

THE COUNSELING SOURCE, INC.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

TITLE: Pharmacotherapy – Education

PURPOSE: To ensure appropriate education and training are provided regarding prescribed medications.

POLICY: The Medical Director will provide and document provision of education and training regarding prescribed medications to person's served and ancillary staff.

PROCEDURE:

- Ongoing education is included in the assessment follow-up of each client in regard to the medication being provided.
- The education is documented on the medical somatic psychiatric progress notes identified as SQ-04-110.
- Medication information is provided to the counselor if that client is in treatment with the counselor.
- Training and education is provided to the client and the client's guardian for all medications prescribed. This training and education includes:
 - The manner in which the medication works, so far as it is known.
 - The risks of each medication associated with that medicine.
 - The intended benefits and side effects.
 - Any interactions which are adverse between multiple medications and food (this is addressed and the medication withheld).
 - The importance of ongoing compliance with the agreed upon medicine regimen is discussed.
- Laboratory monitoring occurs as needed.
- Alternatives to the use of medication are explained and offered.
- When there is a regression and relapse and reentry of symptoms, that is explained and the information connected to noncompliance with medication discussed as well.
- Risks associated with simultaneous use of alcohol, tobacco, and/or illicit drug use are discussed. There is an ongoing admonition of the use of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs, both on the level of a clinical health hazard as well as a legal jeopardy that the client may be putting himself under.
- Throughout the course of Pharmacotherapy provision, each parent or guardian is included in the decision making.
- Guardians have the right to deny the use of Pharmacotherapy, and in the absence of an immediate medical emergency, that decision holds.
- In the event that the child's life or immediate welfare is in danger, it is the Medical Director's responsibility to inform county child protective services of the guardian's decision to refuse medication.
- There is no instance in which the Medical Director/The Counseling Source forces medication onto any client.

REFERENCED STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS:

Ohio Department of Mental Health Administrative Code 5122
CARF Behavioral Health Standards Manual

EFFECTIVE DATE: 8/23/2004

REVIEWED: February 2018