

Antipsychotic Toolkit Guide

What resources does this toolkit include?

The toolkit provides a variety of educational/training resources that focus on the appropriate use of antipsychotic agents and the appropriate care of elderly residents with dementia. The resources in this toolkit are intended for nursing home staff including, but not limited to, clinicians, nursing staff, administration, behavioral health staff, and caregivers.

Section I Antipsychotic Medication Management - Resources for the appropriate prescribing, dispensing, and monitoring of antipsychotic medications.

Resources in this section provide additional information specifically related to antipsychotic medications, including appropriate indications, recommended dosing, adverse effects, and monitoring techniques.

Section II Behavior Management - Resources to help nursing home staff manage behaviors in residents with dementia.

Resources in this section focus on the management of problem behaviors in residents with dementia, including understanding how to manage and reduce problem behaviors, identifying behavior triggers, and utilizing non-pharmacologic techniques for managing behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia (BPSD).

Section III Patient-Center Dementia Care – Resources to enhance nursing staff knowledge of providing individualized patient-centered care.

Resources in this section include training courses and documents to educate staff members about quality dementia care and the importance of patient-centered care in nursing home settings.

Section IV CMS Guidance/Survey Guidelines/State Regulations – Resources to understand various regulatory requirements and partnership initiatives related to antipsychotic medication use in nursing home settings.

Resources in this section provide information to educate nursing home staff about national and local regulatory requirements and initiatives that seek to improve dementia care in nursing home facilities including, state regulations, survey requirements, CMS guidance, and partnerships to improve dementia care.

Which resources will help my facility most?

The toolkit is intended to provide facilities with a number of education/training resources in various topics so that the facility may choose which resources best fit its needs to improve the use of antipsychotic agents and improve the care of elderly residents with dementia.

Some questions you may consider when utilizing the toolkit and the corresponding section(s) that can help provide answers or further information are listed below.

- When a resident with dementia demonstrates certain behaviors such as anxiety or aggression, should he or she be given a medication to treat them?
(See section I)
- How does staff address residents with BPSD in your facility?
(See sections I-IV)
- What training does your facility provide about how to care for persons with dementia?
(See sections II and III)
- Is staff in all departments educated on person-centered care for individuals with dementia?
(See section III)
- Is there a team at your facility that is trying to reduce the use of antipsychotic medications?
(See section IV)
- Is your facility familiar with national initiatives to reduce antipsychotic medication use?
(See section IV)