



**Prescribing Psychotropic Medication  
Children in Out-of-Home Care  
MEDICAL REPORT**

**OPTION FOR PHYSICIAN**  
**YOU MAY SUBSTITUTE A MEDICAL REPORT  
 PREPARED BY YOUR OFFICE AS LONG AS THE  
 MEDICAL REPORT SUBSTITUTED ADDRESSES  
 ALL ELEMENTS IN THIS REPORT. PLEASE  
 NOTE THAT IF A COURT ORDER IS NEEDED TO  
 ADMINISTER THIS MEDICATION, SOME JUDGES  
 MAY ASK FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evaluating  
 Physician's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date/Time of Office Visit: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you are a:

Child Psychiatrist     General Psychiatrist  
 Pediatrician     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Certified?     Yes     No

Dear Physician:

The attached Medical Report has been developed to guide the treatment of children in the custody of the Florida Department of Children and Families who are prescribed a psychotropic medication. These children are not residing with their parent or legal guardian.

- Prior to prescribing a psychotropic medication, s. 39.407, F.S. requires the prescribing physician to attempt to obtain express and informed consent from the child's parent or legal guardian. This is required even when the medication is prescribed for medical reasons unrelated to behavioral healthcare.
- In the absence of the parent's express and informed consent or in emergency situations, the completed and signed Medical Report will be submitted to the court and admitted into evidence at a hearing. The information in the report will be used in lieu of a court appearance by the physician. Therefore, it is critical that all information contained in the report be complete and thorough.
- Express and informed consent may only be given by the child's parent or legal guardian. In no case may the dependency case manager, child protective investigator, or the child's foster parents provide express and informed consent for a child to be prescribed a psychotropic medication.

Florida Statute 39.407 requires physicians who prescribe psychotropic medications to children in foster care complete a medical report that includes the following information:

1. A statement indicating that the physician has reviewed all medical information which has been provided concerning the child.
2. A statement indicating that the psychotropic medication, at its prescribed dosage, is appropriate for treating the child's diagnosed medical condition, as well as the behaviors and symptoms the medication, at its prescribed dosage, is expected to address.
3. An explanation of the nature and purpose of the treatment; the recognized side effects, risks, and contraindications of the medication; drug-interaction precautions; the possible effects of stopping the medication; and how the treatment will be monitored, followed by a statement indicating that this explanation was provided to the child if age appropriate and to the child's caregiver.
4. Documentation addressing whether the psychotropic medication will replace or supplement any other currently prescribed medications or treatments; the length of time the child is expected to be taking the medication; and any additional medical, mental health, behavioral, counseling, or other services that the prescribing physician recommends.

Thank you for your work with children in the foster care system.

*An electronic version of this form can be downloaded from  
<http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/DCFForms/Search/DCFFormSearch.aspx>*



Medical Report for  
**Children in Out-of-Home Care**  
(to be completed by the physician)

**SECTION 1: CHILD'S INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 2: INFORMATION RECEIVED BY PHYSICIAN.** *Briefly list any persons consulted, tests performed, and documents reviewed in conjunction with this child's evaluation. (NOTE: The dependency case manager is responsible for providing all pertinent medical information known to the Department concerning the child.)*

**Documents Provided: (check all that apply)**

- Comprehensive Behavioral Health Assessment.
- Previous psychological evaluation.
- Current Health Physical Examination or recent well child exam.
- Referral Information including all medications currently prescribed, health status, health services and therapy currently receiving.
- Current school records, including assessments (e.g., Functional Behavioral Assessments, etc.)
- Other (list):

**Persons Consulted: (Name, title/relationship to child, date of consultation)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Does child's medical history include conditions that may indicate the presence of brain injury (for example, blows to head, fetal alcohol syndrome, loss of consciousness, head scars, fever above 104°)?**

- Yes     No     Further assessment needed (see Section 4)

**Other health conditions considered (list):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 3: DIAGNOSED CONDITIONS, SYMPTOMS, BEHAVIORS. Details should be provided for each separate diagnosis. If necessary, continue on page 9 for additional diagnoses/medications. List all diagnosed conditions, symptoms, and behaviors that support the need for the requested medications, including current medications that will be continued, for a complete profile. Please provide the Axis diagnosis(es) if known.**

