

**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES (DCF)
CENTRALIZED PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION CONSENT UNIT (CMCU)
PROVIDER QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

April 2010-----

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Adverse Drug Reaction (ADR) Reporting Program: Review and Update, PART I:

The purpose of the DCF ADR Reporting Program is to provide an anonymous mechanism for collecting and evaluating ADR data in aggregate, to identify system problems and to implement non-punitive actions to resolve identified problems. The program also ensures reporting of ADR's to the FDA and manufacturer when indicated.

DEFINITION: An ADR is - any unintended, unexpected, undesired, or excessive response to medication that:

- Requires discontinuing the drug, a change in drug therapy or modifying the dose.
- Necessitates admission to a hospital.
- Prolongs stay in a health care facility.
- Necessitates supportive treatment.
- Significantly complicates diagnosis.
- Negatively affects prognosis.
- Results in temporary or permanent harm, disability or death.

NOTE: allergic reactions and idiosyncratic reactions are reportable ADR's.

BENEFITS:

- Educating health care professionals, patients and families about drug effects.
- Assessing the safety of drug therapies, especially recently approved drugs.
- Complement DCF risk management activities and efforts to minimize liability.
- Measuring ADR incidence, economic and clinical impact.

PLEASE REPORT all known or suspected ADR's to the CMCU by phone or fax.

LOOK FOR PART II IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER!!!!

Drug Information (DI) Service:

Whether you have a relatively simple question such as the usual dosing of a medication or a more complicated issue such as managing multiple drug therapies for a patient with psychiatric and medical problems help is available from the DCF Drug Information Service. Clinical pharmacists are standing by to answer your questions.

Please call **203-294-4441** Mon-Fri 830am to 5pm. Questions are usually handled immediately otherwise leave a detailed message. Questions received by 1pm will be answered no later than 5pm the same business day and those received after 1pm will be answered no later than 1pm the following business day.

DI Question of the Quarter:

Male patient with platelet aggregation disorder requiring antidepressant therapy. Which antidepressant would be most appropriate? All the SSRI's prevent serotonin from being taken up by platelets, possibly predisposing the patient to bleeding. Bupropion has antidepressant effects that are not serotonergically mediated. If Bupropion is not a viable option then a tricyclic antidepressant could be used although this class of drugs is associated with many side effects.

Approved Drug List Update:

At the March 5, 2010 meeting of the DCF Psychotropic Medication Advisory Committee (PMAC) two medications were considered for addition to the approved drug list. When evaluating medications for approved drug list status the PMAC carefully considers many

factors including but not limited to evidence showing the safety and efficacy of use of the medication in children and adolescents. Below is a synopsis of the review:

Saphris (Asenapine): Not approved. Noted issues; Concerns with route of administration variances – SL= 35% absorption; PO (swallowed)=<10% absorption, and unimpressive clinical studies (2 studies actually had negative results).

Fanapt (Iloperidone): Not approved. Noted issues: Need for careful titration at initiation of therapy to avoid orthostatic hypotension, significant drug-drug interactions (CP450), QTC interval changes (carries all the same warnings as ziprazidone), and unimpressive clinical studies.

For further information on these or any other medications feel free to call the DCF Drug Information Service.

2nd Annual Psychopharmacology

Conference:

SAVE THE DATE: Join us on June 4th, 2010 at the River View Hospital for Children and Youth from 8am – 1:30pm.

The intended audience of this conference is psychiatrists, primary care providers such as pediatricians, APRN's, PA's and those medical professionals practicing family medicine. The conference will carry 5 CME's and include a Keynote address, presentations on the treatment of Autism, ADHD, Depression, and Anxiety as well as an interactive session with our panel of experts. The fee is \$60 and lunch is included. An official announcement with more information will be published in the near future.