



WHO WE ARE

The Psychotropic Medication Monitoring and Oversight Public Health Nurse (PMM&O PHN) will follow up monthly with resource families when a child takes psychotropic medication. This is to monitor for medication adherence, potential side effects and adverse reactions, and assess the child is receiving therapeutic services. The Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care is a state-mandated program to provide care coordination for foster youth.

Additional information can be found in the Welfare and Institution Code (WIC)-16501.3 and Senate Bill 319.



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Psychotropic Medication Monitoring and Oversight (PMM&O)

Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (HCPCFC)

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For more information visit:

<https://publichealth.sccgov.org/health-care-program-children-foster-care>

Psychotropic Medication Monitoring and Oversight (PMM&O)



Supporting the behavioral health needs of foster youths

Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (HCPCFC)

Santa Clara County Social Services Agency



Department of Family & Children's Services

Santa Clara County
PUBLIC HEALTH



Your Child is on Psychotropic Medications

You are caring for a child on psychotropic medications. Additional responsibilities come with ensuring the behavioral health needs are met for your child.

PRIORITY:

Check-in with the team:

Communication with the social worker, psychiatrist, and public health nurse (PHN) is important. You will receive monthly calls from the PHN. Engaging in these calls assists members of the team to stay informed.

TIPS AND REMINDERS FOR FOSTER PARENTS:

- ◆ Maintain follow up appointments with the prescriber:
This can range from every 2 weeks to every 2 months. Ensure a follow-up appointment is scheduled.
- ◆ Assist with administering the medications:
Ensure the child receives the correct medication and dosage at the correct time.
- ◆ Observe for potential side effects:
Take notice of any changes in sleep patterns, appetite, or behaviors, and immediately report changes to the prescriber.
- ◆ Ensure prescription refills are available:
Notice when medications are running low to plan ahead with the prescriber to obtain a refill.
- ◆ Submit Health Contact Forms for every appointment:
These forms are important communication tools that allows the agency to ensure the child's medical information is accurate and up to



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. What should I do if my child is experiencing side effects?
Inform your foster child's doctor (prescriber), social worker, and PHN if your child experiences
 - ◆ changes in sleep patterns
 - ◆ changes in appetite
 - ◆ changes in behaviors

Get immediate attention from the nearest emergency department.
Call 911 or local crisis team if your foster child experiences

 - ◆ suicidal ideations
 - ◆ allergic reaction (involving swelling of the throat or difficulty breathing)
2. What should I do if my child is running out of medications?
 - ◆ Notify the prescriber's office to arrange for a medication refill.
 - ◆ Resource families may request for a 3-day emergency medication supply from certain pharmacies.
3. My child refuses to take the prescribed psychotropic medications.
 - ◆ Inform the prescriber, social worker, and PHN when the child consistently refuses to take the medications for more than 3 consecutive days. This helps the team work with you to make a plan.
 - ◆ Medications work best when taken regularly, so it is important to follow instructions
 - ◆ Sudden discontinuation of medication may negatively affect the child's health.