

Chapter 58 MEDICATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

REVISION DATES: 7/01/2020, 2/28/2019

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 29, 2013

Primary Care Provider (PCP) Medication Management Services

In addition to treating physical health conditions, the Division allows Primary Care Providers (PCPs) to treat behavioral health conditions within their scope of practice. Such treatment shall include but not be limited to substance use disorders, anxiety, depression, and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). For purposes of medication management, it is not required that the PCP be the member's assigned PCP. PCPs who treat members with these behavioral health conditions may provide medication management services including prescriptions, laboratory, and other diagnostic tests necessary for diagnosis, and treatment. The Division includes the AHCCCS preferred drugs on the AdSS's drug list for the treatment of these disorders. The AdSS is responsible for these services both in the prospective and prior period coverage timeframes.

- A. Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT): The AdSS shall reimburse PCPs who are providing medication management of opioid use disorder (OUD) within their scope of practice. The PCP must refer the member to a behavioral health provider for the psychological and/or behavioral therapy component of the medication assisted treatment (MAT) model and coordinate care with the behavioral health provider. The AdSS shall include the AHCCCS preferred drugs on the AdSS drug list for the treatment of OUD.
- B. Step Therapy: The AdSS may implement step therapy for behavioral health medications used for treating anxiety, depression, and ADHD disorders. The AdSS shall provide education and training for providers regarding the concept of step therapy. If the T/RBHA/behavioral health provider provides documentation to the AdSS that step therapy has already been completed for the conditions of anxiety, depression or ADHD, or that step therapy is medically contraindicated, the AdSS shall continue to provide the medication at the dosage at which the member has been stabilized by the behavioral health provider. In the event the PCP identifies a change in the member's condition, the PCP may utilize step therapy until the member is stabilized for the condition of anxiety, depression, or ADHD. The AdSS shall monitor PCPs to ensure that they prescribe medication at the dosage at which the member has been stabilized.
- C. Tool Kits: Clinical tool kits for the treatment of anxiety, depression, and ADHD are available in the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM). Refer to AMPM Appendix E, Childhood and Adolescent Behavioral Health Tool Kits and Appendix F, Behavioral Health Tool Kits. These tool kits are a resource only and may not apply to all patients and all clinical situations. The tool kits are not intended to replace clinical judgment. The AdSS shall ensure that PCPs who have an interest or are actively treating members with these disorders are aware of these resources and/or are utilizing other recognized, clinical tools/evidence-based guidelines. The AdSS shall develop a monitoring process to ensure that PCPs utilize evidence-based guidelines/recognized clinical tools when prescribing medications to treat depression, anxiety, and ADHD.