



Use of Psychotropic Medications by Medicaid Beneficiaries



Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission
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Summary of draft chapter

- Psychotropic drug utilization and spending
 - Medicaid spent \$8 billion in FFS
 - 14 percent of Medicaid enrollees used a psychotropic drug
 - Highest use for individuals eligible on the basis of a disability (48 percent) and children eligible on the basis of child welfare assistance (24 percent)
- Risk of adverse health events and death
- Federal and state agency initiatives to ensure the appropriate use of psychotropic drugs

Linking to diagnostic information

- Individuals with psychiatric condition identified using Chronic Illness and Disability Payment System
- Over half (56 percent) of Medicaid enrollees with a psychiatric diagnosis used a psychotropic medication
- About 30 percent of psychotropic drug users did not have a recorded psychiatric or substance abuse diagnosis

Short-term versus long-term use

- Analysis in progress to distinguish between short-term and long-term users
- Distribution of prescriptions per user
- Number of months an individual had a psychotropic prescription