


Name of Policy: High Dose Pharmacotherapy Policy Number: 3364-160-SD-130 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: high dose, psychotropic medication, side effects, drug interaction			
	New policy proposal		Minor/technical revision of existing policy
	Major revision of existing policy	X	Reaffirmation of existing policy

(A) Policy statement

It is recognized that when caring for patients with complicated and/or severe psychiatric illness, it may be necessary to use high doses of psychotropic medications to effectively treat target symptoms.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To effectively treat target symptoms of complicated and/or severe psychiatric illness.

(C) Procedure

When it is necessary for the provider to use high doses of medications, it is expected that:

- (1) The provider is aware of the FDA-approved dosage guidelines for the medication utilized.
- (2) The provider is aware of the potential side effects and drug interactions of the medications the patient is taking and will educate patient and/or guardian on the signs and symptoms of possible side effects.
- (3) The provider will use the lowest possible dose to effectively treat target symptoms.

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- (4) The provider will obtain, and document, informed consent from patient and/or guardian regarding the high dose of psychotropic medications.

Approved by:

/s/

Richard Swaine, CPA
Chief Executive Officer

June 18, 2024

Date

/s/

Robert Smith, MD, PhD
Chair, Department of Psychiatry

June 18, 2024

Date

/s/

Stephanie Calmes, Ph.D., LPCC-S,
LICDC-CS
Administrative Director

June 18, 2024

Date

Review/Revision Completed by:

Department of Psychiatry Administration

Policies Superseded by this Policy:

- **ODMH-SD-130**

Initial effective date: July 2004

Review/Revision Date:

*August 2005**August 2007**October 2, 2010**March 4, 2014**February 3, 2017**September 21, 2018**July 6, 2021**June 18, 2024*

Next review date:

June 18, 2027