taking Clonidine and Risperdal and the psychiatrist has recommended adding Vyvanse. Since she is already on 2 Psychotropics and Vyvanse would be a 3rd, a mandatory review by The Center would be required before an informed consent decision can be made. Once the recommendations are received and reviewed, an informed consent decision can be made

A child is currently prescribed Abilify. The psychiatrist is recommending a prescription for Risperdal in addition to the Abilify. This would be a second antipsychotic and would require a mandatory review by The Center.

A child is seeing a regular psychiatrist through a community mental health agency. Child is placed in inpatient hospitalization and there is a recommendation to change medications prior to discharge. The hospital becomes a second prescriber and a mandatory review would be required before giving informed consent.

Child has diagnosis of ADHD and Depression or Disruptive Mood dysregulation disorder. He is prescribed ADHD medication by his pediatrician. He is then referred to a psychiatrist that recommends a psychotropic medication to address his behavioral health symptoms. This would be a second prescriber and a referral would be needed for a mandatory review. All medications should ideally be prescribed by the same prescriber as best practice.

A child is currently at a psychiatry appointment with the worker. The psychiatrist is recommending a medication. When worker asks if that dose exceeds guidelines and the psychiatrist states that it does, a mandatory review would be required before consenting to the medication. At this time, the only established dosing guidelines that are available are FDA approved guidelines.

This list of examples is not all inclusive and is provided as guidance for referrals to The Center.