

From: "Kant, Steven"
Date: March 7, 2011 4:16:28 PM EST
To: 'Sheila'
Cc: "Szczygiel, Lori"
Subject: RE: Ablechild Question Re: Pharmacy Report CT @@

Hello Sheila,

I appreciate your interest here on behalf of those families and children you are representing; however, the answer to your question is not that straight forward. Medications may be indicated by age and/or by specific treatment needs so it is not either a simply "yes" or "no". Also, some medications may have the age indication but for a totally different condition, such as anti epileptic condition. Also FDA indications are static—they do not change over time though medical practice is constantly evolving. Some may not have indication from the FDA but may have substantial support in the literature (just as some other kinds of meds that had FDA approval may ultimately come under negative review from peer review literature). We also know that what constitutes a specific behavioral health "condition" can also be the subject of disagreement between very well informed professionals.

The entire area of psychopharmacology is continually being updated as well. I don't think a "check off" for each medication would work in terms of verifying their status. Regardless of how various stakeholders view the use of behavioral health meds they play an increasing prominent role (I don't know if you had a chance to see the front page story in this past Sundays NY Times about just this topic). Understanding your perspective and how that is important for families is something I would be open to discussing further with you. If you would like to arrange a time to visit the service center let me know and I will try and arrange my schedule accordingly as will our CEO, Lori Szczygiel who I believe you have previously met.

Regards,
Steven Kant

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