Diagnosis # \_\_\_\_:  ADHD/ADD  Oppositional Defiant Disorder  Adjustment Disorder  Depression  
 Post Traumatic Stress Disorder  Reactive Attachment Disorder  Bipolar Disorder  Mood Disorder  
 Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Medication recommended: \_\_\_\_\_

Starting dose: \_\_\_\_\_ Dosage Range: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected length of medication treatment/Plan to reduce or eliminate the medication (Titration Plan):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Side effects for caregiver to monitor:

Target symptoms/behaviors medication will address and expected results:

This Medication is NEW

This Medication is for  Medical Condition  Behavioral Health Condition

Comments regarding medication:

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 Post Traumatic Stress Disorder  Reactive Attachment Disorder  Bipolar Disorder  Mood Disorder  
 Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Medication recommended: \_\_\_\_\_

Starting dose: \_\_\_\_\_ Dosage Range: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected length of medication treatment/Plan to reduce or eliminate the medication (Titration Plan):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Side effects for caregiver to monitor:

Target symptoms/behaviors medication will address and expected results:

This Medication is NEW

This Medication is for  Medical Condition  Behavioral Health Condition

Comments regarding medication:

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 4: RECOMMENDED SERVICES, OTHER TREATMENTS.** Please include any psycho-social services, medical or psychiatric follow-ups, or treatments the child should receive in conjunction with this medication profile including a recommended schedule.

**Medication Monitoring Plan and Follow-up:** Next Appointment: \_\_\_\_\_

Treatment monitoring frequency recommended:

- Weekly
- monthly
- 2months
- 3months
- 4 months
- 6 months
- annually

Follow-up visit frequency recommended:

- Weekly
- monthly
- 2months
- 3months
- 4 months
- 6 months
- annually

**Lab Monitoring:**

- CBC  with differential  without differential ..... frequency: \_\_\_\_\_
- Comprehensive metabolic panel ..... frequency: \_\_\_\_\_
- Basic metabolic panel ..... frequency: \_\_\_\_\_
- Urinalysis ..... frequency: \_\_\_\_\_
- Urine Toxicology Screen ..... frequency: \_\_\_\_\_
- Pregnancy test  Urine  Blood
- TSH ..... frequency: \_\_\_\_\_
- Lipid profile (HDL, LDL, Chol, Trig) ..... frequency: \_\_\_\_\_
- Lithium level  Depakote/Depakene level  Tegretol level
- Other laboratory tests not noted above:

**Other Tests/Therapies/Services:**

- Electrocardiogram (ECG/EKG)  Neurological exam/assessment
- Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Therapy recommended:

Psycho-social services recommended:

Child's  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 5: CERTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT HARM.** *This section must be completed when it is likely that any delay in taking the prescribed medication would cause significant harm to the child.*

I, the physician, have reviewed all medical information concerning this child provided to me by DCF/CBC and/or the child's caregivers, and certify that a delay in providing the prescribed psychotropic is likely to cause significant harm to the child as noted below:

- I find that it is likely that any delay in taking this medication would cause significant harm to this child.** I recognize that this finding statutorily *pre-authorizes* the Department to provide the proposed medication profile to the child immediately and prior to obtaining a court order. Delay in taking the psychotropic medication(s) will more likely than not harm the child.

Please provide detailed explanation of the nature and extent of harm the child will likely experience:

- This child is currently in a hospital, crisis stabilization unit, or psychiatric residential treatment center.** I recognize that this finding statutorily *pre-authorizes* the Department to provide the proposed medication profile to the child immediately and prior to obtaining a court order. A court order must then be sought within 3 business days.

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**SECTION 6: MEDICATION INFORMATION.** *Section 39.407(3)(c)4., Florida Statutes (2009), requires that the Medical Report include information covering the recognized side effects, risks, contraindications, drug-interaction precautions, and possible effects of stopping medication for each medication. This information must be attached to this medical report. Medical reports without such information attached cannot be filed with the court.*

**Please attach the appropriate information for all psychotropic medications listed in section 3 of this report.**

- I have provided a copy of the attached medical information to the child and to the child's caregiver.
- I have also discussed this information with the child and with the child's caregiver.

