



TOBY DOUGLAS
DIRECTOR

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

October 10, 2014

RE: Update on Antipsychotic Restrictions for Beneficiaries Under 18 Years of Age

Dear Prescriber,

On August 29, 2014, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) issued the Medi-Cal NewsFlash: **New Restriction on Antipsychotics for Beneficiaries Under 18 Years of Age**. Effective October 1, 2014 the new restriction requires a Treatment Authorization Request (TAR) for antipsychotic use in beneficiaries under 18 years of age.

To help pharmacies submit these TARs, please include the psychiatric diagnosis, and if applicable, provide an indication that the patient has recently been released from the hospital. Other brief details about the justification can also be included and will reduce the number of phone calls with the pharmacy. This information can be submitted in the comments sections of the e-Rx, on the hand written Rx, or provided orally when calling in a prescription.

The full announcement for the TAR requirement can be found at http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/newsroom/newsroom_22957.asp

Maintaining patient continuity of care is of utmost concern to DHCS; your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Harry Hendrix, Jr., Chief
Pharmacy Benefits Division