Psychotropic Medication Informed Consent Guide

California State law defines informed consent as the voluntary consent of the client to take psychotropic medication.

Completed By:

- Prescribing provider (MD, DO, or PNP)

Compliance Requirements:

- Required for all clients receiving psychotropic medications
- Updated when there is a medication change
- Client and/or parent, guardian must sign and date
- Explained in clients preferred, primary language

Documentation Standards:

- Client's right to accept or refuse medication
- Explanation of the nature of the mental health condition and why the psychotropic medication is prescribed
- Type of medication prescribed (antipsychotic, antidepressant, etc.) and the specific name of the medication
- Dose, frequency, and administration route of medication prescribed
- What situations, if any, warrant taking additional medications
- Whether there are reasonable treatment alternatives
- Expected length of treatment
- Possible additional side effects which may happen when taking medication(s) longer than three months: If taking a typical or atypical anti-psychotic medication, client will be given information on tardive dyskinesia. These symptoms are potentially irreversible and may appear after the medication has been discontinued

A new form is required when:

- A new or different type of medication is prescribed
- The client resumes taking medication following a documented withdrawal of consent
- There is a change in dosage. A "dosage range" may be used to reduce the frequency at which the form is updated