

Psychopharmacologic Medication Gradual Dose Reduction Guide

	Admitted on Medication		Existing Resident		All Residents	
	1st Year		1st Year		Each Subsequent Year	
Antipsychotics	2 separate quarters with at least one month between attempts unless contraindicated		2 separate quarters with at least one month between attempts unless contraindicated		Annually unless contraindicated	
Sedatives	Quarterly unless contraindicated		Quarterly unless contraindicated		Quarterly unless contraindicated	
Hypnotics	Quarterly unless contraindicated		Quarterly unless contraindicated		Quarterly unless contraindicated	
All Other Psychopharmacologic Agents	2 separate quarters with at least one month between attempts unless contraindicated		2 separate quarters with at least one month between attempts unless contraindicated		Annually unless contraindicated	

Antipsychotic Contraindication

Behavior Symptoms

- The resident's target symptoms returned or worsened after the most recent attempt at GDR within the facility.
- The physician has documented the clinical rationale for why any additional attempted GDR at this time would be likely to impair the resident's function or increased distressed behavior.

Psychiatric Disorder

- The continued use is in accordance with relevant standards of practice and the MD has documented the clinical rationale for why any attempted GDR would impair function or cause psychiatric instability by exacerbating an underlying psychiatric disorder.
- Target symptoms returned or worsened after a GDR within the facility and the MD has documented a rationale for why an additional GDR at this time would impair function or exacerbate an underlying psychiatric disorder.

Contraindications for Sedatives and Hypnotics

Continued use is in accordance with relevant current standards of practice and physician documented the clinical rationale for why reduction would lead to impaired function or would exacerbate an existing medical or psychiatric condition.

Target symptoms returned or worsened after the most recent taper attempt within the facility and the MD documented clinical rationale for why GDR would lead to impaired function or would exacerbate an underlying condition.