QUALITY MEASURE TIP SHEET:
Antipsychotic Medication—Long Stay

Quality Measure Overview

Reports the percentage of long-stay residents who are receiving antipsychotic drugs in a 7-day look-back period.

Exclusions:
- Residents with a diagnosis of schizophrenia, Tourette's syndrome, or Huntington's disease.

MDS Coding Requirements

In the Minimum Data Set (MDS):
- Indicate the number of days the resident received antipsychotic medications during the last seven days (or since admission/entry/re-entry if less than seven days).
- NO450 reports whether residents who have received any antipsychotic medications have had a gradual dose reduction (GDR)
- Within the first year in which a resident is admitted on an antipsychotic med or after the facility initiated the medication, the facility must attempt a GDR in two separate quarters (with at least one month between attempts) unless physician documentation indicates contraindication. After the first year, the GDR must be attempted annually unless contraindicated.
- Non-pharmacological approaches must be attempted and documented along with administration of antipsychotic medications and GDR.

Ask These Questions ...

- Is the MDS coding accurate?
- Are psychotropic medications only being used when appropriate to enhance the resident’s quality of life while maximizing his or her functional potential and well-being?
- Have the least restrictive interventions been attempted first?
- Have staff members analyzed the resident holistically to rule out underlying conditions, such as medical causes, that are affecting behavior?
- Are activities individualized and specific to the resident to alleviate boredom?
- Are basic needs being met?
- Are dementia residents hungry/thirsty and instructed when to eat/drink?
- Is the resident’s pain being managed?
- Are there consistent staff member assignments?
- Are there consistent routines?
- Are orders received from outside vendors, such as hospice, monitored?
- Are gradual-dose reductions completed per regulation?
- Is a behavior-tracking process in place to monitor for changes?
- Are adverse side effects of drugs monitored and treated accordingly?
- Do residents obtain psychological services for treatment if indicated?
- Are staff members and family educated on behavior management and nonpharmacological interventions?

FOR GUIDANCE ON QUALITY MEASURES, PLEASE REACH OUT TO A TELLIGEN NURSING HOME QUALITY IMPROVEMENT FACILITATOR