Unnecessary Medication Review and Psychoactive Medications

Atypical antipsychotic drugs are approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for treatment of schizophrenia and/or bipolar disorder. Per the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) Fall 2011 HHS/OIG Semiannual Report to Congress, fourteen percent of 2.1 million elderly (age 65 and older) nursing home residents had at least 1 claim for such drugs. Eighty-three percent of the claims were associated with off-label conditions (conditions other than schizophrenia and/or bipolar disorder), and 88 percent were associated with dementia (the condition specified in the FDA boxed warning). Twenty-two percent of claims were for drugs that were not administered in accordance with CMS standards for drug therapy in nursing homes.

Based on this information and a renewed emphasis by CMS on the use of atypical psychotic drugs, it is important for nursing home providers to understand the use of the Unnecessary Medication Review and the use of Quality of Care and Life Indicators (QCLI’s) used in the Quality Indicator Survey (QIS) process. This session will review the QIS process of Unnecessary Medication Review, triggering QCLI’s in the survey process and the use of the Critical Element Pathway for Psychoactive Medications to determine regulatory compliance.

Objectives:

To Identify the Stage 1 triggering events/ QCLI’s for Psychoactive Medications
To Understand the Unnecessary Medication Review Task
To relate the critical elements to the assessment process