

MDS CODING OF PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATIONS

As Arkansas partners discuss the usage of antipsychotic medications in our nursing homes, the Office of Long Term Care (OLTC) offers the following guidance for MDS coding:

1. Psychotropic drugs (sometimes referred to as *psychoactive* drugs) include the following drug classifications:
 - Antipsychotic;
 - Antianxiety;
 - Antidepressant;
 - Hypnotics; and,
 - Mood Stabilizers.

2. The Minimum Data Set (MDS) utilizes the first four classifications. Please see Section N, below.
3. **Drugs such as Xanax, Valium, Ativan, Depakote, Celexa and Prozac should not be coded as antipsychotics in Section N on the MDS.** Those drugs should be classified as follows:
 - Xanax – Antianxiety or Hypnotic
 - Valium – Antianxiety or Hypnotic
 - Ativan – Antianxiety or Hypnotic
 - Celexa – Antidepressant
 - Prozac – Antidepressant
 - Depakote – This drug is a mood stabilizer and not a psychotropic medication; it would not be classified in any of the categories in Section N, below.
4. Nursing staff should review their coding practices. Facilities should carefully consider each drug the resident is receiving. Are staff coding PRNs that have never been given (e.g. Section N instructs to code the medications received in the last 7 days)? As stated in the Code tips in the MDS Manual, code per each drug’s pharmacological classification.*

N0410. Medications Received	
Indicate the number of DAYS the resident received the following medications during the last 7 days or since admission/entry or reentry if less than 7 days. Enter "0" if medication was not received by the resident during the last 7 days	
Enter Days <input type="checkbox"/>	A. Antipsychotic
Enter Days <input type="checkbox"/>	B. Antianxiety
Enter Days <input type="checkbox"/>	C. Antidepressant
Enter Days <input type="checkbox"/>	D. Hypnotic
Enter Days <input type="checkbox"/>	E. Anticoagulant (warfarin, heparin, or low-molecular weight heparin)
Enter Days <input type="checkbox"/>	F. Antibiotic
Enter Days <input type="checkbox"/>	G. Diuretic

*Source: RAI Manual: Chapter 3-Section N