



Learn best practices for using psychotropic drugs in children's treatment

The appropriate use of psychotropic medications can play a role in helping children and youth with behavioral health conditions successfully live at home, achieve in school and experience positive engagement within their communities. When used or prescribed inappropriately, however, these drugs can lead to a host of medical conditions and social problems that prevent youth and their families from achieving their goals for success.

Thinking ahead about the challenge: An updated monograph

Magellan Health has had its eye on this issue for years, publishing a popular monograph, "Appropriate Use of Psychotropic Drugs in Children and Adolescents," on the topic in 2013, which addressed the anxiety and confusion around the issue. Leveraging new data and research, **we have released an update**. Using psychotropic medications for children and adolescents can be appropriate, but parents, caregivers and practitioners need to fully understand the risks and monitor that use.

What's new in 2017?

The updated monograph includes:

- New indications since 2013
- Brand-name medication names included on the list of psychotropic drugs commonly prescribed for children, which was a first-in-the-industry summary of these medications in the original monograph. Primary care physicians, pediatricians and behavioral health providers who treat children and teens found it extremely useful.
- A section outlining states' approaches to children's drug monitoring programs

Be sure to [download the monograph](#) and [visit our microsite](#) for more resources.