



Prescribing Antipsychotic Medications?

Monitor Patients with Care



Antipsychotic medications are effective in treatment symptoms of certain mental health illnesses such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. They may also be prescribed for symptomatic relief for a range of other emotional problems. Despite benefits for many, antipsychotics may have significant side effects such as:

- Considerable weight gain and obesity-related complications
- Diabetes
- Cardiovascular issues such as hypertension
- Hypercholesterolemia
- Movement disorders

It's important to perform a metabolic baseline test and ongoing annual testing for all patients (children through adults) who take antipsychotic medications.

Ensure all patients prescribed antipsychotic medications have the appropriate metabolic testing.¹

CPT Codes

HbA1c Test: 83036, 83037

Glucose Test: 80047, 80048, 80050, 80053, 80069, 82947, 82950, 82951

LDL-C (Cholesterol) Test: 80061, 83700, 83701, 83704, 83721

Before Prescribing

- Conduct a thorough physical exam of your patient.
- Ensure patients have been appropriately evaluated and diagnosed, and an alternative course of treatment does not exist.
- Collaborate with and refer patients to mental health professionals.
- If intended as a short-term intervention, note the Stop Date and schedule the follow-up.
- Educate patients about possible side effects like weight gain, movement disorders, and other risks that must be monitored with regular blood tests.
- Tell patients why it's important to keep appointment with all treating providers and for preventive healthcare.

¹ The HEDIS measure for Metabolic Monitoring for children requires both LDL-C and HbA1c/Glucose testing.

Next Steps

Talk to your patients about:

- How to take the medication
- How they work
- Medication benefits
- How long the patient should take them
- Why it's important to keep taking medication even if the patient begins feeling better
- Schedule appointments for continued monitoring and metabolic testing
- Ensure appointment reminders are provided
- Continue to assess for medication side effects
- Educate patients on what to do if they have questions or concerns.

Support

We are committed to the care and well-being of our members. We are also committed to working with you as a partner to develop the best possible treatment plans for all patients.

Please view the Provider section of our website at network.carolinacompletehealth.com for additional tools and resources. You may also contact your [Provider Engagement Administrator](#) directly, or contact Provider Relations for assistance at **1-833-552-3876 (TTY 711)**.

We're here to help. We support our provider partners with quality incentive programs and are dedicated to our local market. Please contact us through your local Provider Relations (PR) representative if you need assistance with these recommendations.

Phone: 1-833-552-3876 (TTY 711)

Website: network.carolinacompletehealth.com

This document is an informational resource designed to assist licensed healthcare practitioners in caring for their patients. Healthcare practitioners should use their professional judgment in using the information provided. HEDIS® measures are not a substitute for the care provided by licensed healthcare practitioners and patients are urged to consult with their healthcare practitioner for appropriate treatment. HEDIS® is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). *2023 ICD-10 Diagnosis Codes **CPT copyright 2023 American Medical Association (AMA). All rights reserved. CPT is a registered trademark of the AMA.

Last Revised: June 30, 2023