Child's  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 7: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION.** *Please describe below information on other treatment options. In addition please attach any supplemental information that might explain or support this medical report.*

1. Are there other treatment options available in lieu of administering the psychotropic medications recommended above?  Yes  No

If yes, what are those alternatives?

2. Have these alternatives been tried?  Yes  No

If yes, what was the response to the alternative treatments?

3. If the alternative treatments were not tried, explain why:

4. Other supplemental information:

Child's  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 8: EXPRESS AND INFORMED CONSENT BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN.** *To be completed by parent or guardian in consultation with the physician.*

**By signing this section I am certifying that I am a parent or guardian of the above-named child, and that the physician has explained to me each of the following (initial each):**

- \_\_\_\_\_ the reason for treatment;
- \_\_\_\_\_ the proposed treatment;
- \_\_\_\_\_ the purpose of the treatment to be provided;
- \_\_\_\_\_ the common risks, benefits, and side effects of the treatment;
- \_\_\_\_\_ what results are expected;
- \_\_\_\_\_ the specific dosage range for the medication;
- \_\_\_\_\_ alternative treatment options and the risks and benefits thereof;
- \_\_\_\_\_ the approximate length of treatment;
- \_\_\_\_\_ the potential effects of stopping treatment; and,
- \_\_\_\_\_ how treatment will be monitored.

**Further, by signing this section I am certifying the following (initial each):**

- \_\_\_\_\_ The physician has answered all of my questions about this medical report.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I am not required to consent to this medical report. The Department may, after consultation with the prescribing physician, seek court authorization to provide the psychotropic medication to my child.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that any consent given for treatment in this medical report may be revoked orally or in writing before or during the treatment period and the Department will then be required to obtain a court order to continue the medication.

<p><b>SIGN HERE IF YOU CONSENT TO THE TREATMENT:</b></p>  <p>_____ Signature of parent or guardian CONSENTING</p> <p>_____ Date</p>
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<p><b>SIGN HERE IF YOU DO NOT CONSENT:</b></p>  <p>_____ Signature of parent or guardian NOT CONSENTING</p> <p>_____ Date</p>
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\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to Child

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 9: SIGNATURE OF PHYSICIAN.**

By signing this document, I am certifying that I have reviewed all medical information concerning the child which has been provided, and I am certifying that the psychotropic medication, at its prescribed dosage, is medically necessary for treating the child's diagnosed medical condition, as well as the behaviors and symptoms the medication, and its prescribed dosage, is expected to address.

**I have discussed with the child's parent/legal guardian** the reason for treatment; the proposed treatment; the purpose of the treatment to be provided; the common risks, benefits, and side effects of the treatment; the specific dosage range for the medication; alternative treatment options; the approximate length of care; the potential effects of stopping treatment; and how treatment will be monitored.

by phone       in person

**I have discussed with the child** the reason for treatment; the proposed treatment; the purpose of the treatment to be provided; the common risks, benefits, and side effects of the treatment; the specific dosage range for the medication; alternative treatment options; the approximate length of care; the potential effects of stopping treatment; and how treatment will be monitored.

Child assents       Child does not assent       Child is not age/developmentally appropriate

Comments, especially reason for nonassent:

I have not discussed this treatment with the parent/legal guardian and have not obtained express and informed consent for administration of this medication.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of prescribing physician

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

License: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_



Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 3: DIAGNOSED CONDITIONS, SYMPTOMS, BEHAVIORS (continued from page 3).**

**Use this page only if it is necessary to continue from page 3 with additional diagnoses/medications.** List all diagnosed conditions, symptoms, and behaviors that support the need for the requested medications, including current medications that will be continued, for a complete profile. Please provide the Axis diagnosis(es) if known.

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 Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Medication recommended: \_\_\_\_\_

Starting dose: \_\_\_\_\_ Dosage Range: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected length of medication treatment/Plan to reduce or eliminate the medication (Titration Plan):  
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Side effects for caregiver to monitor:

Target symptoms/behaviors medication will address and expected results:

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Child's  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 3: DIAGNOSED CONDITIONS, SYMPTOMS, BEHAVIORS (continued from page 9).**

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