

Division: Pharmacy Services	Subject: State of Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration's Prior Authorization Criteria
Original Development Date: Original Effective Date: Revision Date:	May 7, 2015  February 24, 2017

## HIGH DOSE ANTIPSYCHOTIC CRITERIA

### LENGTH OF AUTHORIZATION: UP TO 3 MONTHS

The High Dose criteria is derived from the Florida Medicaid Adult Psychotherapeutic Medication Guidelines found at the following link: <http://medicaidmentalhealth.org/>

### **Tapering Considerations:**

Antipsychotic high dose prescribing should only be considered in exceptional cases for a time-limited trial after all evidence based approaches have failed. After a 3 month trial, the high dose should revert back to conventional levels unless the clinical benefits outweigh the risks (*for example a 5% dose reduction every 1-2 weeks may be reasonable*).

### REVIEW CRITERIA (ALL OF THE FOLLOWING BELOW IS REQUIRED):

- 1) Diagnosis must be Treatment Resistant Schizophrenia
- 2) Age must be  $\geq 18$  years
- 3) Failure of dose optimized, antipsychotic monotherapy;
  - a. Trials of at least two different agents
  - b. Adequate trial duration of at least 4 consecutive weeks  
*(6-8 weeks may be required for optimal response)*
  - AND
  - c. Failure of a long-acting depot antipsychotic
  - AND
  - d. Failure to respond to clozapine\* trial OR contraindication to clozapine
  - e. If partial response to clozapine then augmentation with a second antipsychotic has been tried
- 4) Documented compliance with all antipsychotic trials
  - a. Plasma blood levels are within the therapeutic range (if available)
  - b. Prescription claims history indicates compliance
- 5) Rule-out of other causes for non-response in compliant patients, i.e. substance abuse, concurrent use of other medications, and physical health conditions
- 6) Safety monitoring plan is documented  
<http://medicaidmentalhealth.org/monitoringSideEffects.cfm>

**\*Clozapine Help Line** – prescribers may call for a free consultation with a clozapine expert

Phone number: 727-562-6762 Monday – Friday (8:00AM to 5:00PM)

[http://www.medicaidmentalhealth.org/assets/file/News/81/Florida%20Clozapine%20Hotline%20Number\\_26%20May%202016.pdf](http://www.medicaidmentalhealth.org/assets/file/News/81/Florida%20Clozapine%20Hotline%20Number_26%20May%202016.pdf)