

To the Point



From the desk of
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Vice President,
Medical Services and Quality System
July 2019



2019 AMDA PALTC Annual Meeting Recap



Dr. Greg Johnson joined Sanford and the Society in March 2019. He is a board certified geriatrician with both bedside and leadership experience in post-acute care and accountable care. He joins the Society as the medical director for the Great Plains Medicare Advantage iSNP plans. Greg is originally from Illinois, where he attended medical school. He completed his family medicine residency in Sioux Falls, where he met his wife, and then pursued a geriatric fellowship in Illinois. We are happy to welcome them into the Good Samaritan family.

Patient Driven Payment Model (PDPM)

In October, Medicare is completely overhauling how it pays for skilled nursing care. Rather than basing payment on how much therapy a resident receives, the new formula is based on the medical complexity of the care being delivered. The complexity is determined by the information entered in the resident's chart in the first seven days after admission.

It is VERY important that accurate and complete documentation is present upon admission to ensure the reimbursement accurately reflects the resources needed to provide care. Please start talking about this with the attending physicians, physician assistants and nurse practitioners in your building, as well as the hospital partners you receive transfers from. Additional tools will be shared in the upcoming months.

Pharmacy Update: Antipsychotic Use

Since 2011, the Society has decreased its use of antipsychotics by 22 percent, and currently the

overall rate of use is 15.1 percent. The Society is committed to providing top-notch dementia care in ALL of our locations, and those with persistently higher rates of antipsychotic use are being asked to address this through their QAPI committees. Review the *Antipsychotic Deprescribing* document for an overview of key principles for prescribing and deprescribing.

Reminder – keep looking at hospital transfers

Every re-hospitalization is an opportunity to learn something that will help improve care for the next resident. The *Medical Provider Checklist* will help you take a thorough look. Be sure to report the time you spent when you submit your invoice to the administrator.

New standards for diet orders

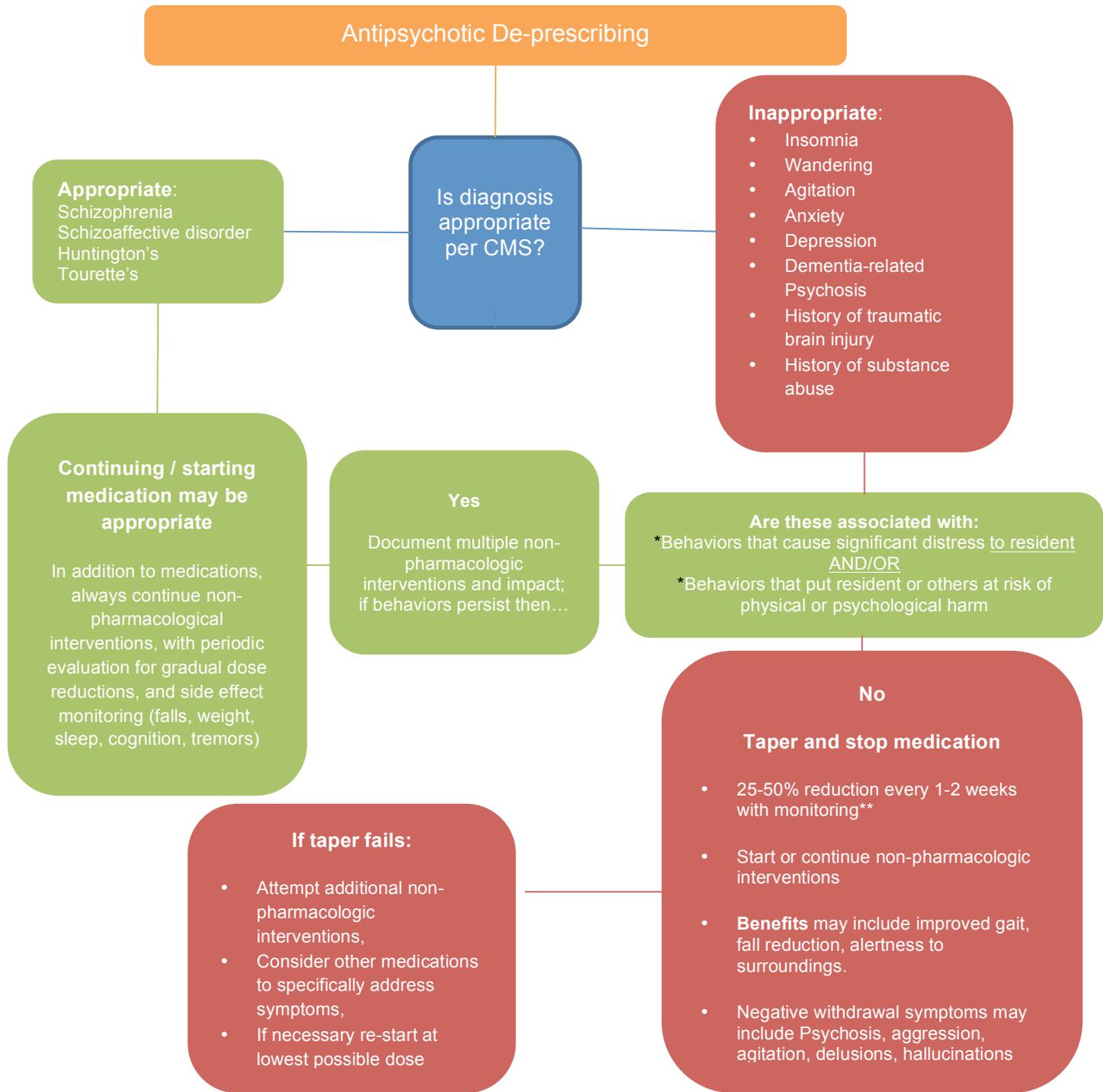
The International Dysphagia Diet Standardization Initiative (IDDSI) is creating more objective and consistent diet textures for patients. These standards will be applied to drink textures in August and food textures in 2020, and orders will need to be updated as the old NDD options are being removed. Please review the *IDDSI Poster* for an overview and look for additional information over the coming months.

