

## MID-FLORIDA PSYCHIATRY CENTER

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### INFORMED CONSENT FOR MEDICATION

- 1. Antidepressants:** These medications are mood elevators used to treat depression and the Depression and also anxiety in certain patients. They work by correcting the imbalance of chemicals, neurotransmitters within the brain. Side Effects: Sleepiness, blurred vision, GI symptoms, difficulty urinating, dry mouth, rash, dizziness, and occasionally affects heart rate and blood pressure. Also certain age groups may see an increase in suicidal ideation and also a rare condition or side effect called serotonin syndrome when combined with other medication such as Zyvox, tramadol etc.
- 2. Antipsychotics:** These medications are used to treat Psychotic Symptoms (such as Schizophrenia), mood stabilizers (such as Bipolar Disorder), also few of them used to augment the antidepressants. They work by correcting the imbalance of chemicals, neurotransmitters within the brain. Side Effects: Sleepiness, muscle stiffness (Dystonia), difficulty urinating, dizziness, blurred vision, dry mouth, constipation, sensitivity to sunlight, abnormal involuntary movements, if persistent, known as tardive dyskinesia. Also some of them may increase the weight, which may lead to metabolic syndrome such as diabetes, hyperlipidemia. Other side effects include but not limited to restlessness (Akathisia), Extra Pyramidal symptoms (Parkinson symptoms) and NMS.
- 3. Anti-Cholinergic/ Anti Parkinson Medication:** These medications are used to treat the side effects (akathisia, EPS and Dystonia) of antipsychotics. Side Effects: Sleepiness, confusion, dizziness, dry mouth, nausea, nervousness, depression, difficult urination, constipation.
- 4. Anxiolytics/Sedatives/Hypnotics:** These medications are used to reduce nervousness and tension and to help sleep problems. Side Effects: Sleepiness, confusion, dizziness, nausea, weakness, depression, difficult urination, constipation. In some individuals it may lead to behaviors such as eating while asleep in night and not being aware of it.
- 5. Lithium:** Is a mood stabilizer and is used to treat Bipolar Disorder and also used to augment antidepressants. Side Effects: thirst, upset stomach, vomiting, diarrhea, hand tremor, muscle weakness, thyroid gland abnormalities and sleepiness. Avoid abrupt changes in salt intake and activities resulting in high levels of sweating; avoid use of NSAIDs and diuretics. If toxic levels may cause seizures, confusion. Routine lab test is done to ensure therapeutic levels are maintained, and toxicity is avoided, especially if one is taking the blood pressure medication.
- 6. Anticonvulsants/Mood Stabilizers:** These medications are used to treat Bipolar Disorder, anger control problems, and Impulse Control Disorders. Side Effects: Sleepiness, dizziness, unsteadiness, nausea, vomiting, blurred vision. Abnormalities in blood cell production may occur. Early toxic signs are fever, sore throat, mouth ulcers and bruising. Liver functions may be altered, therefore routine lab tests are performed to monitor liver function and ensure therapeutic levels are maintained. In certain situations, they may cause decreased Na<sup>+</sup> levels, increase in Ammonia levels or a serious skin rash (SJ Syndrome) needing immediate medical attention.
- 7. Psychostimulants:** These medications have been used in the treatment of narcolepsy, ADHD (children) and residual Attention Deficit Disorder (adults). Side Effects: Anorexia, insomnia, changes in arousal, changes in mood, elevations in blood pressure, headaches and abdominal pain, and rarely may induce tics. There is potential for abuse of this class of medication. Abrupt withdrawal or discontinuation may cause withdrawal symptoms.

**General Risks & Hazards:** Avoid alcohol and operating a motor vehicle or machinery requiring alertness. Avoid excessive exposure to sunlight or sun lamps. Avoid exercise, extreme heat, or other activities that are likely to make you very tired. Do not discontinue your medications without consulting your Physician/ARNP. Should you become pregnant or plan to become pregnant, notify us at once. Suicidal ideas are inherent in many patients with psychiatric problems but many of the psychiatric medication do increase the suicidal ideation in children, adolescents and early adults up to age 24. So immediately seek attention as appropriate if suicidal ideas do occur. If any many major adverse effects, intolerable side effects, contact your doctor immediately or to stop the medication until you contact the doctor. Always read the information brochure the pharmacist provides to you when you fill a medication and contact the doctor if questions.

I have received information regarding the above-mentioned medication(s) and consent to medication treatment. I have been given the opportunity to discuss this medication with my physician or his delegated AHP. I understand a person accepting treatment voluntarily has the right to accept or refuse medication. If I have further questions, I may ask my doctor, nurse or pharmacist. Alternative treatment has been explained to me.