

Name of Policy: **Polypharmacy**

Policy Number: 3364-160-SD-129

Approving Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Responsible Agent: Chair, Department of Psychiatry
Administrative Director

Scope: Outpatient Clinic - Psychiatry



Effective date: June 18, 2024

Original effective date: July 2004

Key words: psychotropic, medications, side effects, drug interactions

	New policy proposal	X	Minor/technical revision of existing policy
	Major revision of existing policy		Reaffirmation of existing policy

(A) Policy statement

The provider will attempt to minimize the number of psychotropic medications that patients use while fully treating the target symptoms that have been identified.

(B) Purpose of policy

To minimize the number of psychotropic medications prescribed to patients with severe and/or complicated psychiatric illness without neglecting full treatment of the target symptoms.

(C) Procedure

- (1) The provider will be aware of the greater potential for side effects and drug interactions with an increasing number of medications, especially if multiple agents in the same class are utilized, as well as the potential cost burden of using multiple medications.
- (2) The provider will discuss the potential side effects of using multiple psychotropic medications with the patient and/or guardian when deciding the best medication options.
- (3) The provider will obtain and document informed consent from patient and/or guardian regarding the use of prescribed psychotropic medications.

<p>Approved by:</p> <p><u>/s/</u> Richard Swaine, CPA Chief Executive Officer</p> <p><u>June 18, 2024</u> Date</p> <p><u>/s/</u> Robert Smith, MD, PhD Chair, Department of Psychiatry</p> <p><u>June 18, 2024</u> Date</p> <p><u>/s/</u> Stephanie Calmes, Ph.D., LPCC-S, LICDC-CS Administrative Director</p> <p><u>June 18, 2024</u> Date</p> <p><i>Review/Revision Completed by:</i> <i>Department of Psychiatry Administration</i></p>	<p>Policies Superseded by this Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>ODMH-SD-129</i> <p>Initial effective date: July 2004</p> <p>Review/Revision Date:</p> <p><i>August 2005</i> <i>August 2007</i> <i>October 2, 2010</i> <i>March 4, 2014</i> <i>January 10, 2017</i> <i>September 21, 2018</i> <i>July 6, 2021</i> <i>June 18, 2024</i></p> <p>Next review date: <i>June 18, 2027</i></p>
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