

## Addressing Patients Taking Psychotropic Medications for Behavioral and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia. (BPSD)

<b>If facility is considering starting an antipsychotic medication then:</b>	
<p>Set up monitoring and documentation parameters  <b>*this step must be done BEFORE medications is started*</b></p>	<p>Identify target behaviors we are trying to reduce/eliminate and document why they should be reduced or eliminated.                      *critical question to be answered: do BPSD warrant medication use (danger to self/others or causing a significant decline in functional status)</p>
	<p>Establish Non-pharmacological interventions to be tried and documented BEFORE medication is initiated.</p>
	<p>Behavior tracking procedure established BEFORE medication initiated (per facility policy).</p>
	<p>Side Effect monitoring procedure established before medication initiated (per facility policy)(request pharmacy reference).</p>
	<p>Consult others for additional input (prescriber, pharmacist) re: medication and dose choice based on specific patient characteristics.</p>
	<p>Informed consent obtained BEFORE medication initiated.</p>
<p>Identify and document indication</p>	<p>Specific Psychotic Condition?</p>
	<p>Acute Delirium due to acute illness?</p>
	<p>BPSD?</p>
<b>INITIATE MEDICATION</b>	
<p>Care Plan target behaviors and non-pharmacological interventions                       Spell out patient specific treatment goals regarding the use of the psychotropic medication</p>	<p>Establish patient specific uniform procedure for documenting non-pharm interventions.</p>
	<p>No less frequently than quarterly: target behaviors and non-pharmacological interventions are summarized and documented by nurse manager for discussion with prescriber, pharmacist and other pertinent staff/family for trial dose reduction consideration.</p>
	<p>Judgment is made whether to reduce or continue current dosing based on the summarized target behaviors and interdisciplinary discussion that includes (but is not limited to) pharmacist and prescriber.</p>