


Potential Inappropriate Use of Antipsychotics in Long-term Care



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| Year to Date Performance | 25.9% | Performance Assessment |  Yellow |
| Island Health Target | Less than or equal to 22.0% | Performance is outside acceptable range; monitor and take action as appropriate. | |

What do we measure and why?

This indicator reports the percentage of long-term care residents who are on antipsychotic medication but do not have a diagnosis of psychosis.

The percentage is calculated by dividing the number of residents who received antipsychotic medication but do not have a diagnosis of psychosis, by the total number of residents. Residents with a diagnosis of schizophrenia, Huntington's chorea, delusions and hallucinations, and residents who are at or near end-of-life are excluded. A risk adjustment is then applied. The indicator is reported as a rolling average of the previous 12 months.

Antipsychotic drugs are sometimes used to manage behaviours of residents with dementia, and their use raises concerns about safety and quality of care.

Inappropriate use of antipsychotics in long-term care is one of the nine key long-term care indicators monitored by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), and is a key indicator monitored by the Office of the Seniors Advocate.

What is the target?

Island Health has set a target of less than or equal to 22.0%, based on the 2016/2017 Canadian average reported by CIHI. Rates above 26.6% will be categorized as red, requiring action and active monitoring.

How are we doing?

As of quarter three 2018/19, Island Health was not meeting the target. The rate gradually decreased in from April 2016 through March 2017, but has remained about the same since then.

What actions are we taking?

Every long-term care facility is required to have a quality improvement plan in place for at least one of the five long-term care quality indicators on the Island Health Performance Dashboard (which include the use of antipsychotic medications), and report on that plan quarterly.

CLEAR (a program to reduce the rate of antipsychotic medication use) has been implemented across Island Health.

Networking and education opportunities have been created for facilities, including monthly teleconferences on specific indicators. Island Health owned and operated facilities have weekly 'Plan of Care' meetings, and education sessions as needed. Long-term care staff receive education about quality improvement methods.

To support on-going operations as well as quality improvement work, quarterly performance reports are shared with facilities and have led to improvement of indicator results at some sites. New reports have been developed to identify which individuals most significantly influence the quality indicators and require additional care.