

Antidepressant < 6 years

Note: Form must be completed in full.

Review Criteria:

- The most current antidepressant prior authorization request form is required for review.
- All relevant sections of the antidepressant prior authorization form must be complete.
- The evaluation and progress notes must document target symptoms and behaviors.

Clinical Notes:

- Psychosocial treatments (e.g., dyadic therapy) must precede the use of psychotherapeutic medications and should continue if medications are prescribed.
- Risks and benefits should be carefully considered before prescribing an antidepressant.
- When discontinuing antidepressant medication prescribed for depression or anxiety, gradually taper down the dose to prevent discontinuation syndrome.

Calculation of BMI and BMI Percentile:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides a ***BMI Calculator for Children and Teens*** that may be accessed at the following link: <https://www.cdc.gov/healthyweight/bmi/calculator.html>

Florida Medicaid Clinical Guidelines:

Access the following guidelines at <http://floridabhcenter.org/index.html>

- *Principles of Practice Regarding the Use of Psychotropic Medication in Children Under Age 6*
- *Florida Medicaid Best Practice Psychotherapeutic Medication Guidelines for Children and Adolescents*