



Psychotropic Informed Consent

PURPOSE

To improve the practice of obtaining and documenting informed consent from individuals/parents/legal guardians for all prescribed psychotropic medications to facilitate positive clinical outcomes through increased understanding, compliance, and empowerment of the recipient.

SCOPE

All enrolled persons prescribed psychotropic medications as part of their treatment plan.

REFERENCES

Consent to Receive Psychotropic Medications

PROCEDURES

- a) Informed consent for medications will be accomplished according to Virginia Department of Behavioral Health guidelines
- b) Informed consent shall be obtained from the individual/legal guardian for each psychotropic medication prescribed. The individual medical record must contain documentation of the informed consent.
 - b.1. Consent to Receive Psychotropic Medications will include:
 - b.2. Prescribed medication, to include dosage
 - b.3. Individual/legal guardian acknowledgement that they were made aware of the risk/benefits/side effects by the prescribing physician
 - b.4. Contact information for the prescribing physician for any further concerns
 - b.5. Signature of the individual and/or decision maker
- c) Information provided in the process of obtaining informed consent will always be communicated in a manner that the individual/legal guardian can understand and comprehend. This will include the person's primary language and literacy.
- d) If the individual, due to cognitive deficit, is unable to adequately understand and comprehend the necessary information to complete the informed consent process, the medical practitioner should pursue measures to obtain an appropriate guardian who can provide informed consent.

- e) Individual/legal guardian will be encouraged to discuss any questions or concerns they may have with the prescribing medical practitioner and be provided applicable contact information.
- f) Any individual who attains the age of 18, new psychotropic medication informed consent must be obtained from the person as a legally responsible adult, unless the individual is maintained under other formal legal guardianship.