

PROCEDURE

Series: Operating Procedures **COA:**
CFOP: 175-98

Procedure Name: Pre-Consent Review For Psychotropic Medication Treatment Plans For Children Under Eleven (11) Years Of Age In Out-Of-Home Care Who Are Prescribed Two (2) Or More Psychotropic Medications

Procedure Number: OP-1098

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Revision #/Date: (1) 08/05/08

Effective Date: 04/07/05

Applicable to: All BFP Staff and Contract Providers

SUBJECT: Psychotropic medication

PURPOSE: This operating procedure describes the process for obtaining a pre-consent review for children under eleven (11) years of age who are in out-of-home placement and prescribed two (2) or more psychotropic medications.

PROCEDURE:

References:

Relevant provisions relating to use of psychotropic medication for children are as follows:

- a. Section 39.407, Florida Statutes, Medical, psychiatric, and psychological examination and treatment of child; physical or mental examination of parent or person requesting custody of child.
- b. Department of Children and Families General Counsel Opinion No. 2001-04 and 2001-04(a).

1. Definitions:

Authorization for Psychotropic Medication Treatment

- i. A person who has the power to provide consent for a child to receive psychotropic medication, as provided by law includes a birth or adoptive parent or a legal guardian.
- ii. If a child does not have a birth or adoptive parent or a legal guardian, authorization to treat with psychotropic medication must be pursued through a court order.

Care Manager - A person who is responsible for participating in the development and implementation of a case plan, linking the service providers to a child or adolescent and his or her family, monitoring the delivery of services, providing advocacy services, and collecting

information to determine the effect of the services and treatment on child safety, well-being and permanency.

BFP - Refers to Brevard Family Partnership, unless otherwise specified.

Prescribing Practitioner - A physician licensed under Chapter 458 or 459, Florida Statutes, or an advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed under Chapter 464, Florida Statutes.

Psychotropic Medication - Any drug prescribed with the primary intent to stabilize or improve mood, mental status, behavioral symptomatology, or mental illness. The medications include, but are not limited to, the following major categories:

- a. Antipsychotics;
- b. Antidepressants;
- c. Anxiolytics;
- d. Mood stabilizers;
- e. Psychomotor stimulants or atomoxetine; and,
- f. Other medications commonly used that may include, but are not limited to, alpha 2 blockers, beta blockers, anticonvulsants, cognition enhancers, and opiate blockers. These other medications shall be considered a psychotropic medication only when used to stabilize or improve mood, mental status, behavior, or mental illness. When a physician has clearly documented that psychotropic medications are being prescribed for purposes other than to improve mood, mental status, behavior, or mental illness, a pre-consent review is not required.

2. General Statement

A mandatory pre-consent review by a child psychiatrist, contracted by the department, will be obtained prior to prescription of a psychotropic medication for any child under the age of eleven (11) who is in the custody of Brevard Family Partnership in out-of-home care. The final recommendation of the consultant child psychiatrist is intended to be used by the person who has legal authority to consent for extraordinary medical treatment or the judge who is providing the court order for treatment with a psychotropic medication.

3. Pre-Consent Review Procedure

- a. Completion of the pre-consent review process for children under eleven (11) years of age who are in the custody of the department in out-of-home care and prescribed two (2) or more psychotropic medications is the responsibility of the child's care manager.
- b. The care manager will complete the demographic section of the Psychotropic Medication Treatment Plan Review form (CF-FSP 5279, available in DCF Forms on the Internet and Intranet) if the child is under eleven (11) years of age, in the custody of the department in out-of-home care and prescribed two (2) psychotropic medications.
- c. The care manager will coordinate a psychiatric evaluation for the child, will take the child to the prescribing practitioner's office for the evaluation, and if two (2) or more psychotropic medications have been prescribed will request the prescribing practitioner to complete the



psychotropic medication treatment plan on the Psychotropic Medication Treatment Plan Review form (CF-FSP 5279) during the time the child is there.

- d. The care manager will fax the completed Psychotropic Medication Treatment Plan Review form (CF-FSP 5279) to the contracted consultant child psychiatrist within one (1) business day of the child’s office visit.
- e. The department’s contracted consultant child psychiatrist will review the psychotropic medication treatment plan and document the consultant psychiatrist’s review and recommendations on page 2 of the form within one (1) business day of receipt of the plan and fax the completed page 2 to the care manager that day. If further information is needed or the consultant does not concur with the prescribing practitioner’s treatment plan, the consultant will contact the prescribing practitioner by telephone to discuss the treatment plan. If the consultant is unable to obtain the information needed to provide a completed review, the consultant will note that inability on the form.
- f. The care manager will fax the completed Psychotropic Medication Treatment Plan Review to the prescribing practitioner the day it is received.
- g. The care manager will deliver the Psychotropic Medication Treatment Plan Review to the individual with legal authority for providing informed consent or to the child welfare legal attorney who shall file the motion for court authorization for psychotropic medication treatment within one business day.
- h. If the individual responsible for providing consent or the judge responsible for providing the court order for treatment have questions regarding the psychotropic medication treatment plan review or the consultant child psychiatrist’s recommendations, the care manager will assist with obtaining the information.
- i. The care manager will file a copy of the Psychotropic Medication Treatment Plan Review in the child’s case record.
- j. If the psychotropic medication treatment identified in the plan does not yield expected results, the pre-consent review process identifying a new medication treatment plan will begin again as described in paragraphs 6a through i above.

BY DIRECTION OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

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APPROVAL DATE: 10/05/2020