

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.

<p>Approved by:</p> <p>/s/</p> <p>Richard Swaine, CPA Chief Executive Officer</p> <p>June 18, 2024</p> <p>Date</p> <p>/s/</p> <p>Robert Smith, MD, PhD Chair, Department of Psychiatry</p> <p>June 18, 2024</p> <p>Date</p> <p>/s/</p> <p>Stephanie Calmes, Ph.D., LPCC-S, LICDC-CS Administrative Director</p> <p>June 18, 2024</p> <p>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Policies Superseded by this Policy: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-130</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>February 3, 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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