AMDA-The Society for Post-Acute and LTC Medicine

Take advantage of the [free CME](#) that you can access through the AMDA membership provided by the Society. Also, remember, the Society helps cover costs to [become a certified medical director](#) – talk to your administrator about pursuing this exceptional professional development opportunity.

Questions? Email vwalker3@good-sam.com.

Our mission: Dedicated to sharing God's love through the work of health, healing and comfort.



*Note that even though these are considered appropriate exceptions for antipsychotic use by CMS, they still count as part of a facility's antipsychotic rate and negatively impact Quality Ratings.

**Deprescribing antipsychotics for behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia and insomnia Evidence-based clinical practice guideline. <https://www.cfp.ca/content/cfp/64/1/17.full.pdf>

Medical Provider Checklist for Reviewing Unanticipated Hospital Transfers

The reason for carefully evaluating hospital transfers is not to blame individuals, but to pinpoint where there are opportunities to improve processes. We can't change what has happened in the past, but we have an obligation to constantly learn how to do better.

Use this checklist to evaluate the transfer:

	Was there a delay between when a change in condition was noted and evaluation by nursing staff?
	Was there a delay between nursing evaluation and speaking with the medical provider?
	Was there accurate communication of resident condition?
	Was there a delay in diagnostic tests being performed?
	Were there any delays in communication of important lab or radiology results ?
	Were there delays in communication of issues that were identified by the consultant pharmacist in the drug regimen review or medication reconciliation?
	Were there medication errors that contributed to the transfers?
	Was there an adverse medication event?
	Where there issues missed in the drug regimen review that could have
	Was there another adverse event, such as an injury?
	Was appropriate monitoring in place for high risk medications?
	Were appropriate clinical guidelines being followed for known conditions?
	Was there delay in access to medications?
	Were there differences in opinion (i.e. between family, staff, medical provider, resident) about whether the resident should be transferred?
	Was the transfer inconsistent with the expressed wishes of the resident?

Please discuss any opportunities for improvement with the director of nursing services and QAPI coordinator. As a team, you can decide the best approach for achieving a better outcome next time.



Copyright: The International Dysphagia Diet Standardisation Initiative 2016
@ <https://iddsi.org/framework/>

The IDDSI Framework and Descriptors are licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike International 4.0 Licence <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/legalcode>.

Attribution is NOT PERMITTED for derivative works incorporating any alterations to the IDDSI Framework that extend beyond language translation.

Supplementary Notice: Modification of the diagrams or descriptors within the IDDSI Framework is DISCOURAGED and NOT RECOMMENDED. Alterations to elements of the IDDSI framework may lead to confusion and errors in diet texture or drink selection for patients with dysphagia. Such errors have previously been associated with adverse events including choking and death.

How to access your AMDA membership.

1. The URL is: <https://paltc.org/>

The member will be prompted to login using their email address. (GSS employees will use your GSS email address, medical directors will use the email address that is used for newsletters and PBJ hours). If you haven't already set a password, click to reset it from the login screen.

When you log into the AMDA website you are directed to the My Account Screen. See the screenshot below:

The screenshot shows the AMDA website's 'My Account' page. The header includes the AMDA logo, navigation links (SEARCH, ABOUT, FORUM, LOGIN, JOIN), and user information (Lori Sharp, My Account, Logout). A secondary navigation bar lists categories: PHYSICIANS, NP/PA, ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, MEMBERSHIP, STATE CHAPTERS, JOB BOARD, and PATIENTS & FAMILIES. The main content area is titled 'Member Details > My Account' and features an 'IMPORTANT ALERTS' section with a bulleted list of updates and products. A promotional banner for 'MEMBERS ONLY FORUM' is also present. Below the alerts, there are sections for 'ACCESS MY PRODUCTS', 'My Profile' (with links for Account Information, Purchase History, Education Credits, and Membership), 'Search Events/Products' (with links for Event Calendar, Product Store, and Donate to the AMDA Foundation), 'Publications' (with links for Caring for the Ages, Health Policy Advisor, JAMDA, Spotlight, and Weekly Round-Up), and 'Members Only (Free Products/Resources)' (with links for Archived Webinars, PQRs Measures Toolkit, Transitions of Care CPG, Know-it-All Before You Call Data Collection Forms, Ask the Experts, 2017 Membership Survey Results, and Member Lookup).

