

Tricyclic Antidepressants

Goal(s):

- Ensure safe and appropriate use of tricyclic antidepressants in children less than 12 years of age
- Discourage off-label use not supported by compendia

Length of Authorization:

- Up to 12 months

Requires PA:

- Tricyclic antidepressants in children younger than the FDA-approved minimum age (new starts)
- Auto-PA approvals for:
 - Patients with a claim for an SSRI or TCA in the last 6 months
 - Prescriptions identified as being written by a mental health provider

Covered Alternatives:

- Current PMPDP preferred drug list per OAR 410-121-0030 at www.orpdl.org
- Searchable site for Oregon FFS Drug Class listed at www.orpdl.org/drugs/

Table 1. FDA-Approved Indications of Tricyclic Antidepressants in Children

Drug	FDA-Approved Indications	Maximum Daily Dose	Minimum FDA-Approved Age
amitriptyline HCl	Depression	50 mg	12
amoxapine	Depression	400 mg	18
clomipramine HCl	Obsessive-compulsive disorder	200 mg	10
desipramine HCl	Depression	300 mg (150 mg for 10-19 years of age)	10
doxepin HCl	Depression Anxiety	150 mg	12
imipramine HCl	Depression Nocturnal enuresis	75 mg	6
imipramine pamoate	Depression	200 mg	18
maprotiline HCl	Depression Bipolar depression Dysthymia Mixed anxiety and depressive disorder	225 mg	18
nortriptyline HCl	Depression	50 mg	12
protriptyline HCl	Depression	60 mg	12
trimipramine maleate	Depression	100 mg	12

Approval Criteria

1. What diagnosis is being treated?	Record ICD10 code.	
2. Does the dose exceed the maximum FDA-approved dose (Table 1)?	Yes: Go to #3	No: Go to #4

Approval Criteria		
3. Is there documentation that the prescriber is monitoring blood levels to support use of the prescribed dose?	Yes: Go to #4	No: Go to #6
4. Is the request for an FDA-approved indication and age (Table 1)?	Yes: Approve for up to 6 months	No: Go to #5
5. Is the request for prophylactic treatment of headache or migraine and is the therapy prescribed in combination with cognitive behavioral therapy?	Yes: Approve for up to 6 months	No: Go to #6
6. Is the drug prescribed by or in consultation with an appropriate specialist for the condition (e.g., mental health specialist, neurologist, etc.)?	Yes: Approve for up to 6 months	No: Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness.

*P&T/DUR Review: 6/24 (KS); 12/23 (KS), 2/23, 2/21(SS) 11/19
Implementation: 7/1/24; 2/1/2020*