

Section: Medical Services
Policy: Informing Individuals of the Possible Side Effects of Psychoactive Medications
Policy No: MS 01
Effective: 10/01/2002
Revised/Approved: 03/28/2017

POLICY: It is the policy of Community Counseling Services that all individuals receiving services for whom psychoactive drugs are prescribed will receive an explanation of the possible side effects of those medications.

PURPOSE: To ensure that all individuals receiving services are informed of possible side effects of medication prescribed by staff medical personal

PROCEDURE: When a Community Counseling Services psychiatrist or psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner (PMHNP) prescribes any psychoactive drug, the psychiatrist/PMHNP shall explain at the time the medication is prescribed related side effects and what steps to take in the event that the listed site effects are present. Special attention shall be given to tardive dyskinesia, a serious side effect related to long-term use of anti-psychotic medications. The psychiatrist/PMHNP should document in his/her note that these side effects have been explained to the individual receiving services.

Each time a Nursing Assessment is performed on individuals receiving psychoactive drugs, the nurse shall ensure that the individual is aware of possible side effects and whether or not the individual is experiencing any related side effects. The nurse should document in his/her note that potential side effects were reviewed with the individual receiving services. If any side effects were noted, the nurse will document such on the Nursing Assessment progress note and bring to the attention of the prescribing provider.

Section: Medical Services

Policy: Psychiatric/Physician/PMHNP and Nursing Services
Policy No.: MS 02
Effective: 03/22/2011
Revised/Approved: 3/28/2017

Policy: It is the policy of Community Counseling Services to provide psychiatric/physician/PMHNP services and nursing services to individuals seeking mental health services as needed/recommend during the course of treatment. Only a licensed health care professional can provide nursing care, medical services, or medication, in accordance with the criteria, standards, and practices set forth by his/her respective licensing entity.

Purpose: To ensure that individuals seeking mental health services can access psychiatric/physician/PMHNP and nursing services within a timely fashion, to determine appropriate care as outlined on the Individual Service Plan and if necessary, assessing the need for psychotropic medications.

Procedure: Psychiatric/physician/PMHNP and nursing services are medical services provided by medically trained staff to address medical conditions related to the individual's mental illness or emotional disturbance. Medical services include medication evaluation and monitoring, nurse assessments, and medication injection. The following priority groups of individuals with serious mental illness, children/youth with serious emotional disturbance and individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability (if applicable) must be offered Psychiatric/Physician's Services within fourteen (14) days of his/her Initial Biopsychosocial Assessment unless the individual states in writing, that he/she does not want to receive the service. For individuals in need of Psychiatric/Physician Services, an appointment for those services must be made and documented during the initial Biopsychosocial Assessment. Appointment cancellation or "no shows" must be documented in the individual's case record.

- Individuals discharged from an inpatient psychiatric facility
- Individuals discharged from an institution
- Individuals discharged or transferred from Crisis Stabilization Services
- Individuals referred from Emergency/Crisis Response Services

Services are provided in each county served by Community Counseling Services on a pre-determined schedule either face-to-face or through telemedicine. If services are provided through telemedicine, the individual receiving services will have to give consent to receive services through telemedicine. For non-priority group individuals who are in need psychiatric evaluation and/or medication evaluation and monitoring, an appointment will be scheduled for the next available appointment. If services/medication are need prior to his/her scheduled appointment, the treatment team/targeted case manager will assist the individual in trying to get interim support through his/her primary care physician.

Definitions

Medication Evaluation and Monitoring: The intentional face-to-face interaction between a physician or a nurse practitioner and an individual for the purpose of assessing the need for psychotropic medication, prescribing medications, and regular periodic monitoring of the medications prescribed for therapeutic effect and medical safety. Only a licensed health care professional can provide/prescribe medical services in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth for by his/her licensing board.

Nursing assessment: A service that takes place between a registered nurse and an individual for the purpose of assessing extra-pyramidal symptoms, medication history, medical history, progress on medication, current symptoms, progress or lack thereof since last contact, and providing education to the individual and the family about the illness and the course of available treatment. Any time a nursing assessment is conducted, a progress note must be completed. Nursing assessment and other medical services cannot be provided/billed at the same time. Only a licensed health care professional can provide nursing care in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth by the Mississippi Board of Nursing.

Medication injection: The process of a licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, physician, or nurse practitioner injecting an individual with prescribed psychotropic medication for the purpose of restoring, maintain or improving the individual's role performance and/or mental health status. When an injection is given, it should be documented on the injection progress note and will include the name of the medication, the NDC number, drug expiration, area of injection, amount of injection and the name of the prescribing doctor/nurse practitioner. Only a licensed health care professional can provide nursing care in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth by the Mississippi Board of Nursing.