

Effective Date: January 2009

Subject: Psychopharmacological Medications

Overview: This document describes the mechanisms in place to evaluate the use of psychopharmacological medications.

Policy:

HPHC facilitates collaboration between medical and behavioral health (BH) practitioners to review pharmacy benefits and formularies, and assess the appropriate use of psychopharmacological medications.

HPHC's Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee and/or UM and Clinical Policy Committee (UMCPC) ensure that operational processes are in place to facilitate the appropriate selection and use of psychopharmacological medications. These mechanisms may include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Collaboration with BH practitioners in technology assessments to evaluate psychopharmacological medications;
2. Analysis of pharmacy utilization data to evaluate appropriate use of psychopharmacological medications;
3. Analysis of results of HEDIS Antidepressant Medication Management measure;
4. Assessment of the percentage of psychopharmacological medications considered for inclusion or continuation in the formulary for which psychiatrist input was obtained.

HPHC (through delegation oversight and other monitoring activities) measures performance related to appropriate selection and use of psychopharmacological medications.

- ❖ At least annually, HPHC selects at least one specific indicator related to these activities for measurement. The indicator(s) selected, performance goal, individuals responsible for measurement, and target date for measurement are documented in the HPHC QI workplan.
- ❖ Results of these measures are analyzed, reviewed by HPHC's Medical Management and Quality Committee (MMQC), and presented to HPHC's Clinical Quality Assurance Committee for review and intervention as appropriate.

Revisions to Date:

- ❖ **Revised:** 1/03, 12/04, 6/06, 1/09
- ❖ **Initiated:** 5/02