Member Details > My Account

IMPORTANT ALERTS:

- Checkout AMDA's Latest Products:
 - COPD Management Pocket Guide (Set of 5)
 - COPD Management CPG + Pocket Guide
 - Guide to Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Coding, Reimbursement, and Documentation
- Order the 2017 Annual Conference Recorded Sessions
- View AMDA's 2017 Membership Survey Results. [🔒](#)
- Refer your colleagues to join AMDA and earn up to \$500 AMDA Bucks. [Learn more](#)

MEMBERS ONLY FORUM

Check Out Our Brand New MEMBERS ONLY FORUM

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PQRS Measures Toolkit [🔒](#)

Transitions of Care CPG

Know-it-All Before You Call Data Collection Forms

Ask the Experts [🔒](#)

2017 Membership Survey Results [🔒](#)

Member Lookup [🔒](#)

2. Webinars

The placement of the Archived Webinars link on the My Account Page (above) has been highlighted. The direct link is: <https://profile.paltc.org/archived-webinars>

New webinars are continually being added.

The screenshot shows the AMDA website header with the logo and navigation menu. Below the header, there is a section titled "To gain access to a Recorded Webinar:" with four numbered steps. Below that is a section titled "Free Members Only Access to AMDA Webinars:" followed by a table of webinar topics and dates.

To gain access to a Recorded Webinar:

1. Select "View Webinar"
2. You will be redirected to AMDA's PROLibraries Homepage:
Create a new username and password under "New Users Register Here" (if you already have an account, please login under "Returning Users"). PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT YOUR AMDA USERNAME AND PASSWORD.
3. After creating your account, the confirmation page will display a Webinar Compatibility Test. This check is for the live webinar; continue onto step four below.
4. Click on "My Webinars" to get access to the Webinar for which you have registered.

Free Members Only Access to AMDA Webinars:

Webinar Topic			Webinar Date
Overview of MACRA for PA/LTC Practitioners	View Details	View Webinar	December 14, 2016
Antibiotic Stewardship	View Details	View Webinar	November 30, 2016
Overview of New CMS Nursing Facility Requirements of Participation	View Details	View Webinar	November 16, 2016
Oral Health Care in Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Settings: Education to Create Motivation	View Details	View Webinar	October 26, 2016
Chronic Pain Management	View Details	View Webinar	August 17, 2016
Meeting the Challenge of Younger Adults in Long-Term Care	View Details	View Webinar	July 27, 2016
Parameters for Discussing and Billing for the New Advance Care Plan Code	View Details	View Webinar	June 22, 2016
The Role of QIOs in New Payment Models	View Details	View Webinar	May 24, 2016
The Role of the Medical Director and Clinician in Determining the Skilled Nursing Facility Level of Care Product Code	View Details	View Webinar	July 14, 2015
Open Policy Forum on Physician Payment and Healthcare Delivery Reform	View Details	View Webinar	June 29, 2015
The Pitfalls of Electronic Health Records (EHRs)	View Details	View Webinar	June 16, 2015
Medical Director's Role in Infection Control: An Update	View Details	View Webinar	January 28, 2015
To Sleep: Perchance to Dream	View Details	View Webinar	December 10, 2014
Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs)	View Details	View Webinar	October 23, 2014
A Practical Approach to Incontinence and Constipation: Taking the Distress Out of Elimination	View Details	View Webinar	September 24, 2014
Breaking the Cycle of C. difficile	View Details	View Webinar	June 10, 2014
Psychiatric Issues in LTC: Antipsychotic Use Reduction	View Details	View Webinar	April 29, 2014
The Ins and Outs of Hospice in the Nursing Home	View Details	View Webinar	February 20, 2014
Non-Pharmacologic Management of Behavior 2013	View Details	View Webinar	December 12, 2013
Best Possible Falls Prevention Techniques	View Details	View Webinar	August 20, 2013
Diabetic Care in the Nursing Home	View Details	View Webinar	June 11, 2013
Supporting Nursing Home Billing Recorded Webinar	View Details	View Webinar	December 13, 2012

3. Medical Directors, Administrators and DON's have access to:

- Clinical Practice Guidelines
- Know-it-All Before You Call
- Heart Failure Implementation Manual.
- There is a link for these items on the Rehabilitation/Skilled Care button on our intranet. The direct URL to access these products is:
<http://www.paltc.org/sites/default/files/sam/>

4. The URL for Medical Director certification is: <http://www.paltc.org/core-curriculum-medical-direction-post-acute-and-long-